

Thursday 26-June-2003
Transcripts made by E. GAVAZ

Transcript of the recorded interview with Ramadan Behluli –
CD VOOO-4382 (1 of 3) -in English language

Ole Lehtinen: Ok.. Good Morning ..er..this is ... er..this is a recorded interview with... with Mr.Ramadan Behluli.

O. L.:Er... The time by my watch is 9:03 am

O. L.: And we are now starting the recorded interview.

O. L.: Er...First of all, er... well I would say that the date today is 25th of April 2003...and for a start I'll ask everyone in the room ...er... to introduce themselves and I'll start with my self. At this stage it's enough with...with... the short introduction and we'll get more information in a little while... My name is Ole Lehtinen and I am an investigator with the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague.

Alex Whiting: My name is Alex Whiting and I am a Trial Attorney with the Tribunal in The Hague.

Durim Bani: My name is Durim Bani and I am an interpreter with the ICTY

D. B.: My name is Ramadan Behluli... from Carreleve.

R.B: My name is Ramadan BEHLULI... from the village of Carraleva /Crnojjevo/.

O.L.: Er..... er.. As I said, we, the three of us work for the office of the prosecutor in the tribunal .Er.... Alex Whiting is...is Trial Attorney and I am an investigator...We will be the ones who...who'll make the questions today...Everything we say or ask will be translated by the interpreter to the Albanian language...And everything you answer to us in Albanian language will be translated in to English...Er...Everything what is spoken in this room will be translated to both languages...So other than answering our questions I don't want you to have any discussions for example with the interpreter...If there is anything that needs clarification or more details feel free to.. to ask and than we can discuss it...Er ... do I understand correctly that your mother tongue is the Albanian language?

D. B.: Yes.

O. L.: Do you feel comfortable with the language of the interpreter, can you understand him?

D. B.: Yes, completely.

R.B: Yes.

O. L.: OK...anything you would like to....OK we'll start with some background information about you Mr. Behluli...could you first of all give me your full name?

D. B.: Ramadan first name...Behluli family name

R.B.: First name Ramadan.. second name BEHLULI

O. L.: And it's I at the end Behluli...right?

D. B.: Yeah, there is some minor...minor changes about my..my..the use of my family name But the accurate name is Behluli.. It's because of the Serb pronuncment, family name Behluli has....had minor changes but still the accurate name is Behluli.

R.B.: Although, just a little, concerning my second name, there are some small variations concerning my second name... BEHLULI... it's properly BEHLULI... the difference is only because these Serbs used BEHLULI /tape: ?BEHLJULJI/ in their dialect but we have BEHLULI as our own...

O. L.: OKOK What is the name of your father?

D. B.: Muharem

O. L.: OK.... and your date of birth?

D. B.: 15th of March 1960

R.B.: We're... 15 March 1960

O. L.: And the place of birth?

D. B.: Z-E-M-U-N.

R.B.: In Zemun... in Zemun... place of birth Zemun.

D.B.: Zemun – with “u” – or not?

R.B.: Yes, Zemun.

O. L.: In which municipality is this?

R.B.: The municipality of Belgrade where I know...

D.B.: It's in Serbia?

D. B.: It's in Serbia

O. L.: OK...OK

D. B.: My father used...to...used to work there and than I was born thereI was born there during that time ...I just was born there but the rest part of ...I just was born there and the rest of my life I spent here....

R.B.: Yes. Because my father worked there and I was born there... only born there and otherwise I lived in Carraleva village... I lived in Carraleva village all my life.

O. L.: Was the rest of your family also from Carraleve

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: So er... your father was occasionally working in that area?

D. B.: Yes my father worked there....it's just my place of birth.

K.B.: He worked there... I was born there and I was just born there.

O. L.: Good, ...er....how big was your family as child, do you have brothers and sisters?

D. B.: I've got three brothers and two sisters

O. L.: And all of them are still alive

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: Er.....do they all live in Kosovo?

D. B.: Er.....momentarily two of my brothers live in Germany...so they're occasionally they return home on vacations...and two sisters they live in Germany as well, they are married and they live with their husbands in Germany...I've got a brother here...the youngest one...He works as er.....UNMIK police personnel... ..he works in Ferizaj and lives in Carraleve

R.B.: No, at the moment two brothers live in Germany... They only come home during the holidays... And the two sisters are married, in Germany too... they're there with their husbands...

D.B.: And they live in Germany?

R.B.: Yes... I have a brother here... the youngest... he works as an UNMIK police officer... He works in Ferizaj /Uroševac/ and lives in Carraleva.

O. L.: Er..what is ..what is his first name?

D.B.: What is he called?

D. B.: Emrush...E-M-R.....

R.B.: Emrush BEHLULI.

O. L.: Yes. OKer..... at the moment what is your occupation?

D. B.: At this moment I have the rank of lieutenant in the.... Battalion, part of TMK.

R.B.: At the moment I am a lieutenant in the Ceremonial Battalion of the Kosovo Guards.

D.B.: The Kosovo Protection Corps?

R.B.: Yes.

O. L.: OK...and where are you stationed?

D. B.: Prishtina

R.B.: We are in Prishtina /Priština/.

O. L.: What kind of duties is er...?

D. B.: So we usually perform training with the soldiers

R.B.: Well, we do all... all the exercises for example, training, with the soldiers, the members who are in the battalion.

O. L.: Er... are you married at the moment?

D. B.: Yes I am.

R.B.: Yes.

O. L.: And what er... what size is your family?

D. B.: I've got two boys and two girls.

R.B.: Two boys and two girls.

O. L.: What age are they

D. B.: The oldest, he is a boy, twenty-two years of age...he is married.

The second child is ..er.. is a girl. She is twenty years old, she is also married
Then it comes er..... again a boy, nineteen years old...And the youngest er...
the youngest is a girl, she is thirteen years old she is high school in this
moment.

R.B.: The eldest boy, he's 22...He's married... The daughter is 20 years old, she's married... the second of the children. The boy, the third child, is 19... he's unemployed... and my youngest daughter is in the third year of secondary school.

D.B.: 17 years old?

R.B.: She's 17 years old.

O. L.: So who... who.. of your children still live... live with you in your home?

D. B.: All of them.

R.B.: All of them... Except that daughter who's married, she's...

O. L.: All of them?

D. B.: Yea... er... well, apart from the second, er... second daughter she is married

O. L.: Ok ... Er ... do you live in Carraleve at the moment?

D. B.: Yes,... after the war I moved to Ferizaj

R.B.: At the moment I live in Ferizaj

D.B.: In Ferizaj?

R.B.,: Yes, now after the war.

O. L.: You have an address in Ferizaj?

D. B.: "Ruga – Sejdi Sejdiu"

R.B. Yes... Sejdi Sejdiu Street

D.B.: What's it called?

R.B: Sejdi Sejdiu... Sejdi

D.B. Sejdi?

R.B.: Sejdi Sejdiu... Entrance J there... Number 5.

O. L.: S...

D. B.: S... aha

O. L.: OK also this..?

D. B.: Sejdiu J

O. L.: This?

D. B.: Yes.

O. L.: OK

D. B.: Number five

O. L.: OK...So do you still have any property in Carraleva?

D. B.: Yea, I've got property in Carraleve...my...my house was shelled and burnt down completely... Yeah, after the war er... I made some repairs, some repairs but still is unfinished.

D.B.: I have... Yes, I have a house that was been shelled and is completely burnt out. And when I got there after the war I put some roofing on it... when I decided to go and I had made a few repairs, a few without... but I didn't have proper conditions for living... It's unfinished...

O. L.: OK so your intention is to move back to Carraleve when possible

D. B.: Yeah... if I manage to finish the house of course I will go back there.
Yes this house is actually of friend of mine, where I live actually

*R.B.: If becomes it's possible to live, to repair the house, I'll return...
Otherwise in this house where I'm staying, a friend gave it me, it's an
empty house, I stayed there...*

D.B.: This is a friend's house, it's not yours?

R.B.: Yes.

O. L.: Er.. I'll ask you few questions about your childhood and er...Carraleve
at that time ... You told me that er.. you were born in..in Serbia...so how old
were you...were you when you moved back to Carraleve?

D.B. You told us that you were, were born in Serbia.

D.B.: How old were you when you returned to Carraleva?

D. B.: Less then a year after I was born we moved back to Ceralve

*R.B.: Immediately after I was born, I was one year old, my father
didn't work there much.*

O. L.: OK. Er....what was your fathers occupation?

D. B.: Road worker

*R.B.: My father worked at road-building, asphaltting the roads, for
example with a firm in Belgrade... And after that he went to Germany
and he retired on a pension from there, he receives a pension now.*

O. L.: So than my father went to Germany and worked there... he retired
while he was in...er... Germany and he is in pension now...OK.. Does he still
live with you?

D. B.: He lives with the youngest brother, with.. er.. with the one who is
working as a policeman

*R.B.: He lives in the village with my youngest brother, with the police
officer.*

O. L.: Er...did you er.. have any kind of farm at your own house in Carraleve,
when you were a child?...Was that mostly for your own needs or you could
even make any outcome of it?

D. B.: Our income was generated mainly from ..from my father's work in
Germany but I've worked my land just.. just er.. to...to.... meet my needs...to

raise a cattle but I was not completely depended on the land...it's a village with not such fertile land but anyway I worked the land

/the preceding question and answer are omitted in the Albanian language transcription/

O. L.: OK. What was Carraleva like at the time when you were a child er... approximately how many inhabitants were there?

D. B.: Well I'm er... it was rather tiny village but er... I can't say... Well if you rather ask me before the war...

R.B.: It was a very small village, although if you mean at that time... If the question is about before the war? Something like 140 houses, there were 140 houses... 140 families.

O. L.: OK

D. B.: It's been about one hundred forty households

O. L.: Er...was it completely Albanian or ..or er.... was it

D. B.: Yes completely Albanian

R.B.: Yes.

O. L.: Er...Where would you say the closest ... closest Serbs lived in in er..... in compared Carraleve...

D. B.: Štimle

R.B.: Shtime /Štimlje/.

O. L.: Štimla OK....OK can you tell me what school you went to?

D. B.: I've completed my elementary school in my village, Carraleve

O. L.: Mhmm..

D. B.: The high school I completed er.... I attended the high school in Ferizaj I completed the high school in nineteen seventy seven...And in the years eighty -eighty one I was.. I was a student...It was a time when the demonstrations started in nineteen eighty one...and I was sent to military service in the Yugoslav Army

R.B.: I attended elementary school in the village, in Carraleva... I attended secondary school in Ferizaj... I left secondary school in 1977. In 1980-81 I was a college student, the first year... When the demonstrations began in '81... And I had to go for military service... In the Yugoslav Army... So I didn't attend any other schools anywhere.

O.L.: OK

D. B.: That's all ...That's all I've er....attended the... as far as my education is concerned

O. L.: Where did you do your military service than?

D. B.: I've served in Bosnia...So six months in Drv...Derventa.And eight months in Banja Luka

R.B.: I did it in Bosnia – six months in Derventa, eight months in Banja Luka.

D.B.: Derventa, Derventa... Derventa is a town.

O. L.: OK...Er.... I know...I know this was er....comprehensive service that you had to do, how did you feel to do the military service at this time?

R.B.: I was very happy to have done it... in any case it was a unavoidable obligation... That's to say that either you did it or you left the country and went somewhere as a refugee... That was the system.

D. B.: Aha..Yea, I was happy that I completed the military service and it was obligatory of course..Well there was no other option, either you complete the military service or you had to live the country and go to...as a refugee

O. L.: Yea..

D. B.: That's how the system worked

O. L.: Er.... were you er.. specialised in something in this military service?

R.B.: No... no, I didn't have...

D.B.: A soldier?

R.B.: Yes, a soldier.

D. B.: No just er...normal soldier

O. L.: Infantry or er...?

D. B.: Well I was at the infantry....well I....er...I didn't have much knowledge about the language ...Yea, that's why we fell a little bit behind, we didn't get them off

R.B.: I was in the infantry, although I didn't know the language, nor, and for that reason we were a bit behind with...

O. L.: Did you receive any rank during er...during the military service?

D. B.: No

O. L.: OK

D. B.: Well I was..I was sort of rewarded or decorated for good a job...for er...for three days but there is not recorded any where

R.B.: No... they awarded me approximately three days for some sort of job well done... but those three days were not recorded anywhere.

O. L.: Er...er.. when now talking about the time before the conflict and actually when...when you were, before the conflict even started to get involved ...Er...was...was your family er...active in any political business?

D. B.: No

O. L.: Er...can you remember if your father er...supported some er.. some er... particular party or..

D. B.: Baba was worker in Germany...He worked some twenty five years or so...

R.B.: My father was a worker in Germany... he worked 25 years and more

D.B.: Twenty-five years?

R.B.: He only came during the holidays for a month, he stayed for... he took no part in such matters. And another thing is that he was not educated... he had not attended any

O. L.: Yeah...

D. B.: So he would returned home only during a vacation so he would stay here one month...So he'd never been in touch with...

O. L.: OK

D. B.: With this kind of affairs...So he is a uneducated person he er... did no school.

O. L.: Can you er... remember er.. in the village of Craveve was there er...was there active.. people that were actively talking about politics or parties or....

D. B.: Well yea, well yes it's a normal course of things...

R.B.: Of course.

O.L.: OK..Er.... which party would you said... would you say had er... had er... the most supporters or...or the most active...

D. B.: Nineteen ninety had LDK hundred percent support, nineteen ninety

R.B.: In 1990 the LDK /Democratic League of Kosovo/ had one hundred per cent, in 1990.

O. L.: OK.....OK er....still talking about the same time er...Can you...can you remember er... conflicts with, with er... for example the Serb population in... in the area?

R.B.: Was there a conflict... among the population?

D.B.: Yes, the population.

R.B.: Among the population we didn't have anything with... but from the nineties onwards, some conflicts started, for example with the

police... that's to say, their law and what they did. There were some things in their policies that... they would make an accusation that was not true. I had such a case myself... they took me... without any er... reason... I was beaten without a reason, I had... /by/ them. I have photographs... in Prishtina... like, my whole body, I had, like...

D.B.: Injuries. Aha...

R.B. I had two broken

D. B.: No we didn't have any conflict at all with the civilian population...But since nineteen ninety clashes started to appear between the police authorities and er... and us ...So they...would, they would alleged accuse us for nothing I experienced my self a case when I was ..taken...With no ground with no reason...I was beaten, I was ill-treated by them...I've got medical photos of this ...All ...er...my body, you can see the signs on body was with wounds and ... Also two broken ribs...

O. L.: Was this by the er... by the Serb police....or....

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: Did they give you er...any reason for this?

D. B.: They justified this by er... by pretending to search for weapons ...They had no sufficient evidencedetailed evidence that I carried weapons or I had weapons ...But it was their policy either take you to the station and give you a beating or you were er.. you were forced to live the country ...Seventy percent of the youth were forced to live the country

R.B.: The reason, they... it was a search for weapons, you see... but they had no complete information that I had weapons... that I possessed weapons... but their policy was of such a kind as, either you were beaten in the station or you left the country and the young people, so it happened... it so happened that some seventy per cent of the young people left the country...

O. L.: Er...er...other than this were there clashes with the authorities ...how would you say you got along withwith the civilian population?

D. B.: There was a limited number of Serbs living in ...So I would say rather neutral....neutral

D.B.: There wasn't... wasn't a large number, there was a small number of Serbs, there wasn't. They knew me, I knew them by sight, like that. To sit down, to have a conversation with them, no...

O. L.: OK

D. B.: Neither good nor bad...So we new each other by the appearance but we ...we never seat and talk with each other

O. L.: What about, in the school did you have.....were Serbs in the same classes?

D. B.: No...There were some but in the separate classes....

R.B.: No... There were separate...

A. W.: That's just go back...

/passage omitted from Albanian transcript/

/omitted from English transcript: D.B.: They had their language, we had our own language./

/.../ the beating that you described, that happened...when did that happened?

R.B.: They beat me in ninety... seven.

D.B.: Ninety se...?

R.B.: But this policy was introduced some years, from ninety-five...

D. B.: Ninety seven. Nineteen ninety seven...But this policy started to apply some years earlier ...

A. W.: And where did it happen?

D. B.: Yeah...I was taken from Carraleve...I was er....brought to police station in Štimle, I was beaten there

R.B.: They took me in Carraleva, they beat me in the /omitted in Albanian transcript: police/ station in Shtime.

O. L.: OK...Did they take you from home?

D. B.: Yes, I was taken from home...In ninety four I was in Germany..

I ... Ier...just left because being...being afraid of not being taken by them...And after ...three years I spent there...I returned home...And two weeks later...they came and took me from...from my home.

R.B.: From home... I had a chance to leave, but when I had, took my children, two boys, so I said... they looked for me but I was in Germany, I... escaped from them. In ninety-five I went, ninety-four I went to Germany... Anyway, I left them so they wouldn't look for me... After the three years I spent there... I returned to my family... after two weeks... they came... for me...

O. L.: OK ...so er.. in .in Germany you were ...can you tell me between which time you were in Germany?

D. B.: From ninety four till ninety seven.

D.B.: From ninety-four until ninety-seven?

R.B.: Yes, ninety-seven, three years.

O. L.: OK...where in Germany were you?

D. B.: I've stayed seven months in er....Munchen in er.... at my brothers place...And in Nois(?) is another place...it's near Dusseldorf..I stayed for ...for some two years there with the other brother...I...er...I ...er I had a opportunity there, good luck to work for...for a while ...Enough to...to provide sufficient income for my family ...My ...my family was here in the village and I my children as well.

R.B.: I stayed with my brother in Munich for seven months... and in... Nois(?) /?Noessel, I have a brother there too and I was there two years and more... near Düsseldorf... I had an opportunity to work there for a while... to assure my family's future... nevertheless my family was in the village here with all the children.

O. L.: OK...was the reason that you...that you returned ...was that the situation was evolving.... the conflict was starting?

D. B.: It was because of my family....I could I ...er... could stand sixteen months with no contacts with my family...with physical contact, but I couldn't have bear it any longer ... So as it's normal, everybody loves his family...

R.B.: No, but at that time... for three years, I could manage without seeing my family, I couldn't stay any longer... Everyone loves his family, and so do I...

O. L.: Oh, yeah...OK...You told us about the beating in ninety seven, of the Serb police...Was this er... was this time when it happened, was this already...could you see that...that the conflict was ...was actually coming...coming together?

D. B.: Yes, yes of course.

R.B.: Of course.

O. L.: Er...for you personally, did you have any other experiences like this

D. B.: As I...er...As, I want to mention that ...er...like this incident there were...there was...Eighty percent of my village were treated more or less in the same way under...under er.. the similar excuses...There've been a case I can give, Ramadan Ajeti for example was beaten to death...There are cases also, very old men, eighty years old, were beaten, up to point of ...Soer...as I ...as I so this happening, that eighty percent of my village being ill-treatedI naturally thought that ...the conflict is inevitable...Yeah, but it was not the case with my village only, but in every municipality, that was what was happening...

R.B.: There were cases somewhere in the village... I would say that something like 80 per cent in various ways... With the same pretext, to do with weapons. Ramadan AJETI, from our village, was beaten... he

was beaten so much that he died. We had a case of a old man, eighty years old, was beaten... his body was a mess. When I saw that 80 per cent of the village had been beaten... without... without reason... then I waited for the conflict to...

O. L.: Yeah ...Yeah...er...for example in your case, were you....were you arrested for a longer time or were you.....did they...did they let you free as soon as they giving you the beating?

D. B.: I was taken, let's saywell er.....I stayed in their hands from nine in the morning till six in the afternoon...There were five policewho took me to the basement and beat me up...and I was laying down.

R.B.: They took me at something like nine in the afternoon... nine in the morning... they kept me until something like two, six in the afternoon... there were five police officers... and they beat me in the basement.

O. L.: ErWere you ever convicted by the Serb authorities in any way before the conflict?

D. B.: No, not before the conflict.

R.B.: Before the conflict? No.

O. L.: OK....Er...Yeah.....after you did your military service, and between that and ...and the time you went to Germany, what works did you do inin Kosovo?

D. B.: Well I've mostly been engaged with farming in the village....Yeah, then I've done occasional jobs in er.....Vršac.

So I've done occasionally, worked in Vršac, Banat ...this places are in Serbia, in Sarajevo as well...with our friends...But this are occasional jobs other than farming ...I ...er ..I ... went to see me brothers, my father ...er...in Germany for one or two months

R.B.: I was mostly occupied with farming in the village... But I also worked... I went to Vršac occasionally, to the Banat, that was a sort of collective farm, I worked there with some friends...

D.B.: Private work?

R.B.: Private work.

D.B.: What was the name of the village?

R.B.: Vršac.

D.B.: And...

R.B.: I also worked in Sarajevo.

D.B.: The Banat?

R.B.: The Banat... it's like... er, a district.

D.B.: I don't know this place, so...

R.B.: Uhuh... never mind...

D.B.: Is it in Kosovo?

R.B.: No, no, no... in Serbia.

D.B.: In Serbia.

R.B.: In Sarajevo, and in Brčko... I also worked... I sometimes went to visit my brothers, my father, for a month or two...

O. L.: You never had any governmental work in...in ... Kosovo?

D. B.: No.

O. L.: Do we have something else? Can we go now to KLA

A W.: Yeah...

O. L.: Good,...er...for next time I'll ask to start talking about Kosovo Liberation Army...Er...Whenwhen was the first time you heard about the Kosovo Liberation Army being formed or...er...or....er...what's your first contact?

D. B.: I don't know where....when UCK was established, set-up...Because it was done illegally...But if you ask me when I got in touch, when I joined them...It was April, ninety-eight

R.B.: Er... I don't know when this was... as it was working illegally at that time... but if I'm asked when I joined them, when I got in touch with them... it was in April 1998.

O. L.: OK...er...before we go in to.....

D. B.: Can I ask him?

O. L.: OK

D. B.: Because for joined he used another word, I want to make sure.....

O. L.: Aha, OK...

D. B.: Yes. That's right.

D.B.: You joined them in April 1998...?

