

1 Tuesday, 11 July 2023

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused entered the courtroom]

4 [The Accused Krasniqi appeared via videolink]

5 --- Upon commencing at 9.00 a.m.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Madam Court Officer, you may call the
7 case.

8 THE COURT OFFICER: Good morning, Your Honours. This is case
9 KSC-BC-2020-06, The Specialist Prosecutor versus Hashim Thaci,
10 Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi, and Jakup Krasniqi.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you.

12 Good morning, everyone. Today we'll continue the testimony of
13 Witness 04337. I note that Mr. Thaci and Mr. Veseli and Mr. Selimi
14 are all present in the courtroom, and Mr. Krasniqi appears via
15 videolink, with permission.

16 We are ready to proceed.

17 Madam Court Usher, please bring the witness in.

18 [The witness takes the stand]

19 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Good morning, Witness. Can you hear all
20 right?

21 THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Good morning. Good morning. Yes,
22 I hear very well, Your Honour. Yes. Thank you.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Today we will continue with your
24 testimony. I remind you to please try to answer the questions that
25 are asked of you clearly with short sentences. If you do not

1 understand a question, please feel free to ask counsel to repeat the
2 question or tell them that you don't understand and they will
3 clarify. But I emphasise it's important to listen to the question
4 and answer that question.

5 Also, please remember to try to indicate the basis of your
6 knowledge of the facts and circumstances upon which you will be
7 questioned.

8 I remind you that you are still under an obligation to tell the
9 truth, as stated by you in your solemn declaration.

10 Please remember to speak into the microphone, wait five seconds
11 before answering a question, and speak at a slow pace for the
12 interpreters to catch up.

13 If you feel the need to take breaks, make an indication and an
14 accommodation will be made.

15 When you are testifying, pay attention to the Bench because if I
16 hold my hand up, that means I want you to stop and you will need to
17 have a further instruction. Do you understand that?

18 THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Yes, Your Honour. I do. If you
19 allow me to clarify something, though. If I can not hold the eyes up
20 all the time because they water incessantly, please bear with me. I
21 shall try. I shall try to obey your order.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you. That's what we ask for.
23 Thank you very much.

24 So we will resume with the cross-examination by the Selimi
25 Defence and then continue with the Thaci Defence, the Veseli Defence,

Witness: W04337 (Resumed) (Private Session)
Cross-examination by Mr. Roberts (Continued)

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1 and the Krasniqi Defence.

2 Counsel for Mr. Selimi, Mr. Roberts, will have the floor and
3 will continue the cross-examination.

4 Mr. Roberts.

5 MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Your Honour.

6 WITNESS: W04337 [Resumed]

7 [Witness answered through interpreter]

8 Cross-examination by Mr. Roberts: [Continued]

9 Q. And good morning, Witness.

10 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: And I remind you we're in public
11 session.

12 THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Good morning, counsel.

13 MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Your Honour. I was just about to ask
14 to move into private session. Thank you.

15 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: All right. We will move into private
16 session, Madam Court Officer.

17 [Private session]

18 [Private session text removed]

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Cross-examination by Mr. Roberts (Continued)

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Cross-examination by Mr. Roberts (Continued)

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Cross-examination by Mr. Roberts (Continued)

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Cross-examination by Mr. Roberts (Continued)

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Cross-examination by Mr. Roberts (Continued)

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Cross-examination by Mr. Roberts (Continued)

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Witness: W04337 (Resumed) (Private Session)

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Cross-examination by Mr. Roberts (Continued)

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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17 [Open session]

18 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Madam Usher, you may escort the witness
20 out.

21 [The witness stands down]

22 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Something else?

23 MR. MISETIC: No.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: When we come back, he made -- I think he
25 made a slight mistake and said he shot his wife and sister. So if

1 you would correct that when he comes back.

2 MR. MISETIC: Yes.

3 MR. PACE: Your Honour --

4 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We are adjourned until -- oh, I'm sorry.
5 Go ahead, Mr. Pace.

6 MR. PACE: Just briefly, Your Honour, if it's possible for
7 planning purposes to inquire with the Defence teams if there is any
8 changes to their cross-examination estimates.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Good question.

10 Mr. Emmerson or Ms. O'Reilly?

11 MS. O'REILLY: Right now it's looking like ten minutes or less,
12 but we'll see what happens.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Oh, okay.

14 And, Mr. Ellis?

15 MR. ELLIS: Yes, at the moment looking like 15 to 20 minutes.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you very much.

17 MR. ELLIS: But I'll have a look over the break.

18 MR. MISETIC: And I will try to finish in less than an hour
19 after the break.

20 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you.

21 We're adjourned until 11.30.

22 --- Recess taken at 11.02 a.m.

23 --- On resuming at 11.30 a.m.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Madam Court Usher, you can bring the
25 witness in.

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetić

1 [The witness takes the stand]

2 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Mr. Court Officer, please take us to
3 private session.

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Miletic

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Cross-examination by Mr. Ellis

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Cross-examination by Mr. Ellis

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Witness: W04337 (Resumed) (Private Session)

Page 5458

Cross-examination by Mr. Ellis

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Witness: W04337 (Resumed) (Private Session)

Page 5459

Cross-examination by Mr. Ellis

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Witness: W04337 (Resumed) (Private Session)

Page 5460

Cross-examination by Mr. Ellis

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Witness: W04337 (Resumed) (Private Session)

Page 5461

Cross-examination by Mr. Ellis

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Witness: W04337 (Resumed) (Private Session)

Page 5462

Re-examination by Mr. Pace

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Witness: W04337 (Resumed) (Private Session)

Page 5463

Re-examination by Mr. Pace

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Witness: W04337 (Resumed) (Private Session)

Page 5464

Re-examination by Mr. Pace

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12 [Open session]

13 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in public session, Your Honours.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We are in public session.

15 Victims' Counsel had made a request for cross-examination of
16 Witness 4746. We will take that up, as we said before, at the end of
17 SPO's direct examination.

18 MR. LAWS: Yes, understood, Your Honour. Thank you.

19 [The witness entered court]

20 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Witness, we are ready to begin your
21 testimony, and we ask that you take the -- do you have the oath
22 prepared?

23 Please read the oath that is provided to you, read it aloud, and
24 then I will ask you if you accept the terms of that oath.

