Procedural Matters (Private Session)

Page 4107

1	Wednesday, 17 May 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	We continue on with the cross-examination of 4748 by the Selimi
13	team, and we will go into private session at this time.
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21	[Open session]
22	THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session.
23	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We are going to take our break. It will
24	be a 40-minute break rather than 30 minutes because of the technical
25	issues for getting prepared for the next witness, so we will see you

KSC-OFFICIAL

Kosovo Specialist	Chambers	-	Basic	Court
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	ess: W04748 (Resumed)(Private Session) Page 416 xamination by Mr. Halling	;4
1	back here at 11.40, and we'll begin at that time.	
2	Recess taken at 11.01 a.m.	
3	On resuming at 11.41 a.m.	
4	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Please, into private session for the	
5	protection of the witness.	
6	[Private session]	
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Procedural Matters (Private Session)

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Procedural Matters (Private Session)

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17 May 2023

Procedural Matters (Private Session)

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KSC-BC-2020-06

17 May 2023

Procedural Matters (Private Session)

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04748 (Resumed)(Private Session) Further Cross-examination by Mr. Kehoe

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04748 (Resumed)(Private Session) Further Cross-examination by Mr. Kehoe

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04748 (Resumed) (Private Session) Further Cross-examination by Mr. Kehoe

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04748 (Resumed) (Private Session) Further Cross-examination by Mr. Kehoe

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04748 (Resumed) (Private Session) Further Cross-examination by Mr. Kehoe

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KSC-OFFICIAL

Procedural Matters (Private Session)

[Private session text removed] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 [Open session] 11 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session. 12 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We are adjourned until 2.30. 13 --- Luncheon recess taken at 1.05 p.m. 14 --- On resuming at 2.30 p.m. 15 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We can go into private session for the 16 protection of the witness. 17 [Private session] 18 [Private session text removed] 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

KSC-OFFICIAL

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Procedural Matters (Private Session)

[Private session text removed] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 [Open session] 15 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session. 16 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We have now nearly finished the evidence 17 of the first four witnesses. I anticipated this witness being 18 finished by now, but we are close. 19 This Panel is concerned by the fact that almost all of the 20 evidence up till now has been heard in private or closed session. 21 We remind the parties that pursuant to Article 21(2) of the Law, the 22 accused are entitled to a fair and public hearing, subject to Article 23 23 of the Law and any protective measures ordered by this Court, and 24

that there is a public interest in these proceedings taking place, to

KSC-BC-2020-06

Procedural Matters (Open Session)

Page 4208

1 the extent possible, in a public fashion.

The Panel also recalls that in paragraph (1) on the Order on Conduct of Proceedings it has ordered the parties and participants to respect the public character of the proceedings. The Panel ruled that the legal arguments and presentation of evidence by the parties and participants shall be heard in closed or private session only when strictly necessary in accordance Rule 120 of the rules.

8 Regrettably, however, a large portion of this trial so far has 9 been in closed or private session. The need for protection of 10 witnesses does, of course, provide justification for the protective 11 measures ordered by the Panel, which will in turn affect the 12 publicity of the proceedings. This is necessary to protect witnesses 13 and to prevent attempts at interfering with them.

At the same time, it is important that this trial remains public, and the Panel is concerned that it is becoming less public than it could be.

The Panel will, therefore, seek submissions from the parties regarding concrete steps that could be taken by the parties and the Panel to ensure a greater degree of publicity of these proceedings.

20

And this, by the way, is an oral order.

The parties are hereby informed that the Panel may consider ordering the parties to propose public redacted versions of the transcripts of private or closed session testimonies so that the public can understand what is happening in this trial.

25 However, should the parties, through *inter partes* discussions,

KSC-BC-2020-06

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Procedural Matters (Open Session)

1 come up with alternative solutions to this issue, the Panel will take 2 your proposals very seriously into consideration to achieve greater 3 publicity. The parties are, therefore, ordered to engage in 4 *inter partes* on this matter and to submit in writing to the Panel, by 5 Wednesday, 31 May, possible solutions on how to ensure greater 6 publicity of these proceedings.

In the meantime for the next witnesses, the parties are instructed to duly take into account the principle of publicity when requesting that parts of the witness's testimony be heard in private or closed session.

And I'm adding this to what I said: We will not object to going in and out of closed session. We understand that's just part of the process in a case of this kind.

We trust that counsel will exercise their good judgment in organising their questioning in a manner that promotes publicity. And by that I mean, we could easily bring in the witness - and, in fact, I hope we do that in a few minutes when we get to the next witness - and get the identification materials out of the way at the outset, and then move into public session and do what we can until something comes up that is private and necessary to protect.

21 We also trust that counsel will be particularly careful not to 22 disclose confidential information during public hearings and will 23 formulate their questions