R.B.: Yes

O. L.: Ok but before we go to your joining, can you remember approximately when you first heard talks about this army?

D. B.: Yes I must have heard about UCK at the end of ninety-seven....I think.

R.B.: Something like... At the end of ninety-seven.

O. L.: OK...er...can you remember starting seeing them on TV, or in the papers,when they become public?

D. B.: Yes, I've watched TV, I ...er...I've read news, I didn't have direct physical contact with them....but I've watched the media, following the news.

R.B.: Yes, only... I didn't have any contact with them myself, I followed the news, I followed the papers... As far as I know, according to my information, the main activity, or the initial activity regarding the KLA /Kosovo Liberation Army/ was carried out by people... by a person ... from abroad... around the years 1996, 1997...

O. L.: Er....I know that er...that lot of the basic work of the ...for the er....KLA was done by ...actually... by people living abroad from Kosovo...During ninety-six and ninety-seven...But during you're... the time you were in Germany... were

D. B.: No I haven't been involved in...I didn't have time as I was holding two jobs at ... So, there were days I used to work from six o'clock in the morning, till ten in the evening

R.B.: I had no time, although in the final years I had two shifts at work... I got up at six for work in the morning, I worked until ten at night.

O. L.: But did you ever hear about ...about this thing...at that time?

D. B.: But I'm sorry I'd like to correct one thing, this that I was turning two shifts not I was holding two jobs...was....

O. L.: OK...but.. did...did you ever hear about ...er... this Army being formed during your time in Germany?

D. B.: Yes I've heard but I haven't been in touch with them ...Frankly speaking I would have preferred to see them for my self and talk to them...

R.B.: I heard, but I had no contact with them... To tell you the truth,... er... I wanted to meet them in order to talk with them.

O. L.: Yeah....ahaaa....OK...er...what's the contact you got with KLA personally?

D. B.: I've been a member of LDK...I've been in nineties a member of LDK...So, but er...once I realised that in the programme there was a clause included that the Kosovo solution will be in achieved through peaceful means, than IThan I quit the party, as I...as I was not er....on terms with this programmesI didn't agree with the programme ...So in nineteen ninety-three I ...er...I got in contactI wanted to...to join the party of National Unity ...They were er... half legal party...so to speak

R.B.: Personal contacts... they were some friends who we had worked earlier... they weren't... I think I've got off the subject a bit... as a member of the LDK I was...in the nineties... then when I saw the programme that was envisaged, that the Kosovo problem be resolved by peaceful means, then I rejected it... and was no longer a member of the LDK. So I got in contact in 1993, to join National Unity as a member... they were semi-legal...

D.B.: *Semi-legal?*

R.B.: *Semi-legal... and in addition I liked their programme... and now, through those friends I had... they were Fatmir SOLINA (???)... they were... the contacts... in order to get in contact with... And I also had contact with Ramiz QERIQI.*

O. L.: Mhmm...

D. B.: For the more, I found the programme suitable to myto my ideas

O. L.: OK

D. B.: So I got in contact with some of my friends...I also was in touch with Ramiz Qeriqi ...he was in Germany as well

O. L.: Was this approximately er.... what year ...when approximately was that you were in contact with for example with Ramiz Qeriqi?

D. B.: Well it must have been ninety-five, ninety-six...about this period...So we didn't live very far from each other

R.B.: *Ninety... six, ninety-five... we were not very far, us two and...*

O. L.: But already during this time... when you were interested in this National Unity Party was it in their programme already planed ...this Kosovo Liberation Army or having an Army of your own?

D.B.: *This Party of National Unity that you thought was better... had this party envisaged the creation of the KLA in their programme?*

R.B.: *How do you mean, the creation of the KLA?*

D.B.: *I mean was there, in the programme of... er... of the Party of National Unity, was the creation of a liberation army envisaged?*

R.B.: *The creation, yes... the protection of the people, the protection of the Albanian lands.*

D. B.: Yes there was in programme something like protection of the Albanian land, of the population

O. L.: OK...good...er...and er...when was er... the KLA first started to be present in Caraleve than?

D. B.: I was the first person to join UCK in Carraleve...I reported my self to Krojmir...I volunteered, I joined my self to...Shukri Buja was commander at that time there...Ramiz Qeriqi was his deputy....

R.B.: In Carraleva I was number one... I was the first to join the KLA... I joined in... Krojmir /Krojmirovce/.

D.B.: You reported...

R.B.: Yes... At that time Shukri BUJA was the commander there... Ramiz QERIQI, his deputy...

O. L.: OK... so this was in Aprill ninety-eight?

D. B.: Yes.

O. L.: Er...Had..had..any KLA soldiers from other parts been in the village of Carraleve before this?

D. B.: It must have been some ...some people from KLA must have there but what I want to say only that there was not before me joining UCK in Carraleve.

R.B.: As it happened there weren't, not from Carraleva, that is... but it happened in passing...

O. L.: OK

D. B.: It must have been in passing there

O. L.: But before you joined can you remember that was KLA active did you ran into, when you were moving along the road?

R.B.: They were in our zone in passing but they didn't establish themselves there... However, you could hear the young people talking, they said that there had been masked people there... I joined... I trained and I worked... in Petrishtica /?Pjetërshtica /Petrašica// village... not in Carraleva... That's to say, the beginning of the war... because the police, the army were in Carraleva... There weren't very many of us...

D. B.: Well UCK had not permanent.... Was not stationed there in that area...Yeah... you could hear...you could hear rumours...talk from the youth mainly that there are people with masks and things like that.

So after I joined, I was operating in Petrishtice not in Carraleve...In the beginning of war, I mean...I'm talking about...Because in Caraleve there were police and army...

O. L.: Yeah...

D. B.: We were small in number we couldn't do any...er...any big thing there...

O. L.: Er... do you have any idea when for example the headquarters in Krojmir was established, er.. how long had it been there?

D. B.: I think most probably the beginning of April, probably earlier....but beginning of April...When I ...er... when I reported my self there were very few people

R.B.: The time was around the beginning of April. It might have been earlier but... I went there, a very small number...

D.B.: You mentioned that Shukri BUJA was the commander of this Staff and Ramiz QERIQI was his deputy.

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: Did you know these two persons personally before?

R.B.: Ramiz, yes... and Shukri, no.

O. L.: And ..er... as you said Shukri Buja was ...was er.. was the commander of this Headquarters and Ramiz Qeriqi was er.. was his deputy..Did you now them both personally before?

D. B.: Yes Ramiz of course, but not Shukri...

O. L.: OK...Do you have any idea of organisation of KLAer.... the structure of KLA at this time?....er....for example what kind of an area was Shukri Buja commander of?

D. B.: Yes...yes

O. L.: Is it possible for you to if Igive you a map to ...to...show us a little bit what areas were involved?

D. B.: Yes....the best of my knowledge...

R.B.: If it's possible... what...

O. L.: Yeah...OK...OK for the purpose of the tape I'll ...I'll...read the number of this map...It's U0033372This is a map oflets see if you...if you recognise ...

D. B.: Štimle....Ferizaj....Lipjan...this is the Prishtina-Peja road....

R.B.: This is the Prishtina – Peja /Pec/ road.

O. L.: So...er.. I'll give you a pen here...if you want er...do any kind of marks...

D, B.: Carraleve...where is er....here Krojmir...

R.B.: Now... Krojmir...

O. L.: OK...if...would you saywould you say in military terms that you were part of a battalion when you joined?

D. B.: In the beginning....because of the very limited numbers there were not such things as battalions...As...er...the supply of weapons grew...the number of...also...Well concerning April nineteen ninety-eight, there was here

battalion in Krojmir... At this time ...when I am speaking nineteen ninety-eight...In Klecka there was General Headquarters....but with the time passing there were other points UCK...They were all UCK points...But hey were set up as the number of peoplewere...UCK members grow...So they set up as more people came in and joined....

R.B.: At the beginning there wasn't... we didn't have a battalion... there was a small number... Then the numbers... of members... increased... As for April, that there was a battalion here... in Krojmir... at that period there wasn't... when we're talking about April... But in May and in June... the number increased then, there was... Shala /?Sedlare/... Klečka /Klečka/, the General Staff was there... Klečka...

O. L.: OK...But lets start with....can you tell me...er...at this time in April...May ninety-eight what area was that area...was in Krojmir was responsible of..

D. B.: Pashtrik zone...So it covers Malisheve, Komoran, up to Carraleve....road...All these places...

R.B.: The Pashtrik /Paštrik/ zone... That's to say it included Malisheva /Mališevo/, Komoran... up to the Carraleva road... that's to say

O. L.: OK...already during this time would you say that the operational zone of Pashtrik was...er...was...er...it was er.. actual operational zone?

D. B.: Well it was not generally a common knowledge that there was such a thing as Pashtrik operational zone, but then everybody knew what the Krojmir was supposed to cover probably somebody...er...hired up Luan or Shukri...they knew something and maybe there was something in the paper that was as Pashtrik operational zone...But once we get this official name Pashtrik operational zone, than I came to know about this Pashtrik Operational zone...

R.B.: This wasn't known as the Pashtrik zone... but anyway it's known now... we didn't function in that way... but perhaps there was something written by someone... a man... by someone who was... Luan was... a little higher up... perhaps there was more known about that matter... But when it was established as the Pashtrik zone I don't know... they know, Shukri BUJA and...

O. L.: So ...but the area was more or les...er...what later than was called Pashtrik operational zone

D. B.: No...The headquarters in Krojmir had the task to protect in Petreshtica...Krojmir had the responsibility to have under Blinaj

R.B.: No, no, no... This had... I mean... because this Krojimir Staff was responsible... for example now... for protecting Pjetërshtica... the Carraleva part... because it was not able to... Krojimir, had the area from Blinaja /Lipovice/.

O. L.: You can...draw the line is not a problem

D. B.: This ...this area was er...that we were supposed to protect Krojimir had...er...was...the area of responsibility

R.B.: Well this... area of responsibility which had, for example...was this /on recording: area/... Blinaja... in this area, meaning Carraleva...

D.B.: Draw a line for the whole area.

R.B.: It's hardly possible to find it... it's this...this is the Prishtina - Ferizaj road. Now this area was... in their defence... and this area had... Krojimir, the area of Carraleva ... of Zborc /Zborce/ ... in the direction of Blinaja.

D.B.: It had Shala?

R.B.: Shala had... here...

D.B.: Draw a line for everything that was...

R.B.: Yes... I'm not doing this in an absolutely precise form... Approximately... the villages which were included, for example... Shala had its own leader... I had... er... in this area of the main road... In Carraleva... in Suha Reka /Suvareka/... Zborc... and this area...

D.B.: Lipovic /Blinaja/ was part of... er... Krojimir's.

O. L.: OK...what about...er...towards the north than...you go to Shale...?

D. B.: Yes, Shala as well...was er...er...he draw the whole line in order to ...er....

O. L.: Yeah..yeah..it's OK...

D. B.: It's not an accurate....

O. L.: No, no....

But...

Shala had...had...it's own commander

D. B.:I...I ...had a...er...my responsibilities were related to this part of the road that leads to Carraleva ...Zvorc...

O. L.: Was Lipovic....was...er...part of this area...?

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: OK...er...for the purpose of the tape..er..you are calling the village of Sedllar, Shala...

D. B.: Yes...

O. L.: OK...and...er...Shala was still part of the areaer...of the headquarters in Krojmir...?

D. B.: No I don't...know for sure, Shukri Buja... must be the most important person about it...I know that we co-operated with them...

I'm not sure whether Shala was under command of Krojmir..

R.B.: I don't know... Shukri BUJA... say... knows it better... I don't know here... we didn't work together... with the... I don't know whether it was under the Krojmir Command...

O. L.: OK...er...than...where was the General Headquarters for the area ...er...that ...er...we can now call it the Pashtrik operational zone

D. B.: You are talking about ninety-eight?

O. L.: Yeah,...still talk about spring of ninety-eight...

R.B.: The General Staff was in Klečka.

D.B.: In Klečka...?

R.B.: Yes, in Klečka... Fatmir LIMAJ was there... the commander of this zone.

D. B.: Yes the General Headquarters was...er...located in Klečka..

O. L. OK

D. B.: Fatmir Limaj was ..the zone Commander..

O. L.: OK..er...was this already when you joined in April of ninety-eight was it clear to you that..er...that...the Headquarters was in Klečka?

D. B.: No

O. L.: OK ...when...when...when did you learn about this... bigger...bigger...er...or like er,...the general organisation of KLA ...

General organisation...in this zone?

D. B.: Yeah...So when I went to Krojmir and I ..er.. I met Ramiz Qeriqi...as I knew him from earlier...Well honestly speaking I didn't ask him about these things because...their things were classified..at that time as secrete ...So I was interested to join them...to take a gunto pick a weapon...But...er....about the organisation I...I...er...later came to know that the general headquarters was in Klečka...Yeah, yeah...er...the time of my....of me joining them there were not more than thirty, forty soldiers in the whole area...

R.B.: I'm... in Ramiz QERIQI's base most... talking about the beginning... I went to Krojmir... I knew about it earlier... and... they said directly, I didn't ask... what and where it was... however these were secret matters and perhaps... I was interested in... joining them... to pick up a weapon and... But as regards the organisation, it was here... I heard later that the General Staff was in Klečka...

Because I don't believe that there were... when I joined them, thirty people, forty... in the zone, in the Staff...

D.B.: Thirty, forty?

R.B.: Soldiers... Er... I think that people kept joining at this period, joining the KLA.

O. L.: But...would you say that...er... at this...er I would guess that at this time a lots of soldiers were joining, so would you say that...that...er...during that summer of ninety-eight it was more organised already?

D. B.: And...er...the second part?

O. L.: Er...like...I...what I'm trying to ask is ..is when...when...some kind of er...of a real organisation was able to be seen in the KLA?

D. B.: Yeah was...was...was...more visible in...in...in er... June ninety-eight

R.B.: In something like ninety... er... ninety-eight... I... it was June. The number of members grew a little... A few weapons reached us from Albania... like this... those clashes started... with the army... the Serbian police in Carraleva... When I was wounded on 17 June during the clashes, after three hours... This is what I saw, a war... an army in the process of growing...

O. L.:OK

D. B.: As the numbers of...the number of soldiers increased... Yeah...they...they..got some supplies ...weapon supplies from Albania...There were some clashes with Serb and army in Carraleve... Yeah...I was...er...I was wounded on seventeen of June ninety-eight...after three...er...three hours of..er..fights.

So this was...this was er...what I saw as a ...er...as an army forming and an increasing numbers as..er...as an army able to fight

O. L.: Yeah...yeah...er...do you ..do you have any idea of er...of er...at this time who was the Supreme...was there a Supreme Command of KLA in Kosovo?

D. B.: Yeah...as far as.. for Pashtrik zone is concerned I...I knew very well that Fatmir Limaj was ...the Commander...And I knew as well that Shukri Buja and Ramiz Qeriqi was..er...battalion Commander...I believe that...er ...people.. people at the top would.. would.. take more care of ...on organising the army...Of providing the proper structures...So we got also...warnings, or we got instructions, how to behave what to do...To go by the book...er.. to go by the er...UCK sort of rules...

R.B.: Yes... I knew about the Pashtrik zone especially very well ... that it was Fatmir LIMAJ for example... and so the battalion /commander/ was Ramiz QERIQI and... Shukri BUJA... I knew this very well... I believed that there was a bit more of a possibility... it goes... in such a way... it seems to me that an army went... the formation of a new army...

D.B.: Excuse me, Ramadan... er... I didn't... I didn't follow the last bit... I was expecting a question...

R.B.: I believed that from those who were in the leadership, for example... at the beginning... that they would move to that regular form... that structures would be formed... They gave us some information... How to behave, what to do... what to undertake... To adhere to the KLA regulations, that were there ...

O. L.: Could you already during the first months, say the spring-summer of...of er.. ninety-eight, was it possible for you to see that it worked as...as an ...er ... actual army? I'll explain this a little bit better if you first....

D. B.: Aha....

O. L. Could you... could you experience that..er that a ...the orders came from...from the, say Headquarters level, for example from Klecka to Shukri Buja and ...er...and then out to the soldiers.....?

D. B.: Yeah...I was.. I was convinced that was it worked...

R.B.: Yes, it was completely... it worked that way... And also... er... each time I made an effort not to undertake or not to contravene any regulations...

O. L. OK..

D. B.: Er...I've...done my best in every case in order to comply by the rules....

O. L.: Yes, yes...

D. B.: In order to...to.. not to contravene the rules

O. L.: And this was evident by June of nineteen ninety-eight?

D. B.: Yes

D.B.: And this was clear to you in June 1998? Meaning that the orders that came from the command... and below... were implemented?

R.B.: Yes.

O. L.: Er... was it ..er... could you...could you experience ... er the power of ...for example...say Fatmir Limaj....that he ...that he ..er...was the one giving the orders, was that obvious iner... inyour work as a soldier?

D. B.: Not as a name ...I received the order from....from Luan... from Ramiz ...I didn't know where he received his orders

R.B.: Not by name, no... I received them from Ramiz... from Luan... He got them, from I don't know...

O. L.: OK.. but. ...but was it clear that...that ...er.. the orders that you...you got from Ramiz Qeriqi for example was... there were ordered... that had come from higher level?

D. B.: Yes, I thought so that was the way it worked

R.B.: Yes, I always thought that it worked that way...

O. L.: OK...er... and than.. what about reporting back, do you know if ..er... Ramiz Qeriqi was reporting back up to...to.. the higher level?

D. B.: So there's been changes....There is a big gap between the beginning and the end...

R.B.: Perhaps it's... now... there were changes... at the beginning and at the end were quite different.

/in the Albanian transcript of the preceding passage, both replies and the interpreter's question are ascribed to R.B./

O. L.: Of course, but lets...lets speak about the summer of ninety-eight

D. B.: So there were messengers at that time ... were operating..

Yeah... there were also meetings held ...So they would... they would... sit and talk and take decisions...We ...er...would.... We would be given I for example as person in charge of five or ten soldiers ...So task...tasks...were...were ...were..er.... assigned ... what to do ...orders to be obeyed and to be implemented...

R.B.: Ninety- eight, at that time... there were... there were couriers going... We had a, er, a meeting a week...

D.B. There were couriers?

R.B.: They met... they had talks... they took decisions... They sent us... like... as I was responsible... say ... for five soldiers... for ten soldiers... they told me what to do... to act and

O. L.: OK... did er.... did you ever see written orders or was ... er... all the orders verbal?

D. B.: There would be cases that the messenger ... would bring to us deliver to us written orders...This was for example when commander himself... would...er... was not able to come and see personally to convey the order to me ...But most of the time I was in a direct ... in the direct physical contact...

R.B.: Sometimes they came in writing, for example by courier... If it wasn't possible, say for the commander himself... he explained... he gave me an order or something to do... But most of the time I had contact, this way...

O. L.: Yeah,... OK.... When ...er... when you joined ... when you went in April of ninety-eight and you joined the KLA in Krojmir...Er... what were you provided with?...Did you get....?

D. B.: Yeah, I was...er...was provided with the automatic weapon

R.B.: They provided me with an automatic weapon.

O. L.: OK... what kind of an automatic weapon?

D. B.: Kalashnikov... from Albania

R.B.: It was a model from Albania... a Kalashnikov

O. L.: Is ...is it AK 47, or....?

D. B.: Yes AK 47.

R.B.: Yes, yes... with four grenades...

O. L.: OK...er...

D. B.: Four...er.... grenades...

O. L.: Hand-grenades ...?

D. B.: Yes...And ...and I ...er had... three rounds of ammunition, but they are not rounds...it's...So it's... I know.. cassettes or....

R.B.: Yes, and I also had... three /?clips/ of ammunition...

O. L.: Aha...Yeah...OK...and er... did you get a uniform?

D. B.: No they didn't provide us with uniforms My wife took care of this problem...they ...they.... She put together my uniformtailored my uniform..

R.B.: I didn't have one... however we made the uniform ourselves... in the beginning my wife sewed my uniform...

O. L.: OK.... And er.. did you ...did you get the badges The KLA badges?

D. B.: Yeah, I said that we had the emblems but we didn't have the uniforms...

R.B.: I said that badges, we had badges... whereas we didn't have uniforms...

O. L.: OK.. what... Did your wife had some kind of the camouflage material to make.. er...the...make the uniform?

D. B.: Yeah, camouflage yes camouflage clothing...And than she did the whole work of....

D.B.: What cloth did your wife make the uniform she had from?

R.B.: She made it with... it would be, er... like, your colour... and they cut and they...

O. L.: OK...was there any rules or orders to...to.. have a mask to wear at certain...certain situation?

D. B.: The masks...were in use until somewheremiddle of July...June, sorry.

R.B.: We kept the masks until something like the middle of June...

O. L.: OK....so it was ...when you were on duty you wore a mask, is that correct?

D. B.: Of course....however I had my family in Carralevë...If police...if Serb police would come to know that I was UCK member they wouldthey would kidnap my family...And...er..that's the reason ...we took on .er... nickname....And the er.. the mask as well.

R.B.: Of course... however I had a family at home in Carraleva... there were police... they used to come to Carraleva... they might have perhaps kidnapped my family... if they knew one hundred per cent that I was a member of the KLA. And so they had a pseudonym... And masks.

O. L.: OK...What pseudonym did you use?

D. B.: Besniku.

R.B.: I had Besnik.

O. L.: Besniku! OK ..Er... so it was at this point...to ... for the recording also to clarify probably... we are talking about Luan here.. I want to clarify that Luan is Ramiz Qeriqi,

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: OK...and did Shukri Buja had a pseudonym?

D. B.: Gazetari.

O. L.: Gazetari, yes...And Fatmir Limaj – Celiku.. /ascription in English transcript is incorrect/

D.B.: Did Shukri BUJA have a pseudonym?

R.B.: He was Gazetar... Fatmir LIMAJ – Çelik.

O. L.: Yeah...OK...er...than ... er... what task was given to you...in the beginning when you...when you joined?

D. B.: Yeah....I...I spent three or four days in Krojmir, not anymore.. So I was instructed to go to PetreshitceIt was an empty house...