25 THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Conscious of the significance of

1 my testimony and my legal responsibility, I solemnly declare that I
2 will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and
3 that I shall not withhold anything which has come to my knowledge.

4 WITNESS: W04746

5 [Witness answered through interpreter]

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: And do you understand the oath?

7 THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Yes, I do understand. I accept.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Please be seated.

9 Witness, we are ready to begin your testimony. And as you may
10 know, the Prosecution will ask you questions first, then counsel for
11 the victims. And once they're done, the Defence has the right to ask
12 questions. Members of the Panel may also ask you some questions.

13 The Prosecution estimates 12 hours for their questions.
14 Victims' Counsel estimates up to one hour of questions. And at the
15 moment, the Defence estimates that it will need 23 hours. As regards
16 each estimate, we hope counsel will be judicious in the use of their
17 time. The Panel may allow redirect examination if conditions for it
18 are met.

19 Witness, please try to answer the questions clearly with short
20 sentences. If you don't understand a question, feel free to ask
21 counsel to repeat the question or tell them that you don't understand
22 and they will try to clarify. Also, please try to indicate the basis
23 of your knowledge of facts and circumstances that you will be asked
24 about.

25 In the event you are asked by the SPO to attest to some

1 corrections made regarding your statements, you are reminded to
2 confirm on the record that the written statement, as corrected by the
3 list of corrections, accurately reflects your declaration.

4 Please also speak into the microphone, wait five seconds before
5 answering a question to allow the translators to keep up with you,
6 and speak at a slow rate.

7 While you're giving evidence in this Court, you are not allowed
8 to discuss with anyone the content of your testimony outside of the
9 courtroom. If any person asks you any questions outside of the Court
10 about your testimony, please let us know.

11 Please stop talking if I ask you to do so or if I raise my hand,
12 because that means you may need to have some additional instruction
13 from me.

14 If you need to take breaks at any time during your testimony,
15 let us know and we'll accommodate you.

16 We begin with the direct examination by the Prosecutor.

17 Madam Prosecutor, you may begin.

18 MS. LAWSON: Thank you.

19 Examination by Ms. Lawson:

20 Q. And good afternoon, Mr. Mustafa. We met briefly for the first
21 time last week, and I'm going to be asking you some questions on
22 behalf of the Prosecution for the next day or two.

23 If any of my questions are not clear to you, please indicate
24 that and I'll do my best to rephrase them. It's important that you
25 only answer the specific questions that I ask because, as the

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Examination by Ms. Lawson

1 Presiding Judge indicated, we do have a lot of questions to get
2 through. Do you understand?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Okay. I'll start with some background questions, and we can
5 remain in public session. Can you please state your full name for
6 the record?

7 A. My name is Rrustem Mustafa.

8 Q. And what is your date of birth?

9 A. 27 February 1971.

10 Q. Have you ever been known by a nickname?

11 A. Yes. During the war, I was known as Remi.

12 Q. Were you a member of the KLA?

13 A. Yes, I was.

14 Q. And we'll come back to this in more detail. But during 1998 and
15 1999, what was your specific title or position within the KLA?

16 A. I served from a soldier of the Kosovo Liberation Army up to a
17 zone commander, the commander of the operational zone in Llap.

18 Q. Is it correct that you've given a number of prior statements and
19 testimony in proceedings before UNMIK and EULEX?

20 A. All these statements that I gave had to do with the criminal
21 proceedings against me during the times of UNMIK and EULEX -- EULEX,
22 that is, as well as statements that I gave to the Specialist Chambers
23 three years ago.

24 Q. Thank you. So I'll just give some more detail briefly on those.
25 There was an interview that you gave in 2002. There was a trial in

1 2003, retrials in 2009 and 2013, and an appeals hearing in 2015. Is
2 it correct that on each occasion you made a statement?

3 A. I gave statements throughout the criminal proceedings against
4 me.

5 Q. And in January 2019, you also gave a statement to the Specialist
6 Prosecutor's Office, as you mentioned; is that correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Did you have an opportunity to read your prior statements last
9 week?

10 A. Yes, you offered me the opportunity to consult them -- to
11 consult some parts of the statements -- statements that I gave before
12 the Chambers.

13 Q. And were the statements that you reviewed accurate or did you
14 have any corrections to make to them?

15 A. From what I was able to see, there was no need for any
16 intervention. There was no reason to think otherwise.

17 Q. Thank you. We'll probably be referring to some of those prior
18 statements during the course of the questioning. You referred to the
19 Llap operational zone a moment ago. Could you please briefly
20 describe the geographic area covered by that zone.

21 A. The Llap operational zone included the region of Prishtine,
22 Podujeve, Prishtine, Obiliq, and Fushe Kosove.

23 Q. When was the first frontal battle that you participated in in
24 the Llap zone?

25 A. In September 1998, September 15th.

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Examination by Ms. Lawson

1 Q. And where was that?

2 A. This was at a venue between Mitrovica and Podujeve called
3 Kacandoll.

4 Q. I would like to show you a document from September 1998.

5 MS. LAWSON: The reference is P00156, and the English is
6 P00156-ET.

7 Q. Can you please take a moment to look at that document,
8 Mr. Mustafa. Do you know what it is?

9 A. Yes, I do. It's part of an article from a daily on the
10 liberation war, and it also has to do with the September battles.

11 Q. Are you familiar with this article or with the communiqué which
12 it's describing?

13 A. It is an old article. I cannot recall it exactly. I have tried
14 to follow every bit of news at the time. However, I don't think I've
15 managed it.

16 Q. And if you look at the fourth paragraph - in the Albanian, that
17 starts at the very last line of the first column of text - it refers
18 to fighting in the Llap zone. Is this the battle that you were
19 describing a moment ago?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Afterwards, did there come a time when there was a cease-fire?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. When was that?

24 A. I can't recall exactly, but it was towards October. However,
25 there is documentation which is public, and that occurred after the

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1 arrival in Kosovo of the OSCE.

2 Q. October 1998; correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And you just mentioned the arrival of the OSCE. What was their
5 purpose at that time?

6 A. It was the mission of observing the hostilities in Kosovo as
7 well as an effort to mediate between the parties, the two parties.

8 Q. I'd like show you another document.

9 MS. LAWSON: It's SPOE00228827. And the English is the same
10 reference with ET on the end.

11 Q. Can you please read the date at the bottom of the document?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Can you please read it aloud? Sorry, I should have specified.

14 A. 19 November 1998, Prishtine.

15 Q. And do you recognise the signature on the document?

16 A. Yes, I do.

17 Q. Whose signature is it?

18 A. This is from the Kosovo Liberation Army spokesperson,
19 Mr. Jakup Krasniqi.

20 MS. LAWSON: And if we just move up to the top of the document
21 again, please.

22 Q. You can see that it's addressed to the operative zones; isn't
23 that right?

24 A. Yes, the addressee can be seen clearly here. Yes.

25 Q. Do you remember this document?

1 A. I'm just seeing this here as a document in its own right, but I
2 cannot recall it. No.

3 Q. We can look at the substance for a moment. It's providing
4 guidance on how to interact with journalists, observers, and
5 diplomats. Do you remember guidance ever having been provided by the
6 General Staff on those issues?

7 A. I have just read it. I know there were discussions within the
8 ranks of the Kosovo Liberation Army about good manners to be
9 displayed to journalists, observers, and so on, on anything that had
10 to do with aspects of our war. But the document as such is not
11 something that I recall.

12 Q. And if we look at paragraph 2 now, addressing observers, it says
13 that the General Staff has selected someone to handle information
14 with the observers, and that the appointment of that person would be
15 notified in a separate document. Did that occur?

16 A. Even to this day, I'm unable to know who it was.

17 Q. You don't remember or don't know who the person assigned in the
18 Llap zone to deal with international observers was?

19 A. For the operational zone of Llap, it was somebody that I
20 appointed, not someone the -- that the General Staff did.

21 Q. And who was that?

22 A. From the Office for Public Information, there were three or four
23 people assigned that task.

24 Q. Can you give me their names, please?

25 A. Yes. Ismet Sakiqi, Lirak Qelaj, Hysen Fazliu, and other senior

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1 commanders of the zone in general. The chief of staff, my deputy,
2 and brigade commanders too.

3 Q. Let me show you another document.

4 MS. LAWSON: The Albanian reference is 099772. And the English
5 is U002-2849. If you need the complete number range, just let me
6 know.

7 Q. Mr. Mustafa, we're just waiting for the English translation to
8 come up, but if you could please read the heading out loud.

9 Can you please read the heading of the document in bold text out
10 loud?

11 A. "KLA, its expansion on the ground and relations with the KDOM
12 observers of the OSCE."

13 Q. Thank you.

14 MS. LAWSON: And if we can move to the last page of the
15 document, please.

16 Q. Can you please read the date out loud again?

17 A. Prishtine, 19 November 1998.

18 Q. And do you recognise the signature?

19 A. It's the same signature.

20 MS. LAWSON: We can go back to the first page again, please.
21 And just scroll down slightly on the page.

22 Q. Do you see there that Fatmir Humolli is being designated as the
23 liaison for the Llap area?

24 A. Yes, I do.

25 Q. Do you remember that appointment having been made?

1 A. No, I don't. I think it's a mistake.

2 Q. You weren't familiar with him having any role with the OSCE?

3 A. It's the person who was least engaged in this issue. He may
4 have been appointed, but I was completely in the dark about it.

5 MS. LAWSON: Your Honours, I note the time. If this is a good
6 time to break, we can do so.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you, Madam Prosecutor.

8 Witness, we will break for lunch at this time. I'm sorry you
9 didn't testify very long, but we didn't want to waste your time, so
10 we began right away, knowing you were ready.

11 So we will break for an hour and a half for lunch and be back
12 here at 2.30, and we will be ready to proceed. Remember, you cannot
13 talk to anyone about your testimony outside of the courtroom. Thank
14 you.

15 You can escort him out.

16 [The witness stands down]

17 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We are adjourned until 2.30.

18 --- Luncheon recess taken at 1.02 p.m.

19 --- On resuming at 2.30 p.m.

20 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Madam Court Officer, you may bring the
21 witness in.

22 [The witness takes the stand]

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Please be seated.

24 Witness, we will continue with your testimony at this time with
25 the Prosecution.

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1 Madam Prosecutor, you have the floor.

2 MS. LAWSON: Thank you, Your Honour.

3 Q. And good afternoon, Mr. Mustafa. Just before --

4 A. Good afternoon.

5 Q. Just before the break, we were discussing the cease-fire
6 agreement that came into operation in October 1998. Did the Serb
7 forces respect the terms of that cease-fire?

8 A. No.

9 Q. What type of actions did they take that were in violation of it?

10 A. They were illegal in our country, so every action they took
11 meant that they violated the integrity of the agreement. They were
12 carrying out fightings against our local forces, conducting their
13 oppressive campaign against the Albanian civilian population.

14 Q. So they continued to engage in fighting despite the cease-fire.
15 Is that what you're saying?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. From November 1998, what geographic positions did the KLA hold
18 in the Llap zone? So I'm asking you here where your front line was.

19 A. For us, the front line extended from Majac, Majac -- the front
20 line around Podujeve until the villages of Dobratin, including
21 Llapashtice -- Llapashtice.

22 Q. How long did that defensive line last for?

23 A. Until the involvement of the NATO forces and the air campaign.

24 MS. LAWSON: I would like to call up a map, please. It's
25 ERN SPOE00238091. And we'll need to zoom in slightly on the top

1 right-hand part of the map, please. Yes, that's the right area.
2 Maybe just in slightly more, if possible. And now move so that we
3 can see slightly higher on the map to see Dobratin at the top,
4 please. Yes, thank you.

5 Q. Mr. Mustafa, can you identify Majac on that map, please? I'm
6 going to ask you to mark the map.

7 MS. LAWSON: If we could have assistance from the Court Officer.

8 THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] I can't find it, but I know it
9 must be somewhere here.

10 MS. LAWSON:

11 Q. So it's just to the left of the red line that says "Snake," I
12 believe. Down below. Near where the rivers are meeting near the red
13 line.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Thank you. If you could please mark Majac.

16 A. [Marks]

17 Q. And now I'd ask you to draw a line up through the villages to
18 Dobratin, representing the defensive line that was held at the time.

19 A. [Marks]

20 Q. And which side of that line was it that you were controlling at
21 the time, the east or the west?

22 A. We did not have effective control on either side. However, our
23 objective was the -- and we were present on the western side.