So I was supposed to stay at this place ...at this empty house with six person and to...to...to work...to operate there.

R.B.: At the start... I stayed in Krojmir for a bit... let's say three days, four... And they told me to go to Pjetërshtica... in an empty house... With six members... to work there and stay there... My family was told that I had gone to Germany...

I was very close to my village, but I was active for a month or more... my family didn't know that I was there... there was, there was a real danger that the police would come... kidnap the family... they might say we will release them if Dan /Ramadan/ comes

O. L.: OK.

D. B.: My family had the information that...that I was heading or I was in Germany...They ...they had no idea...I was not far from them...and I was staying for a month there and had no idea...It was because of the danger of Serb police coming and abducting my family once they realise I was er... UCK member.

O. L.: Er.. were you in charge of ...of these six men that you had with you in Petreshtice?

D. B.: Yes... Yeah... the number increased from six, eight, ten..

Yeah...It was six probably in five six days or seven days they ...but than more people came ... Until the seventeenth June ninety-eight you could count twelve people there...So I was the person in charge for these persons..

R.B.: Yes... They came and the number there increased, gradually, six people stayed there for four, five days... it increased, and then it grew to ten, twelve. Until 17 June 1998 there were twelve ... and I was responsible for them...

O. L.: Were they ...were they soldiers that were from the area also, or?

D. B.: So four of them were from Petrushtica than the rest came from different places..

R.B.: No, they weren't... three or four were from Pjetërshtica while the others were...

O. L.: Did you know them from before.?

D. B.: Yes ...most of them yes I ...er... I knew from earlier..

R.B.: Most of them, yes.

O. L.: OK...er..and...er...and what were the task to be doing in ...er.. in this place?

D. B.: During the day we would ..er..we would be out....out of the eye of the civilian population there as it was danger, at nights we would engaged on digging trenches.... Digging trenches yes...So we would...we would er....we would er... we were also engaged in a...in a... in er...gathering and er...

trying to organise the youth in Petrushtica as well as in the surrounding villages....

So we...er... as a matter of routine we would be working in ...in the trenches from ten in the evening till four in the morning ..

R.B.: Er... we stayed in this house and... we worked at the positions at night... by day we stayed there... er... out of the sight of the population, so they wouldn't know that we were police... er... soldiers, I mean to say that we were soldiers...

D.B.: At night you were training?

R.B.: At night... no, not training but establishing the positions... We made...

D.B.: Digging trenches or...?

R.B.: Trenches.

OK...

R.B.: We organised the young people of the village... and the villages round about... Normally the trenches were dug from something like ten o'clock until four in the morning...

O. L.: OK...And was this involving than, organising the civilian population who was helping in the trench digging?

D. B.: Yes it was a natural thing to do because of.. .er...

Yes...the population was taking care of this completely, they...er... dug the trenches...They would stay and guard them as they were working.

R.B.: Of course... we worked with them... we didn't do work at all at the positions, the people, these civilians did it all... We were guarding them.

O. L.: Did than....erdid you receive orders like on a daily bases, some special task needed to be taken care of?

D. B.: It could have been that we would receive orders and we would carry out these orders...

R.B.: Yes, it would mostly be that we carried out the orders that we received...

O. L.: Yeah...was these orders usually coming from er....Luan than?

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: OK

D. B.: Yes the only source of orders was Luans, I...I haven't received orders of anybody else, or I haven't carry out orders coming from anybody else others than Luan.

R.B.: Yes... I didn't carry out any other orders... and neither did I receive any orders from anyone else except Luan.

O. L.: OK...yeah...And er.....these orders...er...were they always brought personally by Luan or could it be done by...er...by courier?

D. B.: Most of the time Luan would come personally and convey the orders and there were also few cases when messengers would be...

Yeah...It's later stages in nineteen ninety-nine when I....it's started to receive written orders but that was the time when Luan was in Albania by that time...but it was in ninety-nine

R.B.: No, Luan himself... personally, most often... there were a few occasions when it was by couriers... Whereas later when they came in writing... after Luan had gone to... Albania... er, this was ninety-nine.

O. L.: OK.....Mr. Whiting do you have anything ...I am thinking of taking a short brake?

A W.: Yeah...No..

O. L.: OK ...we gonna take a short brake now ...Er...do you use sugar and milk in your coffee?

D. B.: Sugar...

R.B.: With sugar... without milk...

O. L.: OK...if you need to use the toilette...Durim will show you where it is...And if you want to smoke a cigarette, please...OK..Thank you very much.

.....

O. L.: OK...Time by my watch is ten thirty a.m. ...And we continue with the interview...Er.....Are you happy with the way the interview has going so far Mr.Behluli?

D. B.: Yes very good..

R.B.: Fine... very

O.L.: OK...where were we?...OK we were talking about the tasks that you had when you ...when you...er...joined the KLA and were stationed in Petrushtica...And that you...that you ...er...received tasks on...sometimes on a daily bases for some ...for some special tasks But.er.but mostly...mostly.. you...you stayed out of site during the day and during the night you organised digging of trenches...

Er...do you remember at this time how...how close were the ...were the Serbs in...in that area...did...did you have.er....a site of ...of Serb forces everyday?

D. B.: The were ...they were stationed in Shtimle...They would ...be ...on the move during the day...they would...they would pass by Cerraleve...through Cerraleve...But at nights they would ...they would stay...in Shtimle...they wouldn't...they wouldn't move...That's why

...that's why...that's the reason why we would dig trenches during the night
...so we felt safer...

R.B.: They were in Shtime... And... er... well... they were on the move during the day... moving through Carraleva... During the night they weren't around... they stayed in Shtime... For that reason... we were safest from them... we dug trenches... And during the day... we had no orders to attack anything... from the start... as they /recording: /we/ were very few in number... we didn't have... We waited for the number of members to increase... and we began... combat.

O. L.: Yeah..

D. B.: As... they were on the move during the day...we didn't receive orders to launch attacks on them...as we were very few in numbers
So..we were...waiting to have sufficient....sufficient force so to be able to attack them ...So to start fighting with them..

O. L.: Er..did people move otherwise during the day...the civilian population...was it able for them to...to move along the roads?

D. B.: Yes...Yeah...well they were able to do that in ...er..April ...

So they...would.... they...er...there were cases that they would take somebody ..detain somebody ...stop somebody and interrogate about the whereabouts of UCK movements ...presence...Serb police...I'm talking about

D.B.: And the civilian population, were they able during the day... like, to travel...

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: /as printed: is R.B. on recording/ At the beginning of... say April... yes,

R.B.: It did happen... for example, they would often take someone for questioning, say... they had heard that the KLA was somewhere... took for questioning... where are they, how many are they.... In other words, the police would take them for questioning.

O. L.: Yeah...yeah...So what kind of Serb forceser.... were there, was it police army...do you know if they were MUP or OUP?

D. B.: Both, police and army were present...But as far as the detention of the civilians and interrogation is...detention and interrogation of civilians is concerned was Serb police were engaged in this..

Serb army would stay in their fixed positions...their strategic positions

There is....there is ..a position I am talking about

There was ...er...there was an army base here ...

O. L.: Mhmm...

D. B.: And police would ...would ..move all these sectors...And....police would be in move in that area...So they...they...would use armoured vehicle...Four or five days a time would patrol this area..

R.B.: Well, at that time there were both the police and the army... however... but this matter... it was more the police who stopped the civilian population, say, and took them for questioning... like, detained them... This was mainly in Shtime, for example... it was... this road which, say, for Zborc, which goes... This, it was Shtime... they stayed somewhere here...

D.B.: The army?

R.B.: Just a bit... This... Shtime... this here... where the army stayed... whereas the police... up to the pass... meaning this part... the police went by ... With an armoured car, two pinzgauers... four, five times a day... they would go by...

O. L.: OK...er... at this time we are still in ...er...early summer of ninety-eight...Er...was ...was people joining the UCK all the time?

D. B.: There was a huge ...the... there was a huge flow of people ...er.... volunteering joining the UCK, but as...er.. the armament was not ...not sufficient, not all of them were able to join the UCK..

The ...the weapons would be transported from Albania...

D.B.: We are talking again about the beginning of summer ninety-eight.

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: And there were volunteers who continued to come... to join the KLA.

R.B.: There was a number, a very large number that came to join... but... there was a lack of weapons and they were not able to join... because the arms were transported from Albania by hand.

O. L.: Er....was any kind of recruiting work done to... to try to get people to ...to coming to the UCK?

D. B.: Yes...Yeah the recruitment campaign started somewhere after...after June

O. L.: Aha....

D. B.: And ...er...things...like.. exercises like ...er ...how to use the weapon and er...Most of the youth who... who filled the ranks of UCK...they...they hadn't had any military service at all ...

R.B.: Yes... like... now... the recruiting of the first of them, they were... they did it sometime after June... they began recruiting the young people...

Using weapons... all types... The majority of the young people for example who joined at that time... they had not done military service... Sometime from the nineties... that's to say, from ninety-two... they stopped going to serve in the Yugoslav army.

O. L.: OK

D. B.: Since nineteen ninety-two there was practically no military service with Yugoslav army

O. L.: Yeah...OK...we can than...than move forward a little bit ...er... along the spring and summer of ninety-eight ...You said that You were wounded on ...er.. it on the seventeenth of June?

Was this in ...some kind of straight fighting with the Serbs?

D. B.: Yes..

D.B.: Now let's go on to the spring and... the summer of ninety-eight. You told us you were wounded... 17 June was the exact date?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: It was... you were wounded in direct combat with the Serbs?

R.B.: Direct...

D.B.: Were you in Pjetërshtica at this time, when you were wounded?

R.B.: No... I was wounded in Carraleva... but I was serving in Pjetërshtica... I was... the base of...

O. L.: Er... were still Petreshtice at this time?

D. B.: Yeah...I.. I ..was stationed in Petreshtice but I... I. I was wounded while fighting in Carraleve

O. L.: OK....er...so had there been prior to this.... had there been fights...between yourself and the Serbs?

R.B.: Yes... This was the third attack, so to say... it was the third clash.

D. B.: That was the third fighting...er...I was engaged in...

O. L.: OK...er...we can maybe we can start from the.... from the first one than.?

D. B.: The first ...the first clash ...armed clash was on ..er... fifteenth of Juneerer... Yes....fourteenth of June, sorry.

R.B.: The first clash was on 14 June

O. L.: Fourteenth of June?

D. B.: Fourteenth of June, yes..

O. L.: OK...er... up until the fourteenth of June ...er... had er... the situation have been more or less calm...?

D. B.: Yeah...was more or less calm and....there was...there was no fighting but you had to be aware of the situationyou had to be very careful ...

R.B.: It was calm... there had not been any fighting... but you had to be careful, we had a small number of soldiers... we had no weapons... to do anything face to face... And ... the first clash was... right here at this point... It was on this road... er... a military convoy here... Er... it was here... exactly, Luan was... with some comrades...I was in Duga... I had a married daughter there... I went for the first time as my daughter was married... And I heard a burst of fire... in... er... in Carraleva... Yes... Three comrades in the area here and I came... and reinforced... I came to this spot.

I have a house here... I have a copse which I have behind my positions... and it exists even now... Some 30 metres... distance from the main road.

D.B.: Er... excuse me Ramadan... This copse is your property, is it?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: And these is a position here... there are trenches?

R.B.: Trenches.

D.B.: There is a tree there... there are trees?

R.B.: There are.

D.B.: Er... to the north of Carraleva... it's... er, this copse.

R.B.: Er... well... it's like in the middle of Carraleva... That's to say, this is the Drenica road... Something like 200 metres from the Drenica road there is a dirt road. This copse is here... I had positions and... and I made most of the times... attacks. Er... The Serb forces were... er... coming... the road...

O. L.: Yeah...

D. B.: So as I said we were ...few numbers....Not enough weapons ...not sufficient armaments ...

O. L.: Yeah..

And the first fighting took place at this point ..

OK

D. B.: There was mi.. military convoy coming ...It was Luan and other people there ...I was in this place here...

O. L.: Duge..

Yes..

D. B.: My...my...er... doughtier....is married to this village and I went... er... the first time after her marriage there...So I heard the shooting ...er... coming from Carraleve...So er. from this point I ...I... walked up to this point with ..with three friends of mine ... in order to support them...to...to ..came to their aid

O. L.: Mhm...

D. B.: This where my house ..er.. is located ...There is place of m.. my property

O. L.: Mhm..

D. B.: Can I ask him about something?

O. L.: Yes.

D. B.: Er.. in this place of mine there...There is ..er ... there is ...er.. there is... there are woods in that place ...

O. L.: Yes

D. B.: The treesand there were trenches in this place ... in his property..

And his property is just above or to the north of Carralevë

D. B.: Well is somewhere in the middle of Carralevë..

OK...OK..

D. B.: This is a ...this is the road leading to Drenica ...Two hundreds metres away from Drenica road there is...there is ...er... unpaved road

O. L.: Mhm...

D. B.: And ...er... that's....er... this place with woods is ...

So from this position ...from these trenches ... from this fighting position I ...er ...would engaging in fighting

O. L.: OK...is...er...were the Serb forces moving along the ...er...the.. to Dulja -Stimle road

D. B.: Er I'm sorry..

O. L.: The Serb forces were they moving along the Dulja -Stimle road

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: OK and from...from your property up on the hill in Carraleve is it possible for you to see this main road to Stimle?

D. B.: Yes, ..yes..

O. L.: OK

D. B.: It's twenty- thirty metres in airial ...in airial distance...Yeah when you look up on the hill ..I was... I was..er... high and the road...

We didn't have er... anti tank weapons ..So we... we try to improvise we use bottles of benzene...In order to put the Serbs on fire ..

R.B.: Yes.... It's twenty or thirty metres as the crow flies... it isn't... I was positioned above... the road was below... I was there... as we had no anti-tank weapons I had prepared to attack them with bottles of petrol... to set the tanks on fire... in Carraleva... I mean on the road... Molotov...

O. L.: Were you successful?

D. B.: Yeah...I ...I.. succeeded on twenty-third of June ...

O. L.: On twenty-third?!

D. B.: Yes..

O. L.: OK.... Butbut lets still...lets still stay at the fourteenth now.

Er. ... what...what actually was the outcome of this...er...this date of this fighting?

D. B.: Yeah... at....at....the and of the day there were....there were no wounded or casualties on our part, as far as...er.. they are concerned I don't know if they had wounded or...er...killed....Along the way that I ...I ..took from Duge to Carralevë...Mhmm...it must be distance of five six kilometres ...There was shelling coming from this point ...

So..they would...they were shelling from two... from two points... he is indicating now on the map....Carraleve

Mhm...

D.B.: Was it successful?

R.B.: I was on 23... June.

D.B.: 23 June?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: But let's talk about the first clash on the fourteenth...

R.B.: On the fourteenth...

D.B.: How did the clashes turn out that day?

R.B.: Er... Nobody on our side was wounded that day... I don't know how many there were on the other side, however, it was a military convoy... As I was coming from Carraleva from Duga, it was something like quite a large distance... I think it was say five, six kilometres.

And there there was... like... they were shelling from... tanks were shelling... at this point...

D.B.: Where did the shelling come from?

R.B.: From here... near Drenica... In Carraleva there was... also from... they were shelling in this area... And here from the Pass of... they were here with shells.... And now it seems to me, say...

D.B.: Excuse me... the three were directed towards Carraleva... the three shellings were directed towards Carraleva?

R.B.: Yes... Here in Carraleva... at this part... this part... they shelled... When I arrived from Duga... I arrived a little late... however... had to go... When I arrived at my trenches it was all over... the forces had withdrawn.

D. B.: And there was another pointthey would shell fromit was Gorge of Dule

O. L.: Yes...

D. B.: All the ...er....the shelling was directed against this ...this...

Yeah...I...I... rather late here at this place as you had to go through ...woods...So once I was in my trenches it.. ended ...The forces withdrew ...

O. L.: And I would like to go on seventeenth ...how...how many...how many troops of ...er... of Luan's were aproximately...?

D. B.: Luan must.. mustmust...er have been ...well it must have been force of no more then ...three...three people ..Was ... it was... in this place that we had trenches and ...and er... soldiers

R.B.: Luan's... I think there was a third person... here... the attack was from here... Whereas they had positions in this part... trenches and soldiers.

D.B.: Three people in total with Luan or...?

R.B.: There were three at this point with Luan.... while here where the soldiers who were... who fought... Well, there were three or four here... there were no more.

D.B.: Not with Luan... here?

R.B.: Not here... three or four in this part, there were no more... three with Luan or four... When I arrived at my trenches the fighting was already over.

O. L.: OK..

D. B. : So Luan started the attack with no more than three people

O. L.: OK

D. B.: So there were three soldiers with Luan ...for all in all they started the attack.three or four soldiers here as wellno...no more...

Yeah...

So..once I arrived ...er....in the trencheser...the fighting ended ...

O. L.: Er...do you think that the purpose of the Serb forces was to take over the hill in Carraleve, or...?

R.B.: They... they hadn't then... however... to see where we were stationed... how many troops we were...

D. B.: So they just wanted to ...to ...to take a tour to see ...how many troops did we have...

O. L.: Aha...

D. B.: So it was more....er....more to explore to find out about our make up and ..er...fighting force ..

O. L.: OK...Can you remember...was there ...was there any ...any artillery...er...shooting at this ...from the Serb side at this time...?

D. B.: Yes...it was shelling...O yeah...OK sorry...So they have done also random ...random shelling.....

R.B.: With tanks... with shells... And here, now.... now... in that part, say, they fired and they returned on this side of the angle... They fired randomly... someone had, someone shelled the houses... on the other side...

D.B.: Meaning that's how the fighting finished on 14 June?

R.B.: On 14 June...

D.B.: And the other fighting afterwards...?

R.B.: On the seventeenth

D.B.: The fighting broke out again in the same place?

R.B.: In the same place...

O. L.: Yeah...OK...so...that ended the fighting of fourteenth of June than?...OK....so when was the next time ...the next time that you run to Serbs?

D. B.: On seventeenth of June

O. L.: OK...er... was this at the same place...?

D. B.: Yeah, it was the same place

O. L.: OK....and what happened this....

*/END OF THE FIRST CD-VOOO-4382 (1OF3)/Transcript of the recorded interview with Ramadan Behluli –
CD VOOO-4382(2 of 3) -in English language*

D.B.: So this time how did the fighting go?

R.B.: This time... I had an observer who observed... observed the situation... where they were going... where they were moving and where they were stationed...

D.B.: He told you... told you...?

R.B.: Yes... and he came to me in Pjetërshtica to... he told me that the Serbs had entered Carraleva...

D.B.: He reported to you?

R.B.: Yes... I gave the alarm to the soldiers and we got up, all of us, and we hurried ... We had a meeting point in that area, the soldiers assembled their and received new assignments...

D.B.: For the sake of the recording, this point is on the road between Pjetërshtica and Carraleva.

R.B.: Yes. This is the village... Pjetërshtica...

DB: Yes... Pjetërshtica is a village?

R.B.: A village.

D.B.: And this is the road which goes from... from Shtime to Drenica?

/the above four lines are incorrectly ascribed in the Albanian transcript/

R.B.: And to Komoran, yes... And we have the meeting-point here... where the soldiers met and received new assignments... I received information that... er... the army... the Serbian police were dispersed in that area... through Carraleva... There was a tank at the corner... in this road where it starts... er... Krojmir...

R.B.: Three were... in this sort of area were... sort of level ground... three tanks were here... one was... opposite the mosque...

D.B.: It was near the mosque?... this other tank...?

R.B.: Yes... yes, yes... And so I was assigned to take five... six soldiers with me. There was also a road here by the old school, this road was to be blocked so that the forces could not go up... they couldn't go up above... it was a sort of hill.. Rudina /the meadow/ they called it...

D.B.: This road goes by the old school?

R.B.: Over the old school, I said... /?from/ the old school it goes over our quarter... and in our quarter there is an area where we didn't want to let the Serbs come and take positions and be stationed...

D.B.: You were assigned to block this road.

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: *This road which is situated, so I can explain... ? This is situated... This... this... this goes by the old school...?*

R.B.: *Er... from the old school it goes uphill... Is there a more detailed map of the area, the area?*

R.B.: *So I assigned three soldiers there to go... for them to close that road... so that the Serbs did not go up and establish a position.... Whereas I started off with another five soldiers to go to... er... to my positions.*

R.B.: *We received the orders from Luan.*

R.B.: *Then I started going... however it was very like a panorama... they saw us... everything there... It was very difficult to go and... to get through to, to reach the positions... I saw where the forces were concentrated... the shooting was continuous... And I said to the comrades who were behind me... I said I'll get through, I'll carry on... if they should attack me don't come... I entered and I got through to my positions... alone... And I approached somewhere, their forces like 250 metres... I was at a corner of a mountain...*

D.B.: *There at the... the copse?*

R.B.: *Yes, yes at the copse there at the corner of the mountain... and the Serbian forces did not know that I was in that place... Because they assumed that I was at our positions on the other side. And also, we had positions on the right.*

R.B.: *Whereas they did not know that we had positions at the place where I was... And we fought for something like three hours... I fought there...*

D.B.: *Alone?*

R.B.: *Yes.*

R.B.: *After three hours... a tank was withdrawn with... some of their people were wounded.*

R.B.: *The other tanks remained... er... below the hill there...*

R.B.: *And then another tank arrived from Shtime... so that other one went and this one arrived...*

D.B.: *Excuse me Ramadan, let's go a bit more slowly... it's not possible to keep up this quickly.*

R.B.: *All right...*

D.B.: *After this tank... er... this tank was withdrawn, the first one...?*

R.B.: This tank was withdrawn...

D.B.: Yes.

R.B.: And this other one arrived at the same time

R.B.: While the other ones were stationed there...

R.B.: Can I draw something...?

R.B.: Now, this road is... say Shtime – Dule /?Duhël /Dulje//... now this part is the road to Komoran that goes

R.B.: Now, they had observers in this part... I was here...

D.B.: The observers that you had assigned?

R.B.: The Serbian observers... no, the Serbs were here...