24 Q. Can you please also put a circle around the -- sorry. Can you
25 just mark number 1 beside the line that you have drawn? Thank you.

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1 A. [Marks]

2 Q. And can you please also put a circle around the village of
3 Bajgore.

4 A. [Marks]

5 Q. And mark that with a number 2, please.

6 A. [Marks]

7 Q. And in the centre of the defensive line, we can see Llapashtice.
8 Is that the village where the Llap zone headquarters was based for a
9 period of time?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Between approximately what dates was the headquarters based
12 there?

13 A. There is public -- publicly accessible evidence and documents,
14 but I think throughout October, November, December, January,
15 February, and March.

16 Q. And that's October 1998 to March 1999; correct?

17 A. It could be. There are publicly available documents to prove
18 this. It could be.

19 Q. Can you please put a circle around that village and mark it with
20 a number 3.

21 A. [Marks]

22 MS. LAWSON: And, Your Honours, I'd like to tender the marked
23 map into evidence, please.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: [Microphone not activated]

25 MR. MISETIC: No objection.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: [Microphone not activated]

2 The ERN SPOE00238091 map is entered into evidence. Please
3 assign a P number to it.

4 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, the marked map will be
5 assigned P00223.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you, Court Officer.

7 MS. LAWSON:

8 Q. You mentioned at the start of the testimony that you were the
9 Llap zone commander. Were there other members of the Llap zone
10 command?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. So we'll go through each of the positions one by one. Did you
13 have a deputy commander?

14 A. Yes, Kadri Kastrati.

15 Q. Did he also have a nickname?

16 A. Daja.

17 Q. Who appointed Mr. Kastrati?

18 A. I did.

19 Q. I'd like to refer to your SPO interview transcript. I'll give
20 the reference here, but I'll just read the quote to you.

21 MS. LAWSON: The reference is Part 4, page 2 --

22 MR. ROBERTS: Your Honour, if I can object at this stage.

23 What's the purpose of reading this? I don't think the witness is
24 under any -- sorry. I'll rephrase that. The witness's answer was
25 very clear. I don't know why we're now going to his statement.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: [Microphone not activated].

2 The objection is overruled.

3 Go ahead, Madam Prosecutor.

4 MS. LAWSON: Thank you. So it's Part 4, page 13 for reference.

5 Q. And you say:

6 "I know that Kadri Kastrati was appointed by the General Staff."

7 Can you please explain that answer?

8 A. It depends on your interpretation. I said that the
9 General Staff approved my position, my stance, my decision to appoint
10 Mr. Kastrati. And this was the case also for many other officers'
11 appointments in my command, which were then approved by the
12 General Staff.

13 MR. MISETIC: Mr. President, it's fine for this question. But
14 just on a going-forward basis, we will ask to be heard if the
15 statement is going to be used for purposes of impeachment or
16 otherwise. I think Rule 143 says that this type of procedure needs
17 to be done with leave of the Panel. And so, you know, I think they
18 should ask and explain why they need to do it before they just go
19 into it. Thank you.

20 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: [Microphone not activated]

21 MS. LAWSON:

22 Q. When did Kadri Kastrati join the Llap operational zone?

23 A. I think it was in June 1998.

24 Q. I would like to show you a passage from the book War for Kosovo,
25 Commander Remi Speaks.

1 MS. LAWSON: The reference in Albanian is SPOE00330195, and we
2 should please go to page 330259. And in English, the reference is
3 SPOE00053263, and the page is 53302.

4 Q. And while we're waiting for it to come up on the screen, are you
5 familiar with this book, Mr. Mustafa?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What does it contain?

8 A. It's an interview regarding the events during the war.

9 MS. LAWSON: Thank you. And we can move the Albanian up
10 slightly so that we can see the first paragraph.

11 Q. In that paragraph, Mr. Mustafa, I believe you're describing the
12 time that Kadri Kastrati was assigned to the Llap zone; is that
13 correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And is it an accurate description of the circumstances?

16 A. I tried to be accurate in my explanations and public interviews.

17 Q. Is that a yes?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. At the end of that paragraph, you refer to the very first day
20 that Bislim Zyrapi came to Likoc. Do you see that?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And that's the day you're referring to as Kadri Kastrati having
23 joined, having come in with Bislim Zyrapi and joined the Llap zone;
24 is that correct? Or been assigned to the Llap zone.

25 A. Yes, they came together. A group of officers came together and

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1 Kadri Kastrati travelled with them.

2 Q. Who else arrived with Bislum Zyrapi that day?

3 A. There were five or six officers. I don't remember the details.
4 My purpose was to meet with Kadri Kastrati and bring him with me in
5 my zone.

6 Q. And who else was present in Likoc at that time?

7 A. I don't remember.

8 Q. What was the purpose of your visit to Likoc?

9 A. The purpose of my visit was to go and take Kadri Kastrati with
10 me.

11 Q. We'll move to the chief of staff. Did you have a chief of
12 staff?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What was his name?

15 A. Nuredin Ibishi.

16 Q. Did he have a nickname?

17 A. Leka.

18 Q. And when was he appointed?

19 A. I think he was appointed immediately after the arrival of
20 Kadri Kastrati.

21 Q. Did he have a second nickname apart from Leka?

22 A. No, not to my knowledge.

23 Q. Who was he appointed by?

24 A. Ms. Prosecutor, the appointments could be made also by the
25 General Staff. However, it was my ultimate decision who would be the

1 chief of staff, deputy -- commander of the zone and deputy commander.
2 For the sake of the cooperation and the opportunity to operate with
3 the General Staff, the appointments could also be made by them.

4 Q. When you say they could also be made by them, do you mean they
5 were also made by them?

6 A. The approval. They approved -- they would make this -- they
7 would approve it upon my request. We were in the time trying to form
8 and better organise the Kosovo Liberation Army, and we would -- we
9 were trying and striving to work together with the hierarchy.

10 Q. Who did Nuredin Ibishi report to?

11 A. To me.

12 Q. Is it correct that there were also a number of sectors within
13 the zone command?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. Do you recall what the different sectors were?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You can just name them for now, please, and then we'll go one by
18 one again.