R.B.: There were five people stationed ... they had positions here at...

D.B.: Five Serbs here?

R.B.: Yes... Five Serbs were here, observers...

R.B.: The tank that they took... it was in this part...

R.B.: So, I had the positions here... I saw these here ... and...

R.B.: Something like 250 metres...

R.B.: And after it was withdrawn on this side... the other came... and it was positioned here.

R.B.: And now this one came to take... to withdraw these observers.

D.B.: The second tank that came?

R.B.: Yes, the second.

R.B.: The three other tanks were in this part... at the foot of the hill.

D.B.: These were at the foot of the hill... these three tanks?

R.B.: Yes.

R.B.: And then I attacked these observers.

R.B.: When the this tank noticed that I was there... this tank noticed me...

R.B.: They fired at me from the tank... And I saw the flame... I saw the tank and I saw the flame... when it fired at me...

R.B.: It wounded me here...

R.B.: Then I fell on my stomach...

R.B.: In the position that I was in... on my stomach, I didn't see that place.

D.B.: You saw it or you didn't see it?

R.B.: I didn't see... they didn't see me...

R.B.: And they shelled the oaks...

R.B.: And it withdrew these observers and he got into the tank and they went

R.B.: And, so, I went as far as Krojmir and there they picked me up, wounded.

D.B.: You went to Krojmir yourself?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: You walked...?

R.B.: As far as Carraleva, I mean to that part... I went just here, I walked.

R.B.: My comrades and I met... after the fighting had finished... I went back again and met some comrades... and I went to here on foot.

R.B.: There were a lot of civilians here...

R.B.: When they saw what was happening below... in the fighting...

R.B.: And they saw me, wounded, they took me in a car, they put me...

R.B.: They took me to Shala.

R.B.: From Shala... in... a doctor came to me and cleaned me up a bit...

R.B.: We returned to Krojmir at something like eight o'clock in the evening.

D.B.: On that day... er... on the same day?

R.B.: *On that day.*

R.B.: *I met Fatmir LIMAJ... Çelik...*

R.B.: *Er.. Topi, Axhi /?Haxhi/ SHALA...*

R.B. *With... er... Guri... Jetulla SHALA...*

R.B.: *So then... after a short stay we ate supper and drank tea...*

R.B.: *We went to Kleçka with Fatmir LIMAJ*

R.B.: *I needed to go to... Gerak /as printed/... there was a military hospital there.*

R.B.: *Malisheva municipality.*

D.B.: *And Çelik and these other people that you mentioned that you met, why had they come to Krojmir, did they come because there was fighting?*

R.B.: *Well certainly for... they came, but I don't know now, I didn't ask why they came...*

R.B.: *While... er... Axhi SHALA and... always came as reinforcements, if there was fighting for example.*

D.B.: *They took you to the military hospital?*

R.B.: *Fatmir LIMAJ took me as far as Kleçka with his own driver and Top and Gur...*

R.B.: *Fatmir LIMAJ stopped there in Kleçka, Top, this Axhi SHALA, took me to Berak (?)...*

R.B.: *Axhi SHALA...*

R.B.: *Er... this was at two in the morning.*

R.B.: *Top took me back to Lushnjica /as printed/.*

D.B.: *You didn't stay at the military hospital, how long did you stay?*

R.B.: *No. no, he cleaned the wounds and I went back to /?Luzhnica/.*

R.B.: *Commander Kumanova was there... er... Ismet JASHARI*

D.B.: *Was there a Staff... was there a Staff at Luzhnica?*

R.B.: There was.

R.B.: It was the first time I saw the Staff there.

D.B.: And did you... did you know Ismet JASHARI before?

R.B.: Until that moment, no, in... that morning when I was taken and I saw for the first time, I saw... Ismet JASHARI.

R.B.: I didn't know him earlier

D.B.: How long did you stay away from military service because of this injury the... second... the wound?

R.B.: Well, one day.

R.B.: Ismet JASHARI, Kumanova... he said, stay, have a break...

R.B.: I said no... I said that I had mobility in my arm.

R.B.: And... my comrades in combat and me not to be there myself...

R.B.: I wanted to be in the midst of my comrades... in the fighting...

R.B. Even though Fatmir LIMAJ too encouraged me a little... when we were travelling on the road there, he had asked me how the situation was... I was saying...

R.B.: And I told him what the situation was like, that the police were still active in Carraleva...

R.B.: He said to me, why don't you attack...

R.B.: I said, I haven't received orders.

R.B.: Then he replied to me... he said that if I saw a Serbian uniform, never mind whether it's a police officer or a soldier, you yourself... don't ask around, and attack...

R.B.: This was the reason we...

R.B.: To arrive at my positions and to carry out the action I had been planning earlier.

D.B.: How many people were in the group you commanded at that time?

R.B.: I think 12... as far as I know...

D.B.: We're talking now about, that's to say, that period 19, 20 June, say...

R.B.: 18 June when I returned the number fell... the number increased, in Pjetërshtica.

R.B.: Then I returned from Luzhnica... the following day, to Krojmir, I came to Pjetërshtica.

D.B.: Excuse me Ramadan, one more time... then you returned to Pjetërshtica?

R.B.: I returned from Luzhnica, I came to Krojmir.

R.B.: The following day...that is.

D.B.: The same day or the following day?

R.B.: The following day...

R.B.: And I saw that the number of soldiers had increased, making something like 60...

R.B.: A Staff had been established with, it was a little more... with a greater number of soldiers, from Likovc /Likovac/, Shala, they came, they came the whole...

D.B.: But you were in command of these 60 soldiers?

R.B.: No... Even though I wasn't wounded then... I wasn't wounded... somebody else was appointed.

D.B.: Who was it?

R.B.: A... It was Latif MUSOLLI at the beginning.

R.B.: Even though I'm not so certain, but I took...

R.B.: I took three soldiers.

R.B.: I was the fourth...

R.B.: And I took on more assignments in order to defend the positions so that by night nobody could go...

R.B.: So nobody could come and discover them.

R.B.: So as I didn't have any... er... so to say, major position.

R.B.: In that number of 60 who were there...

D.B.: So the assignments that you received... you would say... they had more to do with assignments to discover, and scouting assignments... these that you described.

R.B.: No... assignments... I said here that I had the assignment of protecting the positions from being discovered by the Serbs...

R.B.: and... in the case of danger, for example... there was great danger from Zborc...

D.B.: And there were many Serbian forces in the area at that time, there in that zone of yours?

R.B.: There were somewhere... here in Shtime... like this... there were 40 tanks somewhere here.

D.B.: Forty tanks?

R.B.: Yes.

R.B.: Armoured cars... and all those...

D.B.: And so they were.. they were... positioned in Shtime and they moved here...

R.B.: Towards Zborc...

D.B.: Towards Zborc...

R.B.: Where there was fierce fighting in July.

D.B.: Now we're going straight to the end of June ninety-eight...

D.B.: And moving away a little ... moving away a little from the method of combat...

D.B.: And so you had, there were major changes in ... in this... in the command structure during this period... from the end of June.

R.B.: There weren't any changes.

R.B.: Whereas the work became a little heavier.

R.B.: Because the roads were becoming safer now, for example opening roads... we did that with the civilians.

R.B.: We were trying to open a part of the road from Godanc /Godance/ through Zborc.

R.B.: In the middle of our village and Pjetërshtica.

R.B.: To Duga....

R.B.: Karagjica /?Karaçica /Karačica//... Malisheva... say... Malisheva... a part of the road.

R.B.: We were supposed to make a corridor, for example, to avoid danger... they were blocked here, then.

D.B.: Aha... which ones were blocked?

R.B.: This main road.

R.B.: This wasn't blocked, it was blocked on the 23rd.

R.B.: From the 23rd there was no movement of tanks, or soldiers, or police... absolutely none... the main road was... from the 23rd.

R.B.: And then we took the course of the road over the villages here going to Malisheva.

D.B.: I'm sorry, I'll get back to my question.

D.B.: Again, was Shukri BUJA the main commander in Krojmir at that time?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: And Luan...

R.B.: Yes...

D.B.: And in your opinion the General Staff... the main staff was in Kleçka at this time?

R.B.: Yes...

D.B.: At this time we are speaking of, the end of June, did... did you know... or have any information about... say, divisions within the zones, for any organisational divisions within the zones?

R.B.: I didn't have any knowledge.

D.B.: Now let's come to what you mentioned a little earlier, 23 June, what ... what happened that day?

R.B.: That day we were... most of the time we spent at my positions.

R.B. : They were opposite.. I mean near the main road.

R.B.: The other thing was that I had my family behind, father, mother and my brother's children.

R.B.: A little further away I had my family and the whole neighbourhood was there... together with my family

D.B.: Wife and children...

R.B.: And then, the position which was strategic for them and for us was above... it was a part above the house... above my house.

R.B.: I was meant to protect it so that they didn't protect /recording: take/ the positions up there.

R.B.: That's why I mostly stayed at my positions and kept watch and guard... there the whole /time/.

R.B.: Because I had my family 200 metres away from the main road.

R.B.: I was afraid that the police would come and kidnap my family and...

D.B.: Was there fighting on 23 June?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: And can you tell us what happened?

R.B.: There was a military convoy.

R.B.: We saw them passing

R.B.: And we launched an attack with bottles of petrol... Molotov cocktails.

R.B.: I didn't use ammunition that day...

R.B.: I saw two tanks on fire.

R.B.: We were at a position where they couldn't do anything... so that we could see if they were coming, in the event that they went there and...

D.B.: It wasn't possible for you to do anything from that position or they couldn't...?

R.B.: They couldn't... I didn't have enough ammunition...

R.B.: There were four of us.

R.B.: There was no break in the fighting... in their shooting.

R.B.: Until I saw them... there was a bend there... I didn't see any more afterwards.

R.B.: After that date they didn't come by any more.

R.B.: Until something like August.

D.B.: And during July ninety-eight you had... you remained in this area, in this zone?

R.B.: In July I remained until... er... had... in July it was in Zborc... we moved from that position, we left and we went to... however there was a fear...

D.B.: You left that position... when did you leave?

R.B.: Somewhere around 27 July.

R.B.: I left the position, but... but they were afraid that I was still there.

R.B.: So they didn't pass by there.

R.B.: After a month they went by there, sometime towards August.

R.B.: When the offensive was mounted... there was fighting in Zborc.

R.B.: They were stationed there for something over a month... the Serbian forces.

R.B.: They mounted the second offensive in August and entered and penetrated...

R.B.: So for that fighting... I think that there were 22 or so soldiers, no more.

D.B.: Twenty-two soldiers on your side?

R.B.: Twenty soldiers on our side.

R.B.: Whereas there were some... some 70 armoured vehicles or so.

D.B.: Seventy?

R.B.: *Seventy.*

R.B.: *There was fighting for 36 hours.*

R.B.: *We had five killed and one wounded.*

D.B.: *On what date did this fighting take place?*

R.B.: *24... I don't know now, 24, 25 July.*

R.B.: *The end of July.*

D.B.: *So during this month, July, that you were mentioning, there were some Serbian offensives in that zone.*

R.B.: *Yes.*

D.B.: *Which areas did you go to...?*

R.B.: *I was at my positions where they were... where it was then...the Zborc offensive... I was at my positions here...*

R.B.: *Luan and some comrades came.*

R.B.: *And I received an order to go to that part.*

R.B.: *For us to protect the village here, Carraleva, from the Serbian infantry.*

R.B.: *So we established a line here, we set up a blockade so that that they wouldn't penetrate, wouldn't get to the population.*

R.B.: *Er... so the following day an order came that...*

D.B.: *The following day, when, say.*

R.B.: *The first day that the offensive was... the second day...*

R.B.: *They said an order had come from Shukri BUJA... from Gazetar...*

R.B.: *How many forces the Serbs had and how many of us there were.*

R.B.: *The ammunition shortage was the reason for withdrawal...*

D.B.: *Shukri BUJA's order was to...?*

R.B.: *For us to withdraw.*

D.B.: *For you to withdraw?*

R.B.: For us to withdraw from there and to go to the final positions which we had...

D.B.: When... when was this?

D.B.: Where at... where were these positions?

R.B.: These were the positions... er... in Carraleva, there by the school...

D.B.: The second positions that you took up were in Carraleva?

R.B.: The second... no, but the third... they /recording: we/ went at the end ... and we went to the second positions then...

D.B.: Where were the second positions?

R.B.: The second positions were on the road that goes to Pjetërshtica... here... the position was here... here it is... we were fighting here then... in Zborc.. the forces in Zborc were here.

R.B.: And now, at first we were...

R.B.: We went to the final positions here and we remained here, we stayed... they were concentrated here, the Serbian forces... here.

R.B.: Something like 90 per cent of the village was burned ... was burned by...

R.B.: We had one soldier killed there and...

D.B.: Were you ordered to go to another place to assist other forces in combat?

R.B.: No... no, no only here for the area... for the area.

R.B.: I didn't take part in anything else, only in this part.

D.B.: You said that you thought that it was 24 or 25 July, the offensive in Zborc.

R.B.: I am not sure of the date.

D.B.: We know that on that date... well, around then there was a major Serbian offensive in that zone.

D.B.: For example, there was an offensive in Llapushnik /Lapušnik/ which might have been on the 25th or the 26th.

R.B.: It's true that every attack, for instance, that generally some people from Llapushnik came then as reinforcements here in Carraleva.

D.B.: They came from Llapushnik to help you in Carraleva?

R.B.: Yes.

R.B.: One Imer ALUSHANI, Voglushi... I knew him even before the war, he often came during the attack on Carraleva.

R.B.: While when the offensive on Zborc was mounted something like... there were also other offensives, they were unable to come... to get through... for example, as reinforcements.

R.B.: They had no let-up... in many parts...

D.B.: What sort of position did Imer ALUSHANI have in... in his zone?

R.B.: I don't know what sort of position... you see, I knew him... I had known him as... even before the army and during... I knew that as a soldier he was severe... as a strategist...

R.B.: I don't know what sort of position he had...

D.B.: He was killed in the Llapushnik offensive?

R.B.: Yes... I got the news two days after he was killed...

D.B.: And Llapushnik also was under.. under... in the same Staff that you were, say... in... it was under the authority of Klečka or...?

R.B.: The Pashtrik /Paštrik/ zone included some way towards Malisheva to the Komoran road and to the Drenica road over to... in this part... it had Blinaj... this part was Pastrik's... this was under the command of...

D.B.: And can you outline... can you outline the zone which was under the Klečka command?

R.B.: Something like this roughly, perhaps... I'm not 100 per cent certain.

D.B.: And we are talking about the time... er... about July ninety-eight when you were fighting.

R.B.: This is...

D.B.: The zone under the Klečka command.

R.B.: ...here it is, I'm showing now... I believe that... giving roughly...

D.B.: Malisheva is...?

D.B.: Malisheva is within the zone or outside?

R.B.: Within the zone.

R.B.: No, Malisheva, this is... this is Malisheva.

D.B.: And this is the Shtime – Duhël road.

R.B.: And now this had the Nerodime /Nerodimlje/ zone over to...

R.B.: ...Something roughly making this... it can't be seen very well.

R.B.: ... but something roughly like this part.

D.B.: So that this goes... in other words the boundary is the Peja – Prishtina road.

R.B.: By the Peja – Prishtina road.

D.B.: This continues... it continues by the Peja - Priština road or it turns off by the Orlat road?

R.B.: I'm not sure, I don't know.

R.B.: It's like I'm saying roughly that this part was...

D.B.: This was under the Klečka command?... under the Klečka Staff?

R.B.: ...Yes.

D.B.: This... you can call this the Pashtrik operations zone?

R.B.: Yes... so they told me, I don't know exactly... roughly.

D.B.: We're talking about the summer of ninety-eight again... How was the organisational set-up of the smaller staffs... meaning... were there other smaller staffs?

D.B.: For example, can you show on the map the places where there were KLA Staffs within this zone?

R.B.: Staffs for example, now, there was one in Krojmir then, at the beginning.

R.B.: With these or with these? This for example was... when I joined up at the beginning.

R.B.: I was appointed responsible for the post for Pjetërshtica here on 6 June...

D.B.: This was a Staff or it was... er...?

R.B.: Like a branch of... so to say part of... or to say... there were no companies, battalions then...

R.B.: Under the Krojmir command...

D.B.: Here, it would be better, say, if you show only there, where there were staffs... no... not the combat units, where the staffs were, that's to say, where the orders were issued.

R.B.: Like Krojmir... there were in Shala, Klečka anyway... it's the General Staff, it was in Luzhnica... there was (inaudible) there was in Likovc too... however after... I don't know that... I didn't move from there... movement, I mostly went to this part... of Carraleva.

D.B.: Only as much as you know about them... there was a staff in Ladrovac /Ladrovac/?

R.B.: I don't know.

D.B.: Was there a staff in Llapushnik?

R.B.: Llapushnik I know... I don't know... the main thing is that there were posts, I don't know where they were... er...

D.B.: No, a staff... staff... did it have one like Krojmir, Llapushnik?

R.B.: I believe it did... I'm not sure.

R.B.: I don't know, I hadn't been there then anyway, to Llapushnik, it's after the war that I was there, I didn't have a chance to...

R.B.: You know, I've been all over Europe... yet places here in Kosovo... many places in Kosovo...

D.B. You said that like... staffs like... compared with Krojmir they were places here that were marked... with coloured ink here?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: And now we are talking... I'm talking about July, August ninety-eight... who was the commander in the Luzhnica staff?

R.B.: Ismet JASHARI.

D.B.: Who was the commander in Shala?

R.B.: In Shala it was... er... I don't recall now, one... here, he worked... Bardhi here, they called him, a pseudonym...

D.B.: And in Lekovc /?Likovc/?

R.B.: In Lekovc... er... I don't know any more who it was... they called him Muxhahedin, a pseudonym... but I don't recall his name... he was killed.

D.B.: But in Llapushnik.. who... who was commander?

R.B.: No, in Llapushnik I don't know.

D.B.: You said that during July ninety-eight you had assistance like this, reinforcements came from Llapushnik to... to the fighting...

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: And you mentioned an occasion that Imer ALUSHANI came...

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: Do you remember when was the first time that Imer ALUSHANI came from Llapushnik...?

R.B.: The first time... he came something like... er... and on 17 June, it was as I.. after I was wounded... 17 June... and I went to that part, wounded... Imer ALUSHANI was at the second positions... and... he said, what's up, he said... the police have come back, I said... those forces... he saw my blood... congratulations, he said, thanks...

D.B.: Did Imer ALUSHANI go back to Llapushnik?

R.B.: Yes he... they were moving around, I don't know now whether they returned or not, I went... I went for medical treatment then...

D.B.: Did you see Imer ALUSHANI later, after this, in July?

R.B.: I saw him a few times.

D.B.: In... in July?

R.B.: June, July... something like that... at that time they wanted to form a staff in Ranca /Rance/ too... and so Qerqiz and Imer ALUSHANI came to us to say that this point, say...

D.B.: And which was... who was Qerqiz, which one are you referring to?

R.B.: Isak MUSLIU.

D.B.: What sort of position did he have?

R.B.: I don't know.... the main thing is I saw him come to us... it would have been ridiculous to ask someone what duties they had, for example, or... for the person you're talking about.

D.B.: So... you know that... er... he came with Imer ALUSHANI to work on the Ranca staff, to establish a staff in Ranca.

R.B.: They came together and they came like that so that there would be formed... and this zone, then, a staff was being formed, little by little...

D.B.: No, I mean did you know they came to do that?

R.B.: I... I know, they told me... I knew.

D.B.: Do you know who... who ordered that a staff be established in Ranca... those two, that were involved in that activity?

R.B.: I believe that Isak MUSLIU was one of the main figures in the formation of a staff at Ranca.

D.B. Who... who... ordered that activity to be carried out, do you know?

R.B.: I don't know... no, I don't know.

D.B.: But this activity you mentioned, establishing a staff in Ranca, could it have been an order, say, from the Klečka staff?

R.B.: Yes... er... I don't know now, I'm not sure but perhaps at that time... the more things spread and the number of soldiers, of members, of staffs grew... each reason for us to protect the people as much as possible and...

D.B.: But those two persons you mentioned, Isak MUSLIU and Imer ALUSHANI, were there also reinforcements, other assistance from Lalpushnik, in this period you talked about, June, July?

R.B.: At the post where I was, for example, I had no need and so nobody came to me, at that position of mine but... Whereas when the offensive, the one in Zborc began then, I don't know who could have come and where they were. I

was engaged only on what I had to do, in order to protect my area and... then what was done, how should I know, who came and who there was.

D.B.: Excuse me, I would like to ask you another thing which might seem boring to you, or irritating.

R.B.: Not at all.

D.B.: If you try to remember that offensive in Zborc, which you spoke about...

RB.: Yes.

D.B.: You said that this was something like 24, 25 July... I know that you don't remember exactly but it isn't important... in this fighting in Zborc on 24, 25, that you mentioned... did Imer ALUSHANI come to your assistance?

R.B.: As far as I know, no... there was certainly fighting there as well.

D.B.: Er... do you know, say, from the aspect of time, how the offensives in Zborc and Llapushnik were, I mean, did it happen in Zborc first or in Llapushnik first?

R.B.: I think it was at the same time, as far as I know, the same time, I have some notes at home but it I think it was at the same time...

D.B.: Er... because we know that Imer ALUSHANI was killed in the Llapushnik offensive and it seems to have been something like 26 July... Do you think that he was... he was there in... in your zone and then had to leave in order to fight there?

R.B.: No... no, no... Imer ALUSHANI... there was fighting here, you see, and there was no possibility of getting through over this way... to us... But the offensive that was mounted with us here, was also mounted with them, in other words on two fronts...

D.B.: Right, that's exactly what I wanted to say... the exact thing I wanted to settle was the time, meaning when the offensive in Zborc happened...

D.B.: How is the interview going, OK?

R.B.: OK.

D.B.: So we're talking about this zone, which is... and we're talking again about the summer of ninety-eight... what can ... what can you recall about the Military Police in this zone, about the activities of the Military Police.