19 A. Fatmir Humolli as mentioned earlier, Sejdi Rama, Latif Gashi,
20 Muhamet Latifi, Avdi Kiqmari, Naser Ramadani, and Hamit Hamiti.

21 Q. So Hamit Hamiti, what sector was he responsible for?

22 A. H, Hamit. The logistics sector.

23 Q. Did he have a nickname?

24 A. All of us had nicknames. I don't remember right now his
25 nickname.

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Examination by Ms. Lawson

1 Q. Who did he report to?

2 A. To the chief of staff or to me.

3 Q. And what matters were covered by the logistics sector?

4 A. Collecting logistical supplies in general needed for the conduct
5 of the war. So collection and distribution.

6 Q. And by "logistical supplies," do you mean equipment and uniforms
7 and weapons and that sort of thing?

8 A. There were also items related to food, petrol, all these things.

9 Q. We'll move to Fatmir Humolli. Which sector was he responsible
10 for?

11 A. Civilian communications sector.

12 Q. Did he have a nickname?

13 A. Basi.

14 Q. And who did he report to?

15 A. To the zone staff. We were three superiors leading the staff.
16 I was the commander, Kadri Kastrati was the deputy commander, and
17 Nuredin Ibishi was the chief of staff.

18 Q. Latif Gashi, what sector was he responsible for?

19 A. Head of the intelligence service.

20 Q. Did he have a nickname?

21 A. Lata.

22 Q. Did he have a second nickname?

23 A. During the trial, this nickname came up. I didn't remember that
24 during the war, but I know it was mentioned after the war.

25 Q. What was it?

1 A. Fati.

2 MR. EMMERSON: I'm sorry to rise to my feet, but might I ask
3 that when descriptions and assignments of roles are being sought and
4 answered by the witness, we have a date put upon those roles, the
5 period of time during which the relevant person was occupying those
6 roles, because these dates are not uniform or consistent throughout
7 the relevant indictment period.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: To the extent possible.

9 MS. LAWSON: Yes, Your Honour, I'm happy to do that.

10 Q. So Hamit Hamiti, what date did he commence occupying his role in
11 logistics?

12 A. I'm not certain, but before the public appearance of the KLA, I
13 had the roles for each of them. So this refers to beginning 1998.
14 Despite the fact that we did not have any soldiers yet, I had already
15 given them tasks, appointments, as we were still in the mountains, as
16 we say there.

17 Q. And Fatmir Humolli, when did he commence responsibility for, I
18 believe you said, it was civilian matters?

19 A. Fatmir Humolli represented an organisation for the liberation of
20 Kosovo, too, and then later we had an agreement with them. I think
21 it was October or November 1998 that we reached that agreement.

22 Q. And the same question for Latif Gashi. When did he commence his
23 role in the intelligence sector?

24 A. I think Latif Gashi was a member of the command very early. It
25 may have been at the end of 1998, I think.

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1 Q. Who appointed him?

2 A. I.

3 THE INTERPRETER: And could the witness be asked to speak closer
4 to the microphone, please.

5 MS. LAWSON:

6 Q. And who did he report to?

7 A. To the staff. To the zone staff that I led. I was the
8 commander.

9 Q. And by "the zone staff," could you identify specifically,
10 please, who he reported to?

11 A. I already said I was the chief of the staff, that there was my
12 deputy and the chief of staff.

13 Q. And he reported to the three of you?

14 A. We might ask him for information if he knew, but we asked for
15 information by -- from anyone. Not a formal report.

16 Q. How long have you known Latif Gashi?

17 A. I knew him from before. But we were together for the KLA since
18 end of 1997 or maybe beginning of 1998.

19 Q. How or from where did you know him before that?

20 A. From the political activity we engaged in at the time.

21 Q. How would you describe your relationship with him?

22 A. Fair, correct. People who trusted one another and in the others
23 who joined the KLA later.

24 Q. Do you know approximately how many people worked for Latif Gashi
25 in the intelligence sector in the Llap zone?

1 A. Latif Gashi was entitled to speak to anyone but didn't have a
2 consolidated network. He had as a collaborator Hyzri Talla. He was
3 responsible for the organisation of the operational units, so he
4 carried out a number of tasks for the KLA. For him, everything was
5 important.

6 Q. When you say he was entitled to speak to anyone, does that
7 include that he was able to cooperate with other units of the KLA
8 within the Llap zone to get assistance from them?

9 A. Each of us was entitled to do that. There was no limitations to
10 us to be able to contribute to the benefit of the KLA.

11 Q. You referred to Hyzri Talla being, you said, a collaborator of
12 Latif Gashi's. What was his particular role?

13 A. To tell you the truth, I consider both of them the same, in the
14 same way. Hyzri Talla had a role to play as a support for
15 Latif Gashi. Hyzri Talla, we thought that we wanted to give him a
16 higher position in the zone, but he was killed in an ambush and he
17 was declared a martyr.

18 Q. Would it be fair to describe Hyzri Talla as Latif Gashi's
19 deputy?

20 A. You might say so, but Latif Gashi never said or referred to him
21 as deputy because there wasn't such a structure in place.

22 Q. Was Hyzri Talla ever a member of the zone command staff?

23 A. He was very close to me and to all the other members of the
24 General Staff, but he wasn't a member per se.

25 Q. I'm going to read you a sentence from the book War for Kosovo,

1 Commander Remi Speaks.

2 MS. LAWSON: I don't think we need to call it up on screen, but
3 I'll give you the reference. The reference is SPOE00053263. And I'm
4 referring to page 53301.

5 Q. And you say there:

6 "I was the zone commander and Latif Gashi, Fatmir Humolli,
7 Hyzri Talla, Sejdi Rama, and Avdi Kiqmari were staff members."

8 Is that accurate?

9 A. You might describe that in that way, too.

10 MS. LAWSON: I'd like to show a document now, please. It's
11 P00151. And the English is the same number with ET on the end.
12 Thank you. We can stay on the first page initially.

13 Q. Can you please read the heading out loud, Mr. Mustafa?

14 A. "The national liberation Army of Kosovo, Llapi operational zone,
15 sector for morale and politics, on the present political situation,
16 who was Hyzri Talla."

17 MS. LAWSON: Can we please go to the last page of the document.

18 Q. Whose signatures are those at the bottom of the page?

19 A. My signature as the zone commander, Z.O.L.L. commander. The
20 other signature I don't recognise. It might be the signature of
21 someone from the office of public information.