R.B.: The Military Police were appointed by particular staffs, particular persons... and they had their own insignia... PU /Military Police/, they had specific duties.

D.B.: Did they have specific uniforms?

R.B.: They didn't have specific ones; however, in the majority of cases they had black uniforms.

D.B.: Did you see many Military Police personnel in your zone, for example?

R.B.: I don't know what I can say about the zone... I didn't go outside of...

D.B.: But in the place where you were based?

R.B.: In the place, here in Pjetërshtica for example, there were three members here... three or four... they operated in the area of... of Pjetërshtica. Whereas in the Krojmir area, for example... er... there was like a battalion, there were more police operating.

D.B.: Do you know what tasks they had?

R.B.: They had the task of... monitoring the soldiers, if they went anywhere, if they did anything bad, if... they made inquiries among the population, for example, to see if there was any need for assistance.... any disagreements for example between the soldiers or between the soldiers, the police and the civilians... to report...

D.B.: The Military Police, if you can remember here... that operated in your zone, here in your village, in Carraleva here... er... did they take orders from Shukri BUJA in Krojmir?

R.B.: In Krojmir they took... I don't think I remember now...

D.B.: The Krojmir Staff had its own Military Police or... or the Military Police were appointed by a... by a higher authority?

R.B.: I know that they were stationed there, they operated there...

D.B.: The Military Police operated in Krojmir?

R.B.: Yes... in Krojmir... there in Krojmir then, there was talk that they were under the orders of Krojmir... they received tasks from above (inaudible)... I don't know myself...

D.B.: You don't... you don't happen to know who the Military Police commander for this zone was?

R.B.: Er... commander... I don't know but I know some people who were in the Military Police.

D.B.: Can you give us some names?

R.B.: Ajvaz KORPUZI, Jet ASANI... Jet ASANI... Agron QERIQI (inaudible)

D.B.: These operated in your zone?

R.B.: Yes, yes, in the part where I was.

D.B.: He... he was killed.

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: But these two others, are they alive... are they still alive?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: The time is... the time is 1148 hours and we'll have a break... are you happy with the way the interview is going?

R.B.: Completely.

- - - - -

D.B.: The time according to my watch is 1222 hours... and when we began the break it was 1148... let's continue with... in the same way... Are you all right with continuing the interview?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: In about... half an hour the video cassette is going to run out... Do you have any questions so far?

R.B.: No... I think that at the end, sometime, I might ask a question, but not at the moment.

D.B.: As you know, we have carried out a lot of investigations about... about the things that happened in... in this zone during the conflict... and as you know from before... and... as you have understood today... and the period of time which we... which we are interested in, we are investigating from April to August ninety-eight.

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: We have spoke a lot... with a lot of people in this zone... people who are not in Kosovo... with specialists... and also just like you are... er.. you know some... some people have been arrested... we are very grateful for... for the information that you have given so far... it's very valuable to us... and I hope that we can go on in the same way... During the summer of 1998 when the conflict was developing, as you say yourself, the KLA was not very well-organised.

R.B.: In the beginning... not in the beginning... and later on it began...

D.B.: And might you say that from June ninety-eight it started to get a bit better organised?

R.B.: Yes... the increase in soldiers, regulations, discipline, all of that... provisioning...

D.B.: And the command structure?

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: You... er... mentioned earlier, also referred to regulations as an example... this... these regulations you talked about or mentioned, were they written regulations or were you... were they... er... regulations which were communicated verbally?

R.B.: They were written and also communicated, if, say, some new soldiers arrived then they were (inaudible) they... by communication, and we told...

D.B.: And can you tell me in a general way, not in full, what sort of regulations these were?

R.B.: The regulations were to protect... to protect Albanian land... to protect the population from the Serb forces... to help in every aspect, in provisioning, all that.

D.B.: To protect the population?

R.B.: The population... and if it came to it even to sacrifice ourselves for them, that we had started the war for them... that we had started it for ourselves... that I myself had had the necessities of life, food, clothing, everything... I didn't have freedom... if a person didn't dare to go his own town, to Shtime or Fesizaj or anywhere else, I was forbidden... just because I didn't agree... er... to serve the enemy.

D.B.: Did the regulations that you are talking about touch on, did they touch on such aspects as, for example... how to conduct a war, in the provisions of any of these regulations or in the case of prisoners of war... that is, in a war

when there are prisoners of war, how prisoners of war should be treated, was this aspect touched on in the regulations?

R.B.: Yes, certainly... it's certain that those were touched on, by the regulations (inaudible)... they were international regulations.

D.B.: Let's wait a bit... So the KLA regulations, the KLA regulations mentioned these international regulations which you mentioned in connection with those about how to conduct war?

R.B.: Well, that rulebook was, I don't know now... er... in full now... that rulebook, perhaps you have it too... I have forgotten but if I were to read them now they would remind me at once... even though I also took an oath, I took an oath but if you now say to me clarify the whole of the oath, I don't know.

D.B.: Do you have any copy of these regulations yourself?

R.B.: No, I don't... I don't have, I didn't have... they were read out in front of us and...

D.B.: If you can't remember them in full, as you say, can you recall in a general way the aspects for example of the rules dealing with...with the conduct of war, the way in which prisoners of war are treated...

R.B.: I remember they... also how to treat prisoners, and treat them correctly... we didn't have anything to do with civilians, to do anything about, say, about civilians, except to protect them.

D.B.: As he said to you now, as it was touched on a little earlier... while the war was going on your task was to protect the civilian population from the Serbs... one of the problems was also the problem of Albanians that co-operated with the Serbian forces... and we know that at that time... all... these people, who were, say, collaborators were arrested at that time... did you take part in such activities?

R.B.: I had no occasion to take part in... not to arrest, but I saw something, for example... we didn't have occasion for such things, you see, particularly in Krojmir, in Carraleva, in Pjetërshtica.

D.B.: Did you hear about such activities?

R.B.: I heard something, that their collaborators...

D. B.: Yeah I assigned ...er.... a person to be the watch points ...he would ...he would observe around ...he would look around about their movements... about everything...he came to me in Petreshtica and reported that Serbs were already in Carraleve.

Mhm...

D.B.:So I gave ...er...the highest alert to..to the soldiers....so we...er... get up and run...this was...this was the gathering point for ...for all of us to ...to assign the tasks and to ...to decide what to do..

A. W.: And that point, just for the tape, is on the road between Pe...Petreshtice and Carraleve.

D. B.: Yes.

And it's the road that leads from the Shtime-Dulja road up to ...up to Drenica, is that correct?

D. B.: Yes..

OK

D. B.: So it was used by us as a gathering point in order to assign new tasks for the soldiers...I was informed that ..er..the Serb..police...er the Serb police and army were concentrated in that part of Carrleve...so ...there was ...a tank positioned ..at..at the beginning of this road that leads to Petreshtive ...there were...er...other three tanks...at..at this other point...another one was nearnear the mosque.

D. B.: So...I...I ...er...was... I was tasked along with six men...so I was ordered to block an old road...er....to block...to block road that leads to the old school..

D. B.: Can I ask him something because..er..

O. L.: Yes, go ahead ...

D. B.: It's.....it's...er....very detailed description now.... Yeah..er....this road is close to the old school ..and....and...than...er....leading up ...and the ...the...the intention was...not....to..to...er....not to let Serbs penetrate as far as high ...er...up...up hill point..

O. L.: Yeah..

D. B.: Is there any...more detailed map?...so I could..

O. L.: No I'm sorry...but it's OK....

D. B.: So I ordered three soldiers to go...To...to protect this road...not to let Serbs to go through and...er...and take the ...er. up..up position...and I I ... I headed towards my trenches with other five soldiers

D. B.: We...we...received orders from Luan...we received the order from Luan

D. B.: As...as...as. I ... was heading towards my trenches ...It was..er.. really hard ..to...to get ...er...up to my positions we...were...er...visible from every...from every angle...So I could...I could see....where the forces were stationed...

D. B.:There were..er.... uninterrupted shootings...So I told my....my...er..my soldiers I would go first and try to...to get through and you don't come with me....I'll try the first...So I alone ...er....headed towards my trenches ..and I managed to get up to ...er.. my trenches..So I went as closest two hundred fifty metres from Serb forces...So I was...I was at the bottom ...bottom of the mountain..... if there is a mountain there or a hill because they say mountain but ...you could say it's a forest ..So Serb forces were..were not aware of my presence there..

D. B.: Because they thought our position would be on the other side ...and on...on the right side we had positions as well...but at...at..at the place I was staying at that time nobody was aware that ...er...there would be positions theretrenches..

D. B.: So I...Ikept fighting some three hours... alone.

D. B.: Three hours later a Tank ...the tank withdrew

D. B.: Allegedly wounded and killed on their part

D. B.: I'm sorry I asked him to be a little bit slow

D. B.: Another tank took the place of the first one

D. B.: The other tanks were positioned at the places they were..

D. B.: Can I?

O. L. : He needs piece of paper?

D. B.: Yes...

O. L.: OK

D. B.: This is the way....the road to Komoran....

D. B.: There was in this place Serb observes

D. B.: Five Serbs were observers here.....staying here

D. B.: There was a tank....there was one of their tanks here.. positioned here

D. B.: So my...er...from the place I was staying....I could see the....

D. B.: Two hundred fifty

D. B.: This was the tank that...er...er.....left and the other took his place..

O.L.: Mhmm....

D. B.: Coming from this direction..

D. B.: Yeah...the second tank the purpose was to..to..to..take this five Serb observers.

O. L.: OK

D. B.: The other three tanks were positionedit's a hill

O. L.: Yeah....er...they were ...underunder the hill than?

D. B.: Yes at the bottom...

O. L.: Yeah..

D. B.: Soer...I ...er....launched an assault on these observers

D. B.: So ...the....er...from the tank I was ...er...I was detected that I was fighting from this position

D. B.: Yeah.... I Ier..... I did see the flame ...er.....when it came out of thethe cannon

D. B.: And I was hit on the....er....right shoulder

D. B.: And I fell on my stomach

D. B.: So as I fell down.....as I fell down on my stomach ...I wasn't I wasn't in their sight

O. L.: Yeah....

D. B.: And this tank started.... opened fire and started shelling the woods around

D. B.: So it took five observers and went back to the original position

D. B.: So I walked ...I walked up to Carralevwto this point

R. B.: So after the fighting ended I met my.....my....my...er....soldiers ...my friends again and I walked up to this point

D. B.: There was a lot of civilians at that point

D.B.: So this civilians were...were following the whole situation evolving....fighting..

D. B.: So once they saw me that I am wounded they put me in one of their cars...

D. B.: And I was...I was...er... they dropped me up to Shalw...

D. B.: Than I went up to this point ...and there it was a doctor who took care of my wound, who cleaned it..

D. B.: And then we made our way back to Krojmir ...somewhere at seven o'clock in the evening..

O. L.: The same day....?

D. B.: Yes..

D. B.: It was....er....yeah I met there Fatmir Limaj, Çeliku...

D. B.: Axhi Shala as well nickname Topi...

D. B.: And there was another person Jetulla Shala nickname Guri...

O. L.: OK

D. B.: After a short stay we had our supper and tea

D. B.: And together with Fatmir Limaj we went to...er... Kleçka

D. B.: I had to go to Gerakwhere military hospitalwhere military hospital was at that time

D. B.: Malishevë municipality

O. L.: Er.....what was thewas the reason forfor Çeliku and these other men to be in...er...in Krojmir, had they beener...had they come because of this fighting..or?

D. B.: I didn't ask them why, but they must have come because of the reason

O. L.: Yeah..

D. B.: To reinforce...to back us up

D. B.: Yeah it was always the case that Axhi Shala and the others would come and would support when the fighting was going on.....

O. L.: Yeah. OK....so ...er....they took you to the military hospital there?

D. B.: Fatmir Limaj took me up to Kleçkw with his own driver and Topi and Guri they were there as well

D. B.: Yeah..I parted from Fatmir Limaj in Kleçkw and it was
Topi...nickname...er...

D. B.: With the full name Axhi Shala who took me up to Berak??/

D. B.: So it was ...er... two a.m. in the morning

O. L.: OK...

D. B.: So after Ier.....after doctor took care of my wounds I ...er..Axhi Shala, Topi..er..took me back to Lushnjicw

D. B.: At this place it was ...er...Ismet Jashari, commander Kumanova

O. L.: Was..er..was there some kind of a headquarters in Lushnjicë?

D. B.: Yes there was....

D. B.: It was the first time that I saw that headquarters there

O. L.: OK. Did you ...did you know Ismet Jashari from before?

D. B.: Yeahit was the first occasion that I met Ismet Jashari

D. B.: I didn't know him from earlier

O. L.: OK. Soer....because of this wound how long were you away from actual service?

D. B.: Only one day.

O. L.: OK

D. B.: Ismet Jashari bagged me to...to take a rest and take care of myself

D. B.: Er.....er.....I refused....by justifying that I could move my arm..

D. B.: And because I would feel very bad, that I could take a rest and the friends would fight at the same time

D. B.: So I wanted to be with them

D. B.: Another reason was that the conversation I had with Fatmir Limaj on the way to

Kleçkw...

D. B.: I was ...I was feeling about the police behaviour in Carralevë and things...

D. B.: And he then turned ...er...asked me why don't you...why don't you attack them

D. B.: I...I said to him I.... I don't have orders to do this

D. B.: At this moment he said once you see Serb ...er.... Serb uniform being police or

military you....you....you are...you are authorised to do it at your own will don't wait orders...

D. B.: This was another reason that urged me not to take a longer rest but to go their immediately be with...back with my friends

D. B.: So I was anxious to ...to get back as soon as possible to my trenches and to carry out what I have in my to...

O. L.: OK...er....this time how big was the group that you had under your command?

D. B.: About twelve people, as far as I know.

O. L.: So we are now...we are now ...er....at the date on or about eighteenth to twentieth of June in ninety eight, is that correct?

D. B.: Yeah.... I ... on my return to Petreshticw the number increased

D. B.: So from Lusnjica I went to Krojmir

D. B.: The next day

D. B.: So I could see there that the number of soldiers amounted up to sixty soldiers.

D. B.: So the soldiers from all this pointalong the roadwere ...er....gathered at

this place

O. L.: So were you...were you actually in command of sixty soldiers at this time?

D. B.: No...because of ...because of my wounding somebody else had taken my...er...my duty.

O. L.: Aha...OK...who...who was that?

D. B.: Latif Mussolli was initially appointed to carry out my former task

D. B.: But it's not hundred percent certain

D. B.: But anyway ...er....further on I took three soldiers

D. B.: I was the fourth one

R. B.: My...my this time would rather be of the nature I wouldwould go and look around positions....that nobody would detect that where our positions were ...

D. B.: Things like that we...we...would take care that nobody would be able to get as

far as our positions to see where we were stationed

D. B.: So it was not so big responsibility this time

D. B.: So at ...er....about the make up of these sixty soldiers I didn't I wasn't very importanter....person let say ...so to speak

O. L.: OK....So...er....as you said the following days you were.....you were
...er....doing some.. er.. recognising work to find...to find places for .for strategic
places

D. B.: Yeah, my tasks, as I said consisted of protecting our positions of being
detected from Serbs..

D. B.: And the most danger was...er.....to...to...to..be coming from Zvorc...

O. L.: OK....er.....

D. B.: The biggest danger.

O. L.: Was thereat this time was there...was there a lot of Serb forces in the
area?

D. B.: There were ...er... forty tanks positioned in...in that...

D. B.: And all the armoured vehicles

O. L.: OK ...they...they didn't stay permanently in this area, they stayed in...in..
Shtime and than made.....

D. B.: Yeah, they were stationed in Shtime and they would move towards Zvorc..

D. B.: Yeah, there were fierce fighting ..there was fierce fighting in July in that area.

O. L.: Yeah, ..er...is...if I can now talk about ...we are coming towards the end of
June of ninety eight

O. L.: ..er...we are little bit away from the actual fighting

O. L.: Had there been major changes in...in the command structure ...er....that was
immediate ...from you at this time

D. B.: No major changes

D. B.: But the workload was heavier of course..

O. L.: Yeah

D. B.: As I said we were digging trenchescivilians were doing it..

D. B.: We were trying to..to..we were trying to open a road from Godance to Zvorc

D. B.: They would also run through our village and Petreshtica

D. B.: And they would go up...er....to Dugw....

D. B.: We were supposed to..to...to make sure this road as a safe passage

D. B.: Yeah, the main road was blocked

O. L.: Yeah

R. B.: Thisthis main road was blocked as of twenty third of ...of June...so we
were...er...

D. B.: As of twenty third of June there was no movement of tanks or police or Serb
force ...military force...er...along this road ...the main road

O. L.: OK

D. B.: So we were...we were engaged in repairing the other road that I described
leading to Malishev.

O. L.: Yeah....I'm sorry I'll return to my question

O. L.: Was...erwas Shukri Buja still...still...the mainthe main commander in
Krojmir Headquarters?

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: OK ..and Luan was also there?

D. B.: Yeah, Luan as well

O. L.: And ...ander...you...you still that the main ...the main Headquarters was
in Klečka at this time?

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: OK that's right ...er...had you ...had you at this point any...any more information about the area of ...division of the zones or...or...or something else?

D. B.: Not.....not...not...

O. L.: OK...OK...so the next ...the next point is what you...what you shortly mentioned earlier the twenty third of Junewhat happened on that day?

D. B.: So most of the time...I ...I used to stay in my positions, in my trenches.

D. B.: It was close to the main road

D. B.: My family was...was...er...very...very close from me my parents, my wife and children

D. B.: Yes as I said my ...my...my parents and my br...m...my father and my mother lived there ...as well as my ...er...further up my wife and my children.

O. L.: Yeah.

D. B.: The strategic...the position being considered the stra...the strategic by both us and them was...was somewhere ...er... further up my...my house...where my house was located

D. B.: So I was supposed ...I was required to protect this position so they couldn't take it over

D. B.: This was the purpose I ...I spent most of the time in my positions in order to...to...

D. B.: Because my family lived some two hundred metres away from the main road

D. B.: And I was afraid that the police would go there and abduct them

O. L.: OK...was there some kind of ...of fighting then on twenty third of June?

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: So can you tell us what happened?

D. B.: There was a military convoy

D. B.: They were...they were moving along the road

D. B.: And we...we launched Molotov cocktail against them

O. L.: Mhmm...

D. B.: We didn't use ammunition that day

D. B.: So I saw tanks on fire

D. B.: So from the position I was staying they...er...they weren't able to do any harm on me

D. B.: We were four people

D. B.: They would...they would start and shoot uninterruptedly

D. B.: All...all the time until they left this place, until they...took...they took a turn at this place

D. B.: So from that date, twenty...er... third of June as I said there were no more...no more movements of troops or

D. B.: Till...till August

O. L.: OK...but did you...did you stay in this area through out the whole of... of July ninety-eight?

D. B.: Well I ...I ...left...I must have left my positions somewhere on twenty seventh of July

D. B.: But they still thought...they still thought we were in that...in these positions

D. B.: So they wouldn't dare to...er...to move there

D. B.: Yeah...as I said ...it must have been August that they would ...er...rema...
reappeared there

D. B.: When the offensive took place...the offensive against Zvorc

D. B.: They...er...they positioned themselves there for a month

D. B.: They ...they launched a second offensive and penetrated

D. B.: So we had no more than twenty-two soldiers

D. B.: And they employed in this fighting some seventy armoured vehicle

D. B.: And the fighting lasted thirty six hours

D. B.: We had...we suffered five wounded and one killed... soldiers.

O. L.: OK...can you...

A. W.: When...when was this?

O. L.: What date was this...?

D. B.: It must have been ...er... twenty forth, twenty fifth july

O. L.: During...during this time of July or actually in July there was ...er... quit a
few Serb offensives in...in the area

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: Were ever tasked to move and assist other...other units in...er...area or ...

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: OK...Where...where did you go?

D. B.: When the ...er... offensive in Zvorc started, I was in my positions at that
time..

D. B.: And Luan and others came...

D. B.: And he asked me to...to...go to this place, to this area

D. B.: Er...Purpose was to protect Carralevë from infantry ... from the Swrb infantry

D. B.: So we formed a line here in order to create a barrier so they...they couldn't
...er...couldn't get to the civilian population

D. B.: So the first time ... the first day of the offensive and the second day, he says
now, of the offensive

D. B.: The second day of the offensive I was informed that there was an order from
Shukri Buja, Gazetari...

D. B.: The order was to...to find out ...to find out... to report about number of Serb
forces and also our forces

D. B.: The order was to leave this positions and to take the alternative positions that
they had in another place

O. L.: OK... what... where was that?

D. B.: Where or when?

O. L.: Where?

D. B.: So the Serb forces entered Zvorc ...There was fighting

D. B.: First...er...first I was here

D. B.: So we took...we took...er... the alternative positions at this point

D. B.: So we were ordered to leave the first positions, but he mentioned three...three
different stages, because the initial positions were here, than he was asked to go there
and than..

D. B.: Almost ninety percent of Carralevë was burned down

O. L.: Mhmm

D. B.: They said one soldier was killed and...

O. L.: But were you ordered to go anywhere else in...in the big area to assist troops, if you think about the... the...area that was under the headquarters of Klečka?

D. B.: No it was only this...this area that we were

D. B.: No I didn't take part in other fightings other than in this place

O. L.: OK...but you know for example you...you said that this was twenty forth, twenty fifth of July, the offensive on Zvorc...

D. B.: I am not sure about the date

O. L.: No...no, no but around these days we know that...that around the area there was a big offensive... Serb offensive

O. L.: And one of the main ones for example in Lapushnik on the twenty fifth or twenty sixth...

D. B.: Yeah, that's the case because soldiers from Lapushnik came...came to our aids to...to...came as reinforcement

D. B.: And ...er... I'm ...er... refering the example of Imer Alushani, I knew him earlier before the war, he would...er... he would... he came several times in...er... to our aids during the fightings.

D. B.: That time that the offensive...several offensives were taking place simultaneously they weren't able to come on our aids

D. B.: Because there were offensive at several places at several times

O. L.: Er...Do you know what the position of...of Imer Alushani was in...in...er...his area?

D. B.: I don't know about his position ...er...as I said I knew him earlier, I know that he was very ... very tough soldier sort of strateg

D. B.: But I don't know about his position

O. L.: OK...er...yeah...but he...er...and he was than killed in the offensive on...er... on Lapushnik?

D. B.: Yes... yeah, I got the news two days later after his death..

O. L.: OK ...er...was ...er...would you say that...that Lapushnik was...was under the same command that...that you...under Klečka headquarters?

D. B.: This had...er...had been what Pashtrik zone would consist of ... this line would...

A. W.: /inaudible/

O. L.: /inaudible/

O. L.: If we could ask you to...to try to line the...line the...the area that was...er... was under the headquarters of Klečka?

D. B.: I am not hundred percent certain but it would be...

O. L.: OK ...but what your...your opinion is... and we are now talking about this time when your now fighting in July of ... er ...ninety eight..

D. B.: Yeah it's an approximate version of course..

O. L.: Ye...Yeah...is Maleshevw part of ...?

O. L.: Is it outside or inside?

D. B.: Yeah, yeah, it was part of the zone.

O. L.: OK so please Maleshevo is here approximately so....

O. L.: Yeah, OK

O. L.: And that's along the road from Shtime to Dulje

D. B.: This is where the Nerodime zone was...

O. L.: Yeah...than we have Komorane is...

D. B.: I can't see clearly..
O. L.: OK ...Stankovc
O. L.: OK...so...so you'd say that the line goes along the Peja-Prishtina road?
O. L.: Than is it turning at the Orlat...Orlat junction or is it going forward along the Peja road?
O. L.: This the Orlat road going to Maleshevo...
D. B.: I am not certain about this
O. L.: OK ... approximately
D. B.: It's been an approximate version of....It's...er...
O. L.: Would you call this the Pashtrik operational zone or...?
D. B.: Yes
O. L.: OK
D. B.: According to my opinion...I am not sure about it
O. L.: Yeah....Do you have any idea during...during this... er... we're still talking about summer ninety eight...how did the division was than done into the...er...the smaller headquarters?
O. L.: Could you for example circle for me all the places where...where there was...er...UCK headquarters?
D. B.: Initially in Krojmir was the headquarters..
O. L.: Please circle the whole name of the...you can do it...yeah, it's OK
D. B.: This was when I reported my self
O. L.: Yes
D. B.: I was assigned to serve in Petreshtica on six of June..
O. L.: But was there an actual headquarters in Petreshtica...?
D. B.: The problem was that on that time there were not companies,...but it,s.er.. lets call it squad..
O. L.: Yeah, so lets....
D. B.: This was under Krojmir command
O. L.: Exactly...so lets.er.. circle the ones that are comparable with Krojmir
D. B.: Yeah. I'm talking about places where we carried out our daily activities: sleeping, eating...
O. L.: OK ...no...what I would like you to do is...is...er... to, in this all Pashtrik area...the other headquarters comparable with Krojmir...
O. L.: OK..
D. B.: Sedllare
O. L.: Klečka is the main...yeah
D. B.: So as I was... spent most of my time, I didn't move from...from my place...
O. L.: No...no, no...
D. B.: I mostly moved to...to ...to take this duty of ...Carraleve
O. L.: Yes...yes... but just your knowledge about what there was.....was there for example some in Ldrovc?
D. B.: I don't know
O. L.: What about... did Llapushnik had a headquarters of its own?
D. B.:Yeah...I.... I think so... I believe, I am not certain about
O. L.: OK
D. B.: I've never been there so after ...so it was the first time I went there it was after the war...because I didn't have opportunity to go during

D. B.: It's...it's interesting to notice that I moved through out Europe...and there are many places in Kosovo that I've never visited

O. L.: Yeah...that's how it is...OK...so...so you would say that ...er...comparable with Kroymir were this...this places that you circled...are headquarters.

O. L.: And...and ...er...still talking about the summer of ninety eight...er... say...we're now in probably July, August of ninety eight...er... where was the...er... who was the commander in Luzhnjice for example?

D. B.: Ismet Jashari

O. L.: Ismet Jashari ...yes... still at this time...OK...er...what about in Shala, do you know ...?

D. B.: Bardhi, nickname Bardhi...

O. L.: Bardhi...?

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: OK...er...what about in Lekovc, do you ...?

D. B.: As far as I know...Mujahedin was his nickname ... but he is...is...killed.

O. L.: Yeah...I've heard that...yes... but Llapushnik for example you wouldn't know?

D. B.: I don't know about who was the commander in Llapushnik.

O. L.: OK...Do you have anything about...

A. W.: Yes, ...er...you said that ...er...during July of nineteen ninety eight some reinforcements would come from Llapushnik to your position...

B. W.: And you specifically said that Imer Alushani came...do you remember the first time that he came from Llapushnik to your postions?

D. B.: Er...he...is...er...is...er...even been present...er...before July on seventeenth of June...when I was wounded, it was the time when I was wounded...and when I... er... when I went to this point, in this second or alternative positions, Imer Alus.... Imer Alushani was present there...and he would ask me what happened and I...I told him that ...that...er ...Serb and army came back again...he saw my blood, ...er...he told me congratulations and I said to him thank you...

A. W.: Did he than go back to Llapushnik?

D. B.: Yeah, they...they were on the move...they were on the run, I don't know whether they came back there or elsewhere....so I went...to...to...to...to get treatment for my wound.

A. W.: OK ... did you see him again in your posi...area?...in July?

D. B.: Yes, on several occasions...

A. W.: During July?

D. B.: Well June, July...is safer to say...because there was...there were efforts to...t set up a hedquarters in Ranc at that time... so Qerqiz and .er...Imer Alushani, both of them would come and being involved in this...in this thing of setting up the headquarters in Ranc.

O. L.: And with Qerqiz you ...you...you are referring to who?

D. B.: Isak Musliu.

O. L.: OK ...yeah, yeah...what was his position at this time?

D. B.: I don't know, I just saw him coming to us...yeah...was...was to... it would sound absurd at that time to ask somebody what your position, what duties...as far as I'm concerned.

O. L.: No, no, no,... But was he...did you get the picture that he was together with Imer Alushani, he was....he came to...

D. B.: Did you get???

O. L.: The picture of...er... of what he was doing that he was coming with Imer Alushani to plan the possible headquarters in Ranc.

D. B.: Yes I knew that they would...they came on this purpose to set up the headquarters in Ranc.

O. L.:.....go ahead.

A. W.: Do you know who ordered them to come from...to do that to set up headquarters in Ranc?

D. B.: I...I...er...I believe Isak Musliu was....er...among the key figures to...involved in setting up this headquarters in Ranc.

A. W.: Who ordered him to do it?....if you know?...do you know?

D. B.: I don't know

O. L.: But...but would this been a task that...that was under the command of still of...of the headquarters in Klečka?

D. B.: I don't know, I'm not sure about that,...but I believe this was how it worked as the number increased and we would... we were supposed to have more and more headquarters, more and more points...so to...to take care of...er...to...protect civilian population

O. L.: Yes, yes...

A. W.: Were...were with Imer Alushani and...and...er...Isak Musliu, were there other reinforcements that came from Llapushnik, to help, to assist you in June and July?

D. B.: The...the position I ...er ...spoke earlier nobody showed up, I ... I ... didn't need, I didn't have to have anybody, additional force, but nobody showed up there, to my aid. But during the offensive ...er... from Zvorc I don't know how many and where they were ...er... specifically heading to...to...to... to support us. So I was... I was...er... completely focused on what I was supposed to protect...so the rest ...the rest was not of interest to me, who came and who went.

A. W.: OK

O. L.: OKer... I'm sorry to maybe sound a little picky, but I want to do one more ...er... a little bit more detailed question.

O. L.: If you ... if you are trying to recall the ...er... offensive in Zvorc...you ... said...you think it was approximately twenty fourth or twenty fifth of July... I understand that you don't remember exactly but it doesn't matter...was...was Imer Alushani ... er... assisting during this ... er... this offensive?

D. B.: As far as I remember, as far as I know, no...er...er....due to the fact that the fighting were going on there as well.

O. L.: But do you remember if ...er...er... if during this... er... offensive you got the knowledge about the big...big offensiveer... on the road in Llapushnik?....That how close...how close to...to the offensive in Zvorc was the big offensive in Llapushnik?

D. B.: How close?!

A. W.: How close in time.

O. L.: How soon...

D. B.: Yeah, yes.

O. L.: Yeah.

D. B.: As far as I know...er... simultaneously...I ... I ... I got some notes home...

O. L.: So do...er...er... cause we know that ...that Imer Alushani was than killed in ...er... it was approximately the twenty sixth of July in Llapushnik

D. B.: Because...er..

O. L.: So do you remember if he...er.. if he...maybe he had to leave your place because of the...of ...er... the offensive starting in Llapushnik?

D. B.: The fighting was going on here, there was no chance for Imer Alushani to leave his place and come to our aid...It was ...er...wide scale offensive from both sides...so simultaneously...

O. L.: That's exactly what I mean... yeah... that's exactly what I mean...that's why I'm trying to...to get a picture of the time frame for the...for the offensive in Zvorc...

so...er...one more time, if...if you think that ...that Imer Alushani was assisting you during this ...er... this offensive in Zvorc...

A. W.: No, he said he wasn't.

O. L.: He said he wasn't?

D. B.: Yes.

A. W.: Yeah, he said he wasn't.

O. L.: Aha ...OK...OK sorry than I was mistake...sorry...OK...OK...That's good. You have anything about that?

A. W.: No.

O. L.: Cause I was gonna go over to a military police thing...

A. W.: Yeah...

O. L.: OK...is it going OK?

D. B.: OK

O. L.: Good...er... if we talk about this...er...this area, this is...and still the time of summer of ... of ninety eight...what...what can you remember about the military police in the area?

D. B.: Military police was...was...er...was...er...appointed by certain headquarters, by certain persons...they had distinctive signs...er...Military Police-PU, they had specific tasks.

O. L.: Er...did they have certain kind of uniform?

D. B.: Most of the cases they would...they were wearing black uniform but not a specific uniform, not standard uniform.

O. L.: Er...would you say that...er...did you...did you see a lot of the military police in your area for example?

D. B.: Yeah, I can't talk about the whole ...er...the whole zone, as I haven't moved...

...er...around so much.

O. L.: But...but talk about your own...

R. B.: As far as Petr...as far as Petreshtica is concerned there was presence of three or four military police... so they've been acting...er...within Petreshtica. There must have been more military police...er... under the Krojmir authority as it is...it was battalion

O. L.: Yeah...er...do you know what ... what their tasks were?

D. B.: Their task consisting in...er...in inspecting or checking the soldier's behaviour, are they behaving properly or bad, to find out what the civilian population needs were.../inaudible/ among the soldiers civilians, ...er... report decedents..

O. L.: Were the... were the military police in...if you think about your area in Carraleve and... were they taking orders from Shukri Buja in Krojmir?

D. B.: Yes, they...they...er...received their orders in Krojmir...well I believe ... I believe they received their orders in Krojmir, I don't know.

O. L.: I'm...I'm trying to picture if they...er...whether...er... did you...did the headquarters in Krojmir have a military police unit of its own, or were they...were they appointed from a higher level?

D. B.: So they were stationed there, they operated there and I ... I believe they...as...as they were staying there and performing their duties there, they were under Krojmir... but the place...the...the instance that they took their orders, they received their orders...did Klečka or Krojmir, I don't know about this.

O. L.: Yeah...OK...so you wouldn't know for example who was the head of the military police in this...in this area?

D. B.: Yeah, I don't know about who the commander was but I know some...some of them who were military police personel.

O. L.: OK...maybe you can give a few names?

D. B.: Ajvaz Korpuzi...Jet Asani

O. L.: Kerpuzi was the

D. B.: Kerpuzi

O. L.: And Jet Asani

D. B.: Agron Qeriqi...yeah, others, other names I don't know.

O. L.: Were this...OK...were this active in...in your area?

D. B.: Yes, they were...they were operated in the place I was staying.

O. L.: I think...well Jet...Jet Asani was from...from Godance I think, he is...he is dead...er...What about the other ...the other two are they still alive?

D. B.: Yes, they are still alive.

O. L.: OK...er...I don't know, would you.../inaudible/

A. W.: No...er...can we take just a two...two minutes break?

O. L.: Ou...we can take...we can take a real break...

A. W.: Yeah, OK ... a real break..

O. L.: Yeah...OK...it's ...er... it's ...er... twelve minutes to twelve, so we will...we will take a break, and maybe get a sandwich and... er...and...are you comfortable with everything how it's going?

D. B.: Yeah...completely.

O. L.: Fine...thank you very much, we'll step outside.

- - - - -

O. L.: We'll probably get...er...get a call from /inaudible/for this /inaudible/.

A. W.: Mhmm...

O. L.: OK...Alles gut?

R. B.: Alles gut.../inaudible/

O. L.: OK, the time by my watch is twelve twenty two...and when the brake started it was eleven forty eight...just to keep the consistence of the...of the how we...how we...OK, you, Mr. Beluli are you OK with...with continuing the interview?

O. L.: Very good... Er... in approximately half an hour we gonna have to change the tape ... OK...er... we'll continue, do you have any questions at this point, so far?

D. B.: Probably ...probably at the end I might have any question but now, no, not for the moment.

O. L.: Yes...yes...good ...OK...er...as you...as you know we...we've done a lot of investigations ...er... about the... the things that happened in this area during the conflict...and ...er...as you know from before and you realise today...a time scale that we are...we are...er...especially interested in is the summer ...er..., say, April till August of...of nineteen ninety eight.

O. L.: Er...we have talked to a lot of people in this area...people who are not in Kosovo ...specialists ...er...er...and ...er...and than...er... as you know some people have also been arrested...we're thankful for the information that you provided us with so far and...er...it's very helpful to us...and ...er... we hope to continue in the same way...During...during the summer of ninety eight there was ...er...when the conflict was evolving ...er... as you said the ...the KLA was not very well organised.

A. W.: /inaudible/

O. L.: OK...yeah...

D. B.: Not in the beginning... he says.

O. L.: No

D. B.: But later the structure started to...to emerge.

O. L.: Yeah...so could we say that...er...that ...er...in June ninety eight it started to...to...have a pretty good organisation already?

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: Yeah...OK

D. B.: Yeah all ..er...all this relevant aspects, the increasing number soldiers, the discipline...er...supplies...weapons...

O. L.: And ...er...commanding orders and so on? ...Yeah.

A. W.: Can I ask something?

O. B.: Go ahead.

A. W.: Er...you've mentioned before that there was...er...you made reference to rules...were there ...were there written rules, or were this rules communicative verbally?

D. B.: Both ways, they were written rules as well they were communicative verbally....So ones...when...when you got new recruits was no way to...to make them, have this written rules, so you would communicate with them what the rules were about.

A. W.: Er... er... can you tell us, in general terms, what the rules were about?

D. B.: Rules were ...er... first about protecting Albanian lands,...to protect the population from Serb forces...to...to...to help population with...with...er...in every aspect...to provide them with anything needed...and...and...and...in...in...in the final word to...to...to sacrifice ourselves for...for them, because that's...that's why we started this ..er...this war at all...because I...I had ...er...I had enough, I had sufficient means to live with...with no problem but what I lack most was ...was the liberty, the freedom...if you don't dare to move to other cities, Prizren, Shtime, or...or other places...simply because of the fact that I didn't ...er... I didn't agree to go and work for the enemy.

A. W.: Did the...did the rules cover ...er...rules about conduct...conduct of warfare ...er... for example of how prisoners...pri...if there were any prisoners of war, how would they be treated, are those kind of things covered also?

/Mobile phone ringing/

O. L.: Excuse me.

D. B.: Yeah...I believe yes, of course this rule must have been, about the things that you mentioned, it must...it must...it must have been written on this subject...they were international rules.

A. W.: Did the ...did the rules about...er...let me just wait...

O. L.: Hello it's Ole. Hey, how are you...time, we have recording in the room but be short. Perfect /inaudible/ ...will you be in the office...in an hour, but we will probably be there ...er...around four o'clock...OK we'll see you than, thanks very much. Bye.

O. L.: OK...sorry about that.

A. W.: Yeah...did the rules...the KLA rules made reference to the international rules about warfare?

D. B.: Yeah ... I don't know details but I ... I believe you must have this...this...this ...er...this set of rules...yeah.. I've forgotten about the rules but if I start reading them for example I'll...er...I'll immediately remember this rules...because in this context I also took...took an oath but if you ask me now to...to reproduce the whole what I said when I took an oath, I can't do this now.

A. W.: Do you have the copy of the rules?

D. B.: No I don't have...but I've never had a copy ...but it's been read before in front of us.

A. W.: OK...but it's your...even you can not remember the specifics, you have a memory that it touched down matters about conduct of warfare, for example treatment of prisoners...

D. B.: Yeah I can remember this, it was about how to behave...er... correctly with...with the prisoners...so we were not supposed to do anything to civilians other than offer them protection.

A. W.: OK

O. L.: OK...yeah...er...as...as we were speaking the war was going on and...and...er... and you said that one of your...one of the rules was actually to protect...er... the...the population from the Serb forces...this naturally also...also included than ...er...risks of ...er... your own ...own people who were collaborating with the Serb forces...

D. B.: Own...?!

O. L.: Risks...risks

D. B.: Yeah I understand risks but own people?

O. L.: Well Albanians...

D. B.: Aaaa...yes. I'm sorry could you...could you repeated once again?

O. L.: OK ...er...the ... one of the risks was of course...was also Albanian people who collaborated with Serb forces?...And we know that...that ...er...these ...er...these kind of people were arrested during this time...were you ever involved in anything like this?

D. B.: I haven't had...er...I haven't had any chance or opportunity to...to get involved into these acts...neither arrest my self, nor...er...nor...er...see it...yeah I am talking specifically about Krojmir, Carraleve, Petreshtice, I haven't experienced this...this sort of acts.

O. L.: OK...did you hear about this kind of ...er...activity?

D. B.: I've heard about...er... some cases of...

/END OF THE SECOND CD-VOOO-4382 (2OF3)/

Transcript of the recorded interview with Ramadan Behluli –
CD VOOO-4382(2 of 3)/as printed/ – in English language

D. B.: I've heard about...er...some cases of their collaborators...er... some of their collaborators being prevented...it's exactly the word he used it, I don't know much about that...so I was...er...the place I was protecting I was covering all the time...so at the time that I spent in my positions...er...well other then exceptional cases, when old man would approach up to our positions we wouldn't...we wouldn't stop him but in other cases we turned them back anybody who came, appeared, because this is what I was supposed to do...to protect this positions.

R.B.: They were hindered, but now who, since, I don't know... and too I was one of those... er..., about the people you are talking of now, those positions that I had, took regarding, what there were, I don't know if it was a collaborator, and if it was another civilian, as I let come... that's to say some old man or someone else came... certainly most cases were done by young people... that were working at the positions, whereas now, for example, when we were there by day or by night, in the evening, somebody came, we didn't let them come to the positions there and we sent them back.

O. L.: Mhmm...this is correct...er...er...what about ...er... what about Serb...er... Serb population or ...er...Serbs who...who were...er...could have been risk for...for you, were ever involved in...in...arresting Serbs?

D. B.: No I didn't...I didn't.

R.B.: I didn't do that at any time.

O. L.: OK ... what about Serb soldiers?

D. B.: No I haven't been involved in kidnapping or seizing Swrbs,... yeah of course I've been engaged in fighting with them several times

R.B.: I didn't kidnap a Serbian soldier at any time or to capture one like that, I did fight them several times.

O. L.: Yes, yes ... but do you know of occasions where ...where ...er...the KLA took prisoners of war who were Serb soldiers?

D. B.: Yes I've heard about...it was that case in Pashtrik...yeah it was a case of exchange...er...prisoners exchange in Pashtrik, our...our...our Serb prisoners were...were traded for...for our own people

R.B.: I heard... there was a case when there was an exchange carried out with these ones captured in Pashtrik... when there was an exchange of theirs with the Serbs, in other words our KLA members were taken, that had been in Pashtrik...

O. L.: Aha, when was this?

D. B.: Well...er...I don't have...I don't have the exact date now, I must have notes about this, but it's been ... it's been fourteen December ninety eight when they...they ...they seized prisoners on our part...there was a...there was a group coming from Albania trying to enter Kosovo...and it's been an incident well thirty six of our soldiers were killed...and nine were held prisoners, they were sent to military prison in Serbia... later on I've heard that some...er... Serb superiors were held also by us...by our forces...yeah, well in a presence of an international, I don't know who... who he was...yeah...I think it must have been Houlbrook...and the exchange of prisoners took place...yeah I know about that...this...this thing happened.

R.B.: Er... I don't know to say exactly, I have some notes, but... sm...

D.B.: This was around or...

R.B.: Although they were captured on 14 December

D.B.: Serbs or ours?

R.B.: Ours... ours were captured in Pashtrik.

D.B.: 14 December ninety-eight.

R.B.: 14 December ninety-eight... they were coming from Albania there, armed, 36 of our soldiers were killed there... nine of ours were captured, they were in Niš military prison in Serbia...

D.B.: And nine were captured?

R.B.: Nine... and so... later I heard that some Serbian officers had been captured here... And in somebody's presence, an international, I don't know who, a foreign... I think it was HOLBROOKE...

D.B.: HOLBROOKE?

R.B.: HOLBROOKE, and there was an exchange of (inaudible)... i.e. I know it was done like that.

O. L.: OK. Do you know of any...any detention facilities that the KLA had in...in the area?

D. B.: Yeah, I've heard...I've heard something about ... of...of some place somewhere, not some place but somewhere, but I don't know much about it...frankly speaking from the beginning through the end I ...er...I've been stuck to the position that I described, to the area that I operating along this main road...

R.B.: I haven't heard... they didn't tell me... er... I heard something that there was somewhere but I don't know... to tell you the truth, from start to finish I was too involved with that position, so that they didn't penetrate to here... Afterwards I had nothing to do with it at all.