22 Q. Do you recognise this document?

23 A. I don't recall, but I know the circumstances in which we used to
24 issue similar documents for the public.

25 Q. It refers to the sector for morale and political affairs. Was

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1 that a sector within the Llap zone?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And who was the head of that sector?

4 A. Fatmir Humolli.

5 MS. LAWSON: We can go back to the first page, please.

6 Q. Do you remember when this document was issued or what the
7 circumstances were?

8 A. On the occasion of the murder of martyr Hyzri Talla, 11.12.98.
9 I believe it was issued on that date.

10 Q. And who was it distributed to?

11 A. To our units and to all our collaborators. I don't remember
12 exactly now, but I believe so.

13 Q. How was it distributed?

14 A. Through our units.

15 Q. And was producing written material like this part of the work
16 that the sector for morale did?

17 A. To my recollection, it was part of the work in our zone. Since
18 the organisation, LDKC had agreed to be sheltered with us. We
19 cooperated closely with them. They contributed to such propaganda
20 materials. LKCK.

21 Q. Do you recall what date the agreement with the LKCK was?

22 A. I think it was the beginning of 1998. Maybe it was in January
23 or February.

24 Q. You mentioned that Fatmir Humolli had responsibility for the
25 morale, sector for morale.

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1 A. It may be also Vallon Murati. Now I remember, the one that was
2 with LKCK.

3 Q. When was he appointed to the sector for morale? I'm referring
4 to Fatmir Humolli.

5 A. Fatmir Humolli was, as we described earlier -- we are talking
6 about another sector now. Vallon Murati was the one, because Humolli
7 was responsible for public relations. Sorry, I mixed them up, the
8 sectors.

9 Q. We'll go back over them in a moment.

10 MS. LAWSON: We can take the document off the screen. Thank
11 you.

12 Q. You mentioned Sejdi Rama earlier. Which sector was he
13 responsible for?

14 A. For public information.

15 Q. Who did he report to?

16 A. To the same. To the chief of the zone. I was the commander.

17 THE INTERPRETER: Staff of the zone, correction.

18 MS. LAWSON:

19 Q. Did he have a nickname?

20 A. No.

21 Q. He didn't or you just don't remember or are not aware of it?

22 A. Sejdi Rama was very close to me. I am certain he didn't have a
23 nickname.

24 Q. [Microphone not activated]

25 THE INTERPRETER: Microphone.

1 MS. LAWSON:

2 Q. What were the tasks of the public information sector?

3 A. Mainly work with the media and the television.

4 Q. Were they authorised to issue statements on behalf of the zone?

5 A. Yes, but with my approval.

6 Q. Who else was authorised to issue statements on behalf of the
7 zone?

8 A. Vallon Murati, the head of the sector for morale and politics
9 that we mentioned earlier.

10 Q. And did those statements also require your approval?

11 A. It may be that I was -- I or the chief of staff of my deputy
12 might only be informed of them.

13 Q. Did the Llap zone have contact with KosovaPress?

14 A. You mean the media?

15 Q. I don't mean media generally. I mean the entity KosovaPress.

16 A. I believe yes, but I don't remember now. I am sure they had
17 their phone numbers and had established ways of communication, but it
18 was difficult.

19 Q. So you would communicate with them, for example, by phone?

20 A. Yes, but I don't remember now. But, yes, it was possible.

21 Q. By fax or any other means?

22 A. We didn't have fax.

23 Q. What sort of information would be provided to them?

24 A. We -- these zone superiors worked with the media in general.
25 Prishtine was very close to us, and the media outlets were very

1 present. We worked with the public media but also with foreign media
2 outlets.

3 Q. So referring specifically to KosovaPress, would you, for
4 example, provide them updates on operations?

5 A. I don't think so. I don't remember that there was any specific
6 communication. Any specific way of communication. But I do know
7 that we had their phone numbers and that they could communicate with
8 them.

9 Q. Moving to Avdi Kiqmari, which sector was he the head of?

10 A. The sector of finance.

11 Q. Did he have a nickname?

12 A. Qeli.

13 Q. And who did he report to?

14 A. To the zone staff, just like the others.

15 Q. And when was he appointed to the finance sector?

16 A. Before we, as I said, took to the mountains.

17 Q. Are you referring there to approximately May 1998?

18 A. It may have been earlier, February 1998, when I was a student in
19 Prishtine.

20 Q. You mentioned Muhamet Latifi. Which sector was he responsible
21 for?

22 A. Territorial Defence. Civilian defence we called it.

23 Q. What was that sector responsible for?

24 A. It was responsible for the organisation of people and the units
25 outside the frontal line of the KLA, because our objective was to be

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1 present everywhere, in every village.

2 Q. And did he again report to you, your deputy, and the chief of
3 staff?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. I believe the other person you referred to was Naser Ramadani.
6 Which sector was he responsible for?

7 A. The liaison sector.

8 Q. Did he have a nickname?

9 A. No, he didn't. I don't remember now that he did have.

10 Q. And did he again report to you, your deputy, and the chief of
11 staff?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Was there a personnel sector in the Llap operational zone?

14 A. We thought that Hyzri Talla was to come to that sector, but
15 since he was killed, we left the -- this place vacant. We never
16 filled it.

17 Q. And was there an operations sector?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Who took responsibility for operational matters?

20 A. My deputy and the chief of staff.

21 MS. LAWSON: I'd like to call up a document, please. It's
22 P00149. And the English is the same with ET at the end. Can we
23 please go to the last page.

24 Q. Do you recognise the signature?

25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Whose is it?

2 A. Mine.

3 MS. LAWSON: And we can go back up to the first page, please.

4 Q. Do you recognise the document?

5 A. I believe so. I don't remember accurately, but I accept that it
6 is a document of mine.

7 Q. What is it or what was its purpose?

8 A. To remind people of their tasks and obligations. The persons
9 that were assigned to those positions.

10 Q. Where did these rules come from?

11 A. The chief of staff together with my deputy and other officers
12 had a series of documents, military literature from Albania and also
13 from Yugoslavia. They had made a summary of this. As you can see, I
14 had issued an order, which is now public.