O. L.: I understand that and...er... and... we are only trying to gather information about what you...what you might know... do you know if there was possibilities for example in...in Klečka...er...or Krojmir to...to detain persons?

D. B.: Er...as far as Petreshticw, Carralevw and Krojmir...Krojmir are concerned, there is not such a thing as detention facilities.

R.B.: There wasn't in Pjetërshtica and in Krojmir, there wasn't in Carraleva.

O. L.: We know that ...er... when persons were arrested by the KLA they were...they were usually than handed over to the military police and the military police would take them to ...to some...some detention place.

D. B.: Yeah that's what I don't know where.

R.B.: Well, then I don't know where...

O. L.: OK...but you said that you've heard about some...some place can you...can you give us any more information about that?

D. B.: There...there've been rumours that...that there is something like that in Llapushnik... I don't know exactly...er...what...yeah as I mentioned before I've been crossed all over Europe but...not in many places in Kosovo, as name yes ...as a place...as a name place yes, but ...er...

R.B.: There was some talk that... about something somewhere in Llapushnik... but there was now I don't know... although you also said... I told you at the beginning that I've been around Europe, but the routes I used to go (inaudible)... as a name, yes, and...

O. L.: Yeah, yeah, I am not asking for anything more...but when...when did you hear about this...er...this place in Llapushnik for example was it...was it in...in...er...in...toge...in...er...during some incident or...or how did it come to your knowledge?

D. B.: Yeah...there were rumours circulating that ...er...Llapushnik being a place that people... were for interrogations, were taken to...to be interrogated, and that's all I ...er... that's all I know about it

R.B.: There was the word going around that... there was there... er... somewhere where people were taken for questioning, say... I don't know any more, and...

O. L.: OK, wha... wha... did you hear this during the time when... when you were ...er... holding your places in Carraleve?

D. B.: As I said from the beginning till the end ...I've served in this place...

R.B.: I was here in Carraleva from start to finish...

O. L.: Yeah...but I mean, it was during this time that you heard this rumours?

D. B.: Well, I can't say...I can't say precisely when,...

O. L.: No, no...

D. B.: But probably before the first offensive started.

R.B.: I don't know exactly... sometime towards the first offensive...

O. L.: OK. What about than...er...if I can ask you what you've heard ...er... after the war?...Have you heard of...heard of...of course you've heard about Llapushnik than latter on...

D. B.: Yes of course I came to know about Llapushnik due to the fact that ... that Vaglushi ...due ... due to his presence there...I knew...I knew him earlier so I knew that he operated in that place...and as I said he would also come with Qerqiz from this place...er...involved in this Ranc...we could also hear shooting...er...shooting coming direction of Llapushnik because of the fighting going on there...and there're ...er... there're rumours that it's...er...fighting is going on in Llapushnik.

R.B.: I heard about Llapushnik even during the war, in other words at the start of the war, I knew that Voglushi... I knew him earlier, I knew that he was active... when he came to me with Qerqiz later, I said a little earlier too in (inaudible)... they came... there was frequent fighting in Llapushnik, shots were heard... it was said that there was fighting in Llapushnik.

O. L.: But have you up to the war heard about people that had been taken to the ... to the place where they were interrogated ...in...in...Llapushnik?

D. B.: Yes, I've heard something about that... yeah, I've heard that...that they've been interrogated,...yeah I've heard that after the Serb offensive they took over Llapushnik, people were released from prison...that's all I know.

R.B.: I heard something... that they were taken for questioning... I heard that, say, when there was an offensive, when Llapushnik was taken, I heard that they were released from prison... I don't know any more.

O. L.: OK ...er... what about any other places, have you ... have you heard of any other similar places, where...that KLA used for interrogating and detaining persons?

D. B.: No

O. L.: Anything more on that?

A.W.: No.

O. L.: OK...er...OK, just shortly ...er... about what happened than after August of ... of ninety-eight?...Did you ...did you stay in the same area until...until the NATO bombings came and so on?

D. B.: So when the Serb offensive started in August they...they penetrated up to Klečka...before, before they would take over the area...I took two hundred seventy civilians...once I realised they ...they entered this area, covered by tanks ... I led... I led the from this place and all the way... all the way to...to Nerodime zone.

R.B.: I stayed in... to say that... it fell out in this way, in August there was an offensive, they entered Klečka in this direction... that before they entered here... I took 270 civilians... in this part, in Duga and (inaudible)... when I saw that they would enter here with their forces, with tanks... I pulled out the whole population that had been here before, and I brought them down and I brought them to the Nerodime zone... At that time when I returned the forces had already entered here then, from /?Greçec/ /Grejčevce to Ranca.

R.B.: Ranca, Ranca... and then I had, I was the third of the soldiers, with the soldiers, we were only three soldiers... I took a soldier... they, the people and I brou... (inaudible)... the Serbian forces entered, say, Greçec then and Ranca... so the people reached, got to Jezerca /Jezerce/... three days later I returned to Ranc. I scouted the Serbian positions that were... (inaudible) the Serbs... (inaudible) of the parts, it was a hill, I scouted where they were stationed for five days, I have a sketch at home... where I marked the Serbian posts, where they were positioned... in Belinca /Belince/, Zborc, Carraleva and the parts of Carraleva where they were positioned.. after a week I came back and went to Krojmir. When I went to Krojmir, the population was in the gorge... and soldiers too.

O. L.: OK

D. B.: When I returned Serb forces were already in ...er...what was...???

O. L.: Ranc.

D. B.: Yes... Yeah I was accompanied by three soldiers... as...as I said I led ...er... I was leading civilians towards /inaudible/ as the Serb forces made their way to Ranc ... forcat...er...Serb forces penetrated in Ranc and Greçec as well...so the civilian population headed to Jezerca, after three days I returned to Ranc... I was on the look out about the Serb positions ...er... around this hill, about this hill...so I've been... I've been five days on the look out, about their /inaudible/, I ... I ... even got a sketch in my house ...where...er...where...er...I have...I've /inaudible/ down where Serb forces were...were positioned ... so all this points are mentioned there as...er... places where Serb forces were positioned ... a week later I went to Krojmir. In ...on arriving in Krojmir they were...er...the civilian population were...er... was at the gorge... soldiers as well was... were there.

O. L.: Mhmm...OK, and ...er... was this immediately after...after the big offensive?

D. B.: Yeah, it was the August offensive, what I'm talking about

R.B.: The August offensive.

O. L.: Yeah...OK and ...er...how ... what was the...what was the situation like in the area, than for the...say for the rest of the year, ninety-eight?

D. B.: So we...we...we...re-established our headquarters in Krojmir,...Serb forces penetrated up to Klečka...yeah, I'm talking about August

R.B.: From August onwards, they, they reformed there in Krojmir, we reformed a staff ... we observed and established that the forces had reached Klečka, the Serbian forces... it was around August... and then we scouted, we protected the population that were in the gorge... er... a deep one... the hill was above, meaning Klečka, where the Serbs were positioned... but we had a bit of open territory so we were able to provide supplies and things, some sort of corridor...

D.B. You had... er...?

R.V. Yes, we had. And we went to protect the people around, to defend the people so that the Serbs wouldn't come and perpetrate a massacre... In Carraleva, in Zborc, the people had nowhere... nor in Duga and /?Karačica/ /Karačica/, (inaudible)... in the Krojmir gorge then in ninety-eight there were about five, six thousand people, there were nine thousand people there... there were people appointed for provisions, to supply them with foodstuffs and... where as we had a, we had a line that we had to protect, this part me and the soldiers, this part someone else, so they didn't get close to the people.

O. L.: Yeah

D. B.: The ... the civilian population took shelter in... near the gorge ... so ...er... Serbs were positioned on...on Klečka, on Klečka hill... we had a certain... a certain pass...er... an open corridor for supplies... so we were keeping an eye all the time to...to watch... to alert the civilian population in case of Serb arrival there...er... so we were offering protection ... Carraleve and Zvorc were evacuated at that time ... Duge and Karačica as well, so these people were led to /inaudible/, people from these places... Yeah, there were five thousand, six thousand or up to ten thousand people ...er... concentrated here in Krojmir's ...er... Krojmir gorge... yeah, there were people assigned to task, to provide supplies and...er... foods to...to civilians... so we would ... we were assigned different parts of line to protect civilian population of being attacked.

O. L.: At this time where would you say the main headquarters was for...for the whole of the Pashtrik area?

D. B.: There was...there was...there was...there was a state in /inaudible/ at that time so they were in the move ...er... I don't where the headquarters was... as far as I know it must have been in Divjak ...I'm not certain about that.

R.B.: It was on the move then, I don't know where... where they established it... as far as I know it was in Divjak... I'm not sure.

O. L.: OK...was... was Fatmir Limaj still in...er... in charge at this time?

D. B.: Yeah, he was in charge.

R.B.: Yes.

O. L.: OK...er...after the time when...er...when you met Fatmir Limaj, after you were wounded ... er... did you meet him personally...after that?

D. B.: Yes, I've met him...yeah...I ... I ... was assigned to protect a safe passage from ...er...penetrating from one zone to another ...so I protected, I offered them security...

I was...er...I was assigned to... to take care of their security on their passing from one zone to another...all the ...all the ...er... main staff ...so if they wo...if they needed to go from one zone to another ...so I ... I ... I escorted in order that they could have a safe ...er... travel.

R.B.: Yes... Er... I had a corridor that I protected, sort of, for movement from one zone to another... I provided security... their security in moving into the Nerodime zone, for example, to come... (inaudible) General /?Staff/... if they had a need to come, to say whether it was secure, the corridor... I provided security for the corridor.

O. L.: OK...do...do you know if...if Fatmir Limaj at some stage got another post then ...then ...er... the commander of this area?

D. B.: I ...I ...I don't know about the...the positions or duties because there were changes all the time ... I know...I know that Axhi Shala also...took...took a duty or a position but I don't know what kind, what ... er... the nature of his ... of his duties or his position....because I haven't ... I haven't been in touch with him, I was in the front line.

R.B.: As for positions, only as much as... they could... change, something I don't know so much, the positions they had, for example, they did different... I know that Axhi SHALA, Top, also received a position, but I don't know where he had it and what sort of position he had... because I had no contact with them, I was (inaudible).

O. L.: I understand...er...but...but your ...er... of your understanding Fatmir Limaj stayed from when...when you joined in April upon till ...er... is it the end of the year ninety-eight at least, he was in charge of this area?

D. B.: Yes...not...all...not all through the year but most of the time, yes.

R.B.: Yes, perhaps not all that year, no... a long time, yes, ninety-eight.

O. L.: OK

A. W.: You said that you were assigned at some post to ...er... protect the safe passage from one zone to another of the commanders, of the general staff.

D. B.: Yes

A. W.: And when was that, when were you given that assignment?

D. B.: From the beginning to...to create a safe passage and to ... to ... to...assure the safe passage to make it safe... because these passages or...or...so called corridors were used for different purposes, for supplies of weapons, food, different equipment and also movement of people.

R.B.: I had... er... almost from the beginning, to maintain a corridor and to preserve a corridor... the corridors were for supplying foodstuffs, clothing... weapons, all that.

A. W.: OK ...er...when is the first time that you remember ...er...taking, doing the security for ...er... Fatmir Limaj to go from one zone to another?

D. B.: So I can't say about the date because many people were ... went through this safe passage ... er... Hashim Thaqi, Rexhep Selimi, to name a few of them.

R.B.: I don't know the date, I only know that the corridors when I had it, but I don't know the precise dates, that they went through it there first, with THAQI, Rexhep SELIMI, all them were...

A. W.: OK... let me ask you a different question... You said that you've met, you saw Fatmir Limaj on June seventeenth, the day you got wounded...was that the first time you have met him

D. B.: Yes it was the first time.

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: Er... the time... this was the first time that you met him?

R.B.: The first time I met.

A. W.: Do you remember the next time you've met him after June seventeenth?

D. B.: I can't remember.... I can't remember the date...I know that ...what I know is that they came to Petreshtica and I took them from ...from this post... I ... I took them... I took them and escorted them to Nerodime zonw... the first safe passage was...this was the first safe passage, Zvorc, Carraleve, Nerodime zone...and...er... Serbs were positioned in that area...the second safe passage they must be...er... depending on circumstances when...when I was staying in Petreshtice I've provided security for the safe passage ... for this safe passage, when I happen to be in Dug I could... than I was supposed to provide security for this safe passage.

R.B.: I don't recall the date... I know that they came to Pjetërshtica, I took them from there over Zborc, I had a corridor here... to get out to the Nerodime zone... I had the second corridor here, but as for the date

D.B.: Where was the first corridor?

R.B.: The first corridor was this one... in other words Zborc, Belinca /Belince/, Carraleva and to get out to the Nerodime zone... we had the Serbs here.

D.B.: And the second corridor?

R.B.: They had the second corridor that I mentioned (inaudible) of Carraleva, from Duga, it's, I mentioned, here... to Ranca the beginning of Jezerca and the zone was Carraleva.

D.B.: You provided security for the both corridors?

R.B.: These two corridors... the two I couldn't, however when I was staying in here Pjetërshtica I provided security for this corridor, when I was staying in Duga, then I provided security for this, however... after the offensive (inaudible)

A. W.: OK

O. L.: Er... In... in August... August of ninety-eight ...er... were at this time any...any particular changes than in...er...in...in the area...areal organisation of KLA, that you know of?

D. B.: I...I ... I don't know I am not sure...I ... I can remember about the changes that Axhi Shala took over from Fatmir Limaj but I don't know if it was earlier or it was about that time or later... the change was... the change in Krojmir was that Gazetari moved to Nerodime zone... Luan remained commander for the Krojmir headquarter, for our headquarter.

R.B.: I don't know precisely now, but I think that... it seems to me that at the time there was a change, that Axhi SHALA, Top, was appointed in place of Fatmir,... I'm not certain now, at that time or earlier or later, I don't know... while there were changes made in Krojmir, and Gazetar went to the Nerodime zone, I think, or to the General Staff... and Luan stayed...

O. L.: Er... do you know if ... er... at what stage ...er... the Nerodimle zone actually was formed, was this something new or had it been...had been active all the time?

D. B.: Yeah, Nerodime zone came into existence, it was formed later ... not later but about that time.

R.B.L: No, it was formed later... not later but at about that time... at that time, as far as I know August,. it seems to me or... the main thing is I know that in June Qerqiz went to form a post in Ranca and would go on, that zone (inaudible)

D.B.: What did Qerqiz do then?

R.B.: Qerqiz went there to form that post in Ranca...

D.B.: But... but... further away?

R.B.: Further away they went and set up, for example, a staff was formed in Ranca... then formed in Topilla /Topilo/, and in Greçec, and so on in turn... this part too was rapidly filled with KLA members... We can't call it the Nerodime zone when it only had a staff here in Ranca.

O. L.: August or...?

D. B.: Yeah, as far as I know ...er... it must have been August...aha... what I know ... what's important that I know is that Qerqiz was done with his duty in setting up this...er... this headquarters in Ranc in June and then he... then so he...he was done with his duty in setting up this...this headquarters in Ranc then he would go to another place do the similar job, probably in Topill and some other places... so all this area was...was covered by UCK in terms of setting up posts or headquarters ... so we...we...we...can not really call it...er...Nerodime zone when only one...er... only one headquarter was in existence, Ranc headquarters forexample.

O. L.: Yeah...yeah, OK...er... there's...there's not to many questions any more but I need to change the tape... it's now twelve fifty eight according to my watch... and I'll stop the recording.

D. B.: Fifty-eight or forty-eight, sorry?

O. L.: Fifty-eight.

/END OF THE THIRD CD-VOOO-4382 (3OF3)/

Transcript of the recorded interview with Ramadan Behluli –

CD VOOO-4383 (1 of 1) –in English language

O. L.: OK...so we are recording again and the time by my watch is thirteen-o-one ... this tape will be kept as an evidence of this...er... interview...and ...er... I'll put it in an evidence bag and we'll seal the bag... this is the kind of tape that if you try to rip it open it's...it's gonna break, so that's why is little bit hard to... we are learning. OK, I will sign this, the twenty fifth of April... and if I can please ask you, just sign here... Thank you very much... OK...er...er... er... did... I'll show you... show you one more map about ...er... about zones in the UCK...operational zones in UCK.... Er... and for the purpose of the tape we just ... say that the number is U0033371... and ..er... you probably recognise Kosovo here ... and approximately border lines for... for operational zones ... is this look ...er... familiar to you?

D. B.: Well approximately.

O. L.: Yeah. So...so you agree with ...er...with the approximate borderline of Pashtrik and Nerodimle zone for example.

D. B.: I am not sure whether the Pashtrik zone covered ... covered this area...er...on..

R.B.: Name?

D.B.: Signature... I will show you another map with KLA operations zones... and for the sake of the recording... the number is U0033371... since you are familiar with... er... you are certainly familiar with Kosovo.

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: Here are, approximately, the borders of the operations zones... does it seem to you that you recognise it like this as... er... you remember?

R.B.: Er... approximately, I don't completely know ...

D.B.: Do you agree, say, with... with these, the lines around the borders of the Pashtrik and Nerodime zones?

R.B.: This one with Pashtrik, I don't know whether it's certain, or if it had a part on this side, in this direction.

O. L.: Yeah, we could see that when you made line on the other map that you... you told that it was ...er... was a smaller area... do you think that this is something that has come later or ... or... or... how do you think this has been formed?

D. B.: I don't know, I'm not certain about that ... I'm not aware of ... of this part being part of the Pashtrik zone ... Pashtrik was also area bordering Albania... probably... I am not sure about that... yeah, it,s...er...it's a common knowledge that Pashtrik mountains are laying along side the border.

R.B.: I don't know, I'm not sure... independently this is the Nerodime zone, this is the Pashtrik one and now this part, that both Rugova and Drenica had, here... since Pashtrik also had this part on the border with Albania... it was definitely linked with our zone, I'm not sure... whereas these Pashtrik Mountains are known to be on the border.

O. L.: OK...OK...Do you have any idea when ... when this division into ... into this ...er...this operational zones that are actually seven of them was completed within the KLA?

D. B.: No, I don't know.

R.B.: (inaudible)

O. L.: Er... there's ... there's one question about the ... just about this border here, that is between Drenica and Pashtrik zone... on this...er... on this map it looks like Lapushnik was on the Drenica side, you have any opinion on that?

D. B.: I don't know...what I know is that Pashtrik zone...er... used to stretch up to this road but...er...who...where Lapushnik belong to, which zone I ...I ...don't know.

R.B.: I don't know... I know that, Pashtrik, so to say, was up to this road... but which one had authority over Llapushnik...

O. L.: OK, but you are...er ... you are of the...the opinion that the Pashtrik... the borderline was along the...the Prishtina – Peja road?

D. B.: Yeah, I'm of this opinion.

O. L.: OK...Do you have any thing on that?

A. W.: No

O. L.: Er...I'd like to ask you, ...er... about your time in the...the KLA, did you ...did you get... ever get any ranks, during your time in KLA?

D. B.: Yes, I was promoted.

R.B.: Yes.

O.L.: OK...can you explain a little bit about the rank structure in ...er...KLA?

D. B.: Yeah, the rank was...the rank was ...er... was based...er... according to you... to what you delivered ... well based...based on evaluation of physical and...er... psychological ability... I was appointed company commander on the fifteenth of March nineteen ninety-nine.

R.B.: Er... I was promoted there, more or less, on the basis of what I had done and on the basis of rapport with the soldiers... on the basis of ability, physical and mental... I was appointed a company commander on 15 March 1999.

O. L.: OK

A. W.: And where was that?

D. B.: In Petreshtice... this order came... this order or this appointment came from Elez Durmishi ... because at that time Luan ... er... was in Albania.

R.B.: In... er... I was in Pjetërshtica... I received this order from Elez DURMISHI... because Luan was in Albania at that time.

D.B.: Elez DURMISHI replaced Luan...

R.B.: Yes.

O. L.: OK. Yeah, Elez Durmishi took over from Luan /inaudible/...OK...er... this rank structure within the KLA was...was that functioning from the...from the beginning when you joined?

D. B.: There were not such things as lieutenants or commanders, so ...I was...I was appointed initially person in charge of...of ...what...all what you are told is that you are the person in charge of this point ... you are the chief of this point.

R.B.: No, in the beginning they appointed me responsible, but there were no commander or... lieutenants or... only that you are responsible for this post, for example the thing was carried out...

O. L.: But for example someone was ... was ...er... appointed commander ...er... who was that usually that gave that... that rank or ...or post to ...to the person?

D. B.: As I said I ...I was appointed by Elez Durmishi...he told me that you are assigned as company commander.

R.B.: Well, Elez appointed me as I said... you are appointed company commander, he said.

O. L.: OK...Do you thin it was...er...he was the one who...who made the decision or was it made on a higher level?

D. B.: He must have...er... according to my opinion ...er... must have...er... submitted the proposal to the General Staff, and than has got the approval from... and than he just communicated to me that you are appointed...

R.B.: For sure it had been proposed, say, by the General Staff, it was brought by the General Staff... and he only came, /said/ you are appointed, and so there was nothing

O. L.: Do you think this was the procedure also..also earlier, like during ninety-eight?

D. B.: Well...I ...I ...I believe this ...this procedure was ... was more applicable after...after the offensive, because earlier there was there were no new structures.

R.B.: I think that... some time... it was put into practice some time after the offensive... after the second offensive onwards, not earlier...

O. L.: OK...But, but for example...er...as an example I'll...I'll take, when...er... when Shukri Buja went over to be the commander of the Nerodimle zone ... er... someone must have... must have given this task.

D. B.: Yes of course...the general staff

R.B.: Well certainly they appointed him... the General Staff.

O. L.: OK... so the decisions were made on...er...on the general staff level in cases like this?

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: Do...do you remember if you, in cases like this did you see...er...written announcements about it or was it coming to your knowledge in a verbal way?

D. B.: Yeah, both cases, so verbally as well as in written form.

R.B.: There were written ones and verbal ones.

O. L.: Yeah, and...er... could you...the written ...er... forms would then...were they to be seen in the headquarter or...or were they actually delivered to you?

D. B.: As far as I'm concerned, when I got this announcement that I was appointed company commander...but...er...Elez Durmishi must have had a written order...er... of course...

D.B.: So were the written orders delivered to you or delivered in... in the command?

R.B.: Well now, I think that I didn't have anything in writing, when it was... when I received the news that I was company commander... whereas on the other hand I think that he had it in writing... Elez DURMISHI had... at battalion level.

O. L.: OK.../inaudible/

A. W.: No

O. L.: So actually I think more or less...

A. W.: How long were you...when did you stop being in...er...in the KLA?

D. B.: Er...sir he still...he is still, he is part of TMK.

A. W.: OK... so all the way when KLA turned into a TMK, just moved over to TMK?

D. B.: Uninterruptedly

D.B.: You... er... for how long did you stay in the KLA, was it without a break in serving...?

R.B.: Without a break.

A W.: OK... er... I have another question during...during...er...when you were holding this positions in June and July of nineteen ninety-eight... do you know the identity of any of the Serb commanders in the area?

D. B.: No

A W.: OK

D. B.: What...what...what...well I didn't have the chance to see them physically but I...I...er...I assumed that, since I knew the people, Serb commanders from Shtime I...I...presumed that they must have been around this area operating there...so I knew their names.

D.B.: During the period you were engaged in... in guarding these positions in your zone...

R.B.: Yes.

D.B.: Did you... did you happen to know, to discover the identity of any of the Serb commanders operating in this zone?

R.B.: No... I didn't see, I knew, I knew who they were, say, I didn't know them...

D.B.: Did... did you know them by name.

R.B.: I knew those from Shtime, who treated me that way, I knew that they were in their ranks there.

D.B.: Who were the Serbian commanders in Shtime?

R.B.: There was one Bozha /Boža/, a police officer ...HA... I had a lot of problems with that Boža..

A W.: OK... who would the Serb commanders in Shtime be?

D. B.: It was a policeman called Boža... B-O-Z...A...HA, but this is the Albanian version you must ...er... ask somebody who speak Serbian how to write it.

A W.: Mhmm

D. B.: Yeah, I...I ...I've had problems with this, this person.

O. L.: Was this one, that you have the problem with ...er... already earlier when you were taken to the Shtime police station

D. B.: Yes it was at that ...but...er...on another occasion as well

O. L.: OK ... but was, was he kind of a head of the police do you think or a commander?

D. B.: He was not the overall commander, police commander, but he was a person in charge...er... covering the area including my village...this villages Belince, Zvorc, Carraleve.

D.B.: What was he... was his job Chief, or police commander?

R.B.: He was something, as I said, for the police station.

D.B.: He headed the police station?

R.B.: He was... he was not a police commander but he was responsible for those... er... responsible for those... er... our villages, for example... Belinca, Zborc, Carraleva, Duga, Ranca...

D.B.: Do... do... do you know the names of the army or police commanders who were operating there?

R.B.: The Army no, but in the police they all took part... almost all... Shtime, they were... they lived earlier... while the head of the police station was a someone.. er... a man from /?Shtërpc/ /Štrpce/, from Shtërpc, a Serb... Dragan DJORKA.

D.B.: What was his first name?

R.B.: Dragan.

D.B.: Second name DJORKA...

R.B.: Shtërpc.

D.B.: Because they write Albanian, he has Serbian... Er... we were saying, we have... have... finished... I don't know if this will happen, but in case...

the gentleman said, you are called as a witness... for the court in The Hague, would you be ready to tell... to tell the same things you told us today?

R.B.: Yes... if there's a possibility, if it's possible for it to be done here, but there too, there's not a problem for me to go.

A W.: OK. Do you know of any other commanders of the police or the army?

D. B.: Well...er...not as far as army is concerned but about the police, all...all the people who were...who were working as policemen in Shtime they were all...er...involved in these actions...There was a Serb from Sh...Sht...Shterbce who was the main figure of the police station in Shtime...his name Dragan ...Djorka.

O. L.: He was from Shtrebce?

D. B.: Shtrebce, yeah.

O. L.: OK

A W.: How do you spell

O. L.: It's S-T-R-E...

A W.: No, no Dragan's last name.

O. L.: Oh, I think G-J-O-R-K-A.

D. B.: Again you have to ask somebody...it's ...it's a D with....some small, you know?

O. L.: Oh D...yeah...yeah... anything else?

A W.: No...did you have any other topics or...?

O. L.: Actually no...I think if we are not moving in anything else

A W.: OK ...er...OK we are almost, we're just about done...er...I don't, I don't know if this would happen, but if...er...if you were called to The Hague to be a witness in court would you be willing to tell to court everything what you've told us today?

D. B.: Yes

A W.: OK

D. B.: Yeah if it's possible, if it can be done here OK, but even if there, it's also fine with me.

A W.: OK ...er... is there any thing else, we've asked you a lot of questions and we've talked about lot of things... is there any thing else that you think it's important about the topics that we have talked about that we should know about?

D. B.: Yes, I think...I just...I just wanted to say about this...this ...er...accusations against Fatmir Limaj and the others concerning this ...this story...as I ...as I touched earlier the first case that I saw Fatmir Limaj ...on the way to Klečka he...he told me ...he told me we...we are here to fight against Serb uniforms... er...please be careful with civilian population ... we have to protect them at any costs...as it...as he is accused of...of...er...certain case of Tafa or Emin from Carraleve ... I ...I've had conflict with them nineteen ninety seven ...they've, they've been Serb collaborators.

R.B.: Yes... I want, in relation to this, say, that Fatmir LIMAJ and these others are being accused... I'm relying on what, I touched on it earlier, when I saw Fatmir LIMAJ for the first time, on the way going to Klečka and he told me... he said to us that we fighting a war against the Serbian uniform... be careful with the civilian population... to protect them at all costs... now he is accused, for example, to do with a Tafa, an Emin, they're from Carraleva, I

want to touch on them too... I had a run-in with them in ninety-seven... and it's a fact that there was a small number who were Serbian collaborators.

D.B.: These were collaborators with the Serbs, these persons mentioned?

R.B.: Yes.

A W.: In what way, how were they Serb collaborators?

D. B.: It's because of their personal interest ... they used to sell ...er...woods...

R.B.: It was from personal interest... they were able to sell wood to the people... and go on selling it freely without the police preventing them... and then this Boža who was mentioned a little earlier came and kind of said about two or three people, say, who had weapons, accused somebody and...

D.B.: Er... how... where did you... how do you know this fact?

R.B.: I, I know this because in ninety-seven I had a run-in with them... they came to my house and we had a fight with them... and then they went on and took revenge through the police, and they beat me and took me and all my brothers to prison... (inaudible) that I was in Shtime and the only ones that could go with a tractor otherwise no-one had any chance to go anywhere to sell wood or anything else.

A W.: Sell what?

D. B.: To sell woods, to sell ...er...

O. L.: Wood...

A W.: Wood or woods?

D. B.: Wood ...wood sorry...wood.

A W.: Wood ...OK

D. B.: In ord...in order not to be prevented not to...to get harassed from the police, Serb police ... so they ... they were approached and asked by this Božo that I mentioned earlier to provide information on...on...on this or that person, so they could get free hand in their...er... wood selling business.

A W.: And how do you know that?

D. B.: As...as I said earlier, I've...I've had a conflict with them in ninety-seven... they came to my house, they came to my house and we engaged in a...in a...in a fist fight... so they, they, they took ...er... revenge on me so they...they beat me through the way of the police, they sent me to the prison ... yeah, based on the fact that they are the only ones who are allowed to go with their tractor to Shtime to sell their wood, there nobody else was...er... had this possibility.

A W.: And when was that?

D. B.: Ninety-seven, after I returned from Germany.

R.B.: Ninety-eight, after I came from Germany... I was in prison in Lipjan /Lipljan/.

D.B.: When, when, when was this... excuse me... er... Ramadan, when was this business when only they were allowed to go by tractor and... and...

R.B.: It was at the time, ninety-seven, ninety-six, ninety-eight, and they also did it earlier, they did it...

A W.: OK

D. B.: When was, when was what?

A W.: They... when were they allowed to go sell the wood?

D. B.: Yes that's what I thought...

O. L.: And no one else.

D. B.: Yeah, I'm... I'm talking about ninety-six, ninety-seven.

A W.: And you think that they were the ... that because you had a fight with them, they were the ones responsible for you getting arrested by the Serb police?

D. B.: Yes... in the presence of Serb they... they would accuse me directly, you... you've had a revolver ... Božo didn't... didn't ask many questions he just took me... took me in and beat me.

R.B.: Yes... er... and he said in front of the police, said that I had a revolver... Boža didn't ask too many questions, they just put me inside and started beating me.

D.B.: You mean, in front of you Tafë accused you, in the presence of the Serbian police of... of having a revolver?

R.B.: Sherif, not Tafë... they are cousins.

A W.: OK, so what you're telling us is that in front of you they accused you, Tafa ...er... accused you of having a revolver to the Serb police?

D. B.: Sherif not Tafa... because they are relatives

A W.: OK... and than that's why you were arrested and taken and beaten?

D. B.: Yes

A W.: OK

D. B.: Plus I was sent to prison.

A W.: When were you sent to prison?

D. B.: Er... once I had this, this conflict with them I was sent to prison for a month in Lipjan ... I had this ... er... sentence ...er... in a written form that I ... I served the month in prison

R.B.: It was, one time.... after the run-in they took me to prison, I was in Lipjan for a month... I had, I had a judgment that I had been tried, they sentenced me to a month's imprisonment.

D.B.: When... when, at what time, do you remember roughly?

R.B.: It was something like August ninety... er.... ninety-seven...

D.B.: August?

R.B.: June, August... I have that decision... er... plus... I want to mention that... they let me go home, after I had done... the prison... something like November, December... December...

D.B.: Ninety-seven?

R.B.: Ninety-seven... they beat me in a shop, I was with my father... they cut me twice on the head with an axe... here and here.

D.B.: Er... who did it to you... who did...

R.B.: The sons of this Tafë.

D.B.: But about those sons of Tafë... those sons of Tafë?

R.B.: There were nephews too, I don't know now, their nephews... and also when I went outside, they beat my father too, when I went outside...

D.B.: They beat your father too?

R.B.: Yes... they beat my father too... and they went and got in a Niva, they had a Niva, a jeep.

D.B.: After beating you they got into a Niva?

R.B.: After beating us... when I took my father by the arm I went outside... I saw two police officers at the corner of the shop... they were protecting their flank...

D.B.: They were protecting them?

R.B.: They... they got into the car and went without stopping at all. It came to me there that they were their collaborators and they were under their protection.

A W.: When, when was that?

D. B.: Well it must have been about this period June – August ninety-seven... yeah, I've got this...this sentence in written form.

A W.: OK

D. B.: Another thing I wanted to add... I want also to...after I served the sentence ... some...somewhere in November, December of ninety-seven...I was in a shop with my father... I was hit twice on my head with...with an axe by them.

A W.: By who specifically?

D. B.: Tafa's...Tafa's sons... Tafa's sons, must...must have been ...er...his nephews or their nephews as well but they were five, five of them.

O. L.: OK

D. B.: They also hit my father... after they hit us they...they ...er... got in ... in a car, in a Niva ... I took my father by his arm and...er...got him out of the shop... I've seen two policemen at the corner of, of, of the shop... so I've seen two policemen ...er... protecting them because they, they, they didn't stop them they just got in to their car and they just...so I ... I realised that they...they... they were police collaborators, they were their own men and they are, they were under their protection.

A W.: OK. Did you during the...er... after you joined the KLA in April of nineteen ninety-eight... did you ever learn that any member of that family had been arrested or detained by the KLA?

D. B.: Yeah, I came to know this fact later... all, all, all of my...er...friends...er... they knew about the conflict that I had had with them... and they, they, they strongly warned me please don't even get closer to them ... if something, if something happens to them than...er... suspicions would arise against you, because it was an open conflict with them, it was ongoing conflict with them ... the other thing I want to mention is I've...I've ...er...stucked to the rules of UCK...and I also have stucked to the oath that I ...er... I took... that I wouldn't use uniform for personal...er...er... for personal ... er...interests... I ...I ... I haven't ...I haven't got in to their yard in... up ...up to date... not even today I would approach their house... they , they live somewhere in other villages, Ferizaj and Lipjan.

R.B.: I heard later... when I was talking with people that... they were aware, all my friends were, that I had had a run-in with them... and they told me that, asked me not to go and not to have anything to do with them, so that if something happened tomorrow you wouldn't be suspected... don't be in open conflict with them... the other thing is that I have abided by the rules of the KLA... and the oath that I gave.. not to use the uniform for personal reasons... and from that day to this I haven't so much as gone and entered their yard... I haven't been there and I don't go there these days... (inaudible) other villages, in Ferizaj and Lipjan.

A W.: When, you said you've learned later that they have been, members of that family had been arrested by KLA? When did you learn that? When was that?

D. B.: I don't know that exactly but probably after the second offensive ... it's probably November, December.

R.B.: I don't know exactly, however after the second offensive, almost... sometime in November or December, I wouldn't know...

A W.: Do you remember how you find out?

D.B.: Do you remember how... how... how you learned it as a fact?

R.B.: I didn't learn it but I heard that... why he was wanted, Tafë, Tafë's sons, wanted for example they... a cousin of theirs, Rahman Tafa was with us, he was killed on Pashtrik, at Koshara /Košara/ and then he was in telephone contact with Tafë's son who was in Germany.

D.B.: Excuse me a little Ramadan, could you tell it bit by bit.

R.B.: A cousin of Tafë's joined our ranks... he was killed at Koshara, on Pashtrivk, at Koshara... but, but they weren't on good terms and even though he was a cousin he was not on good terms with them... Tafë's other boys telephoned Rahman... Rahman spoke to them... and they asked about (inaudible) ... he heard then that something had...

D. B.: So one of...one of Taf's relatives Rahman Tafa was UCK member, he was killed ...er... in Koshare ... even a relative of theirs he was ... even he was not on ... on good terms with them, he was not getting well with them ... so Taf's sons called Rahman at his house... and inquired about their uncle's fate ...or their relatives or their whereabouts... that's how I came to...to know about ...about their... the members of his family being...

A W.: OK...OK, there's one thing I don't understand ... when you joined the KLA in April of nineteen ninety-eight, you believed that this family was collaborating with the Serb police ...did it your, your duties as a KLA soldier require you to report that?

D. B.: It was known...It was known earlier that they were this kind of people before my return to Germany because observations were made, inquiries were made and detailed information was gathered... so, till nineteen ninety-seven I was in Germany as I said

R.B.: They knew it a bit earlier... in any case before I went, before I came from Germany... they had been observing and they got hold of detailed information... I was in Germany until ninety-seven.

A W.: But, but you didn't say to your...to ...er... your commander, to Luan, something should be done about these people, they are collaborating?

D. B.: But Luan was in Germany ... yeah, Luan is in Germany at that time as well.

R.B.: But he was in Germany at that time... he was like I was.

A W.: No, I'm talking about after April of nineteen ninety-eight.

D. B.: I'm sorry I'm trying to slow him down.

O. L.: It's OK.

D.B.: No, I'm talking about after April of ninety-eight, in relation to this matter, did you as a member of the KLA ask Commander Luan, that these people were collaborators with the Serbs, that something should be done about them?

R.B.: No, no... I didn't ask Luan for anything, I didn't discuss their case with him, who was a collaborator, I didn't know, I wasn't in possession of information who was, anyway in ninety-seven say I spoke about the case, how it happened...

D.B.: Excuse me Ramadan, can we take it a bit more slowly?

R.B.: Yes... er... ninety-seven the conflict happened translate... and I told him about the thing that had happened to me with them...

D.B.: Who did you tell?

R.B.: Luan...

D.B.: In ninety-seven.

R.B.: Ninety-seven... I told him about the matter in ninety-seven... about this then...

D.B.: Excuse me ... er... er... this matter... you told Luan about it in ninety-seven, not ninety-eight.

R.B.: I joined in ninety-eight.... he said to me, Dan, he said, don't go around to the house... it could happen that somebody might get suspicious about it.

D.B.: But... you told Luan that they were suspicious... that they were collaborators with the Serbs?

R.B.: Well, no (inaudible)... (inaudible)/ I didn't know that they were their collaborators... but given everything that happened... my run-in with them... the police who were protecting them... so, I suspected that there was some sort of collaboration with them.

D.B.: How far away from them is your house?

R.B.: Er... 200 metres.

D.B.: 200 metres?... When you were... er... stationed at those positions, could you,... observe their family.

R.B.: No.

D.B.: Not even a little?

R.B.: The fact is that the houses were here, and there, I had the positions over this way... in this part (inaudible)... nothing at all.

D. B.: Yeah, ninety-seven ...er... when this, when this thing happen, took place, when this conflict took place... yeah, I told Luan about this, about this ...er.... about how did it, did it ...er... did it happen this case in ninety-seven, I reveal this to Luan... yeah, I ... I ... I talked to him about this case in ninety-seven... yeah, I revealed the fact to Luan after I joined UCK ... about the conflict with them ... and he said to me that ...er... Ramadan don't get closer to their house ... because it might happen that suspicion arise.

A W.: But did you tell Luan that you thought that they were collaborating with the Serb police?

D. B.: Well I didn't ... I didn't know, I didn't know as a fact of them being Serb collaborators ... but in all likelihood... my conflict with them ... the presence of ... er... the police taking them under their protection ... all, all... all this er... all this made us suspicious of any potential collaborations with Serbs.

A W.: OK

O. L.: Er... How far is your house from, from the Jetullau's... Jetullau's house in Carralevw?

D. B.: Er... Two hundred... er...

O. L.: When you were holding the positions did you have any ... any notice of... of the Jetullau family?

D. B.: No

O. L.: Not at all?

D. B.: Because I was, I was staying in my position here and having the attention on this side and their house is on this part.

O. L.: OK... OK, was there anything else you wanted to... to bring up to us?

D. B.: No I just wanted to touch on this subject that I ... er... mentioned... about the conflict with them ... er... er... yeah if it... er... if it the need rises that you get in touch with them so you would be... would be informed about, about the incident, about the incident.

R.B.: No, I just wanted to mention this matter, that... I had a run-in with them... it might so happen that tomorrow something comes up so that you get to know them... (inaudible)...

A W.: If you came to testify in The Hague ... er... or here you, you would be able to tell ... er... give all of your information.

D. B.: Yes, completely.

O. L.: Er... what's the situation with the fight between your families at this moment?

D. B.: I have no contacts with them, at the moment. Some of them, they are spread, some of them live in Ferizaj the others in Topliçan... I live in Ferizaj myself ... I have... I've never seen this, this Taf... nothing, nothing with them ... er... neither good nor bad.

R.B.: The conflict, we have nothing to do with... I've never met, nor... I don't know...

D.B.: You don't have any relationship with them at the moment?

R.B.: I don't know, I haven't... I haven't met them at all.

D.B.: You've had no contact with them?

R.B.: Well now, some live in Ferizaj, some in Topliçan /Topličane/... I live in Ferizaj... (inaudible) I've never seen... I've not met this Tafë... and like I've never had with them... for good or ill.

O. L.: OK ... And, and we can only advise you just as your superiors earlier that it, it doesn't look good to, to make any approach towards them at this moment here.

D. B.: Once again I ... I ... I'd like to mention that I ... I wouldn't ...er... I ...er... I wouldn't violate my uniform...so I've taken oath not to abuse uniform for ...er... inter... personal interests.

R.B.: I... er... repeat that I promised not to abuse my uniform... I promised that I would not take advantage of it for personal reasons, abuse it... since these are my personal interests while ours are different.

O. L.: OK. I have a question, your brother Emrush ...er... was he, was he a UCK soldier?

D. B.: Yeah, he was...er... he was stationed in Ranc.

R.B.: He was in Ranca.

D.B.: When did Emrush join the KLA, later or...

R.B.: He, he joined up something like... er... a little before July... I mean in July but I don't know if it was the middle of July or the beginning of July.

O. L.: Er... did...did he join at the same time with you or was it later.

D. B.: He must have joined UCK ...er...in July, in July ...er... middle July ...er...

O. L.: Ninety-eight?

D. B.: Ninety-eight, yes.

O. L.: OK...and...er...he... did he join in Ranc than?

D. B.: I...I took him to, to Ranc ...er... him and another ...er... relative of mine, so I took them there, so they reported themselves there. I didn't, I didn't want to, to fight alongside them. It was a sort of taking the /inaudible/...in this context.

D.B.: Where did Emrush report, in Ranca.

R.B.: In Ranca. I took him there with another cousin of mine too. I didn't think it was a good idea for us to fight together with them (inaudible)... it was for me. He fought there, I didn't see him, I was fighting here...

O. L.: OK

D. B.: So it's better not to see each other, not see each other because ...er... so he fights there, I fight here.

O. L.: OK. Anything else?

A W.: No.

O. L.: OK... er... just for, for the purpose of the recording I'll...I'll ask you a few formal questions... er... have you answered all the questions here today from your own free will?

D. B.: Yes

O. L.: And have we given you any promises or threats to get you answer any certain questions?

D. B.: No. Absolutely not.

O. L.: OK. Are you happy with the way this interview have been conducted?

D. B.: Completely.

O. L.: OK.

D. B.: If you want to ask further or if you want to have a free chat ... I am able to, to, talk or to answer.

R.B.: Completely. If there is anything else you need to ask, to talk freely... I am able to answer.

O. L.: That's very good ... er... thank you very much for coming and you...you've given us very good information and ...it's not always so pleasant to be in, in this kind of situation but it's ...er...it's the work we do and ...er...and hopefully we can also sometimes meet in, in more pleasant circumstances.

/the above speech is ascribed to R.B. in the Albanian transcript/

D. B.: Yeah, I wish that truth...er... comes out ...er... in its pure and whole...er...

R.B.: May God send that it comes out into the open, that Right and Truth triumph.

O. L.: Yeah, good. OK, the time by my watch is thirteen thirty-eight...thirty-eight now...and I'll, I'll stop the recording

/END OF THE FOURTH CD-VOOO-4383 (1OF1)/

END OF THE INTERVIEW