15 We aimed to have these documents distributed to documents --
16 these documents to people, trusted people. It could also be the case
17 that some of these documents were distributed to the media. We
18 needed to present the Kosovo Liberation Army as orderly as possible.

19 Q. I'll ask the question more specifically. Were the rules based
20 on anything received from the General Staff?

21 A. There might have been someone who had in mind documents of the
22 General Staff at the time. However, to me, this is a document that
23 was compiled, prepared by my officers. More precisely, officers of
24 my staff.

25 Q. When you say it "might have been," are you confirming that that

1 was the case?

2 A. If the officers read any documents issued by the General Staff,
3 they might have taken parts of it. But what I'm saying is this is a
4 document issued by my officers and my staff. Now, they might have as
5 well taken documents, rules from other sources, any sources
6 available.

7 MS. LAWSON: Your Honours, I would like to put a small portion
8 of his SPO transcript to the witness, please.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: You have a prior inconsistent statement?

10 MS. LAWSON: That's correct, Your Honour.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: [Microphone not activated]

12 MS. LAWSON: That's correct.

13 MR. MISETIC: Well -- okay. Thank you. I just wanted to
14 clarify if it's for purposes of impeaching him or purposes of the
15 truth of the matter --

16 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: It can be both.

17 MR. MISETIC: Okay.

18 MS. LAWSON: The reference in English is Part 12, page 16 for
19 the benefit of the parties.

20 Q. And you say:

21 "So this is an explanation for these set of rules, how the
22 sector should operate. So the tasks and responsibilities of the
23 chief of staff and the tasks and responsibilities of everybody else.
24 So these rules are from the General Staff of the Kosovo Liberation
25 Army, which were adapted to for the zone which I was leading. Yeah,

1 well, my staff probably prepared the document and I signed it and
2 it's my document."

3 Is that accurate?

4 A. I don't see any discrepancies. I'm saying the same thing. They
5 could receive these rules from various -- any sources available.

6 MR. MISETIC: Mr. President, again, I don't see the
7 inconsistency in what he said in court and what she just read to him.

8 MS. LAWSON: I was about to clarify with my following question.

9 MR. MISETIC: Okay.

10 MS. LAWSON:

11 Q. So you don't say there that these documents are from any source.
12 You say:

13 "... these rules are from the General Staff of the Kosovo
14 Liberation Army, which were adapted to for the zone which I was
15 leading."

16 A. Ms. Prosecutor, this document might -- could have used sources
17 from the General Staff, from the military literature from Albania or
18 from Yugoslavia. So it's a summary of rules. And I have distributed
19 this to my sectors in the operative zone of Llap. But they can also
20 come from the General Staff of the Kosovo Liberation Army.

21 Q. And in fact they did; isn't that right? It was one of the
22 sources used.

23 A. Certainly.

24 Q. On page 1 of the document, there's a reference to a secret
25 administrative order dated 23 December 1998. What did that order

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1 relate to? It's under the personnel sector heading.

2 A. I don't remember. But from what I can see, it's "secret"
3 between brackets.

4 Q. Does "secret" between brackets mean anything in particular?

5 A. Inverted commas. So I don't -- yeah, I think it was not secret
6 at all. As I said, our purpose was to probably even make public this
7 statement. Again, I'm not certain. We wanted to portray ourselves
8 as a functional army. I didn't remember why the word "secret" was
9 there but that it was in inverted commas.

10 Q. I understand.

11 MS. LAWSON: We can take the document down now.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Mr. Misetić, did you have a comment?

13 MR. MISETIĆ: I do not. We just couldn't see the bottom of the
14 page and it was corrected. So thank you.

15 MS. LAWSON:

16 Q. How many brigades were there in the Llap operational zone?

17 A. Three brigades.

18 Q. When were they each established?

19 A. The first one was formed in July, I think. July or August. The
20 second one in September. And towards the end of the year, the third
21 one was formed.

22 Q. And in each case you're referring to 1998; correct?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. Were the brigades numbered?

25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. What numbers did they have?

2 A. 151, 152, and 153.

3 Q. Who were the commanders of each of those brigades?

4 A. Idriz Shabani, from the beginning to the end, he was the
5 commander of Brigade 151. Nuredin Ibishi was initially the commander
6 of Brigade 152, and then Arif Muqolli succeeded him. Sejdi Veseli
7 was the commander initially of Brigade 153, and then Adem Shehu.

8 Q. Do you recall when Adem Shehu took over from Sejdi Veseli?

9 A. I am not sure.

10 Q. And do you recall approximately when Arif Muqolli took over from
11 Nuredin Ibishi?

12 A. It could have been October or November 1998 when Arif Muqolli
13 took over.

14 Q. Did Arif Muqolli have a nickname?

15 A. Profa.

16 Q. Did Idriz Shabani have a nickname?

17 A. Luta.

18 Q. Who appointed the commanders of those brigades?

19 A. I did.

20 Q. Where were the headquarters of the brigades located? And if it
21 changed over time, please explain that.

22 A. Depending on the front line, they would change their base.
23 Brigade 152 stayed mostly in Bradash, 151 in Burice, and 153 in
24 Zllash. They frequently changed their location.

25 Q. And approximately what geographic areas did each of the brigades

1 have responsibility for?

2 A. This was not clearly defined. But the frontal line, as we
3 referred to earlier, was divided between 151 and 152, and the meeting
4 point of these two zones was Llapashtice. Whereas on the eastern
5 side, Brigade 153 -- where 153 was in Zllash, they covered a small
6 area, territory which we could refer to as a free zone, as we used to
7 say at that time.

8 Q. Approximately what time period did that free zone around Zllash
9 last for?

10 A. I am not certain.

11 Q. And just for clarification, was the 151 Brigade to the north of
12 Llapashtice and the 152 to the south or the other way around, along
13 the front line?

14 A. The other way around. From Majac to Llapashtice was 151.

15 Q. Who did the brigade commanders report to?

16 A. All units in the -- on the Llap operative zone reported to the
17 command, zone command, which was led by me.

18 Q. Were the brigade commanders part of the zone command?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And were their units or companies falling under the brigade
21 commanders?

22 A. We tried to organise as best as possible. They had their own
23 units, battalions, companies, down to platoons. However, they were
24 not organised as regular armies we have in mind today.

25 Q. Who was Batusha? Do you recognise the name?

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1 A. Yes, he was deputy commander in Brigade 151.

2 Q. Were there military police in the Llap operational zone?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. At what level? And I mean command level in the structure.

5 A. At the zone level and brigade level.

6 Q. Who did the military police at the brigade level report to?

7 A. To the brigade commander. And they were subordinated with the
8 police unit of the zone.

9 Q. So they also fell under the military police at the zone level;
10 is that correct?

11 A. They were not under their command, but they were together
12 subordinated.

13 Q. At the zone level, who was in charge of the military police?

14 A. Nazif Mehmeti.

15 Q. Did he have a nickname?

16 A. Dini.

17 Q. Who appointed him?

18 A. I did with my staff.

19 Q. Was he a member of the zone command?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Who did he report to?

22 A. To the zone command. To the chief of staff, my deputy, and
23 myself.

24 Q. What were the tasks of Nazif Mehmeti's unit?

25 A. Guarding and taking care of the buildings, premises in the

1 Kosovo Liberation Army.

2 Q. Did that include guarding the detention facilities in the
3 building -- in the KLA bases?

4 A. Yes, that too.

5 Q. And did they also provide escort, for example, for people coming
6 to visit the zone?

7 A. They could do -- could have done that too.

8 Q. When was the military police established in the Llap zone?

9 A. All units were formed one after the other, and the -- and the
10 police started functioning, working some time in mid-1998.

11 Q. Is that the summer of 1998? July, for example?

12 A. Could be even earlier. I don't remember the exact date.

13 Q. But they were in existence -- or were they in existence at the
14 time you were based at Bajgore?

15 A. Yes, I think they were being formed.

16 Q. And what time period was the headquarters based in Bajgore?

17 A. I believe it was from July until the middle of September. Or
18 from end of June. I'm not sure.

19 Q. Had you received any instruction to establish military police
20 units?

21 A. I don't remember instructions. But I do know that when
22 Nuredin Ibishi joined us, he had good pedagogical knowledge about the
23 police. And we decided to bring in a considerable number of former
24 police officers that were in the Kosovo police service before and
25 entrust them with important policing tasks.

1 MS. LAWSON: Your Honour, again, I'd like to use the prior
2 statement, please, to assist the witness's memory.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: [Microphone not activated]

4 MS. LAWSON: And the reference for the parties is Part 9,
5 page 7.

6 Q. There you were asked:

7 "But was it a General Staff instruction to establish the
8 military police unit?"

9 And your response was: "Yes."

10 Was that correct? Was that -- there a General Staff instruction
11 to establish military police units?

12 A. I am certain that the instruction came after we had established
13 and made it -- made the military police units functional.

14 Q. So there was an instruction; yes?

15 A. The instruction came certainly later when the Kosovo Liberation
16 Army started organising at a national level better. But we had
17 already established and organised the police units within the Kosovo
18 Liberation Army.

19 Q. I understand the point you're making about timing. But is the
20 answer "yes" to the question of whether there was a General Staff
21 instruction to establish military police units?

22 MR. MISETIC: Mr. President, I believe it's been asked and
23 answered and the witness is clear.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: You may answer.

25 THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Yes, there was an instruction.

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1 However, irrespective of the instruction, we had already started the
2 organisation of the military police before that.

3 MS. LAWSON:

4 Q. Were the military police in uniform?

5 A. Yes, depending on the conditions and circumstances. At times,
6 we didn't have uniforms ourselves. But with the passing of time, we
7 were equipped with uniforms.

8 Q. What did they wear?

9 A. Anything they could make, but we -- the orientation was towards
10 dark, black colour. We call it black.

11 Q. Were there also special units that operated in the Llap zone?

12 A. Yes. There was the special unit in the zone and the special
13 unit in the brigade, but they were all in the process of being
14 established. They were not fully organised.

15 Q. What were the names of those units?

16 A. Special unit. For example, the zone special unit, which I knew
17 better because they were closer to me, they had the number 106, the
18 communication code. We called it a commando unit, special unit.

19 Q. And who did that special unit report to?

20 A. To the operative staff led by my deputy and the chief of staff
21 and to me.

22 Q. Who was the commander of that special unit?

23 A. His first name is Sabit. I can't remember his family name. We
24 used his nickname, Iliri. He's not alive.

25 Q. You mentioned that there was also a special unit at brigade

1 level. What unit was that?

2 A. The brigades know better. However, they had instructions. And
3 I believe the rapid intervention units, special units coming in
4 support of other units were functional.

5 Q. I'll be more specific. Do you remember the BIA unit?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What does BIA stand for?

8 A. It's the acronyms of three names -- initials of three names of
9 martyrs, Bahri, Ilir and Agron.

10 Q. What areas did that unit operate in?

11 A. Mostly in the -- in Prishtine, in town, and also in the villages
12 surrounding Prishtine.

13 Q. When was the unit formed? When was it established?

14 A. They were formed earlier on. However, following the agreement
15 we entered into with the LKCK, as I mentioned earlier, they were
16 admitted, accepted as their special unit.

17 Q. And who did that unit report to?

18 A. They might have -- they could report to the command staff.
19 However, given the nature of their work, they reported to
20 Brigade 153.

21 Q. Did they also report to the command staff? So did they report
22 both to the command staff and Brigade 153?

23 A. I don't remember now how it was exactly. I received information
24 about this unit mostly through Fatmir Humolli. This unit operated
25 mostly in the area of collecting goods and supplies for the Kosovo

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1 Liberation Army, including medicine and other supplies which --
2 because they were capable to easily access Prishtine, to go in and
3 out of Prishtine.

4 Q. Where did the unit have its bases?

5 A. They mostly stayed in Prishtine, to my knowledge, but also in
6 the villages around Gollak. They stayed everywhere. They didn't
7 have a specific location.

8 Q. Who was the commander of that unit?

9 A. Veseli Mustafa.

10 MS. LAWSON: Your Honours, I see the time, and now is a good
11 time to stop if that suits.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: [Microphone not activated]

13 THE INTERPRETER: Correction: The name was Salih Mustafa, not
14 Veseli.

15 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We will adjourn now today until 9.00
16 tomorrow. Thank you for being here today. The Court Usher will
17 escort you out.

18 [The witness stands down]

19 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Being in public session, we are
20 adjourned until 9.00 a.m. tomorrow.

21 --- Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.02 p.m.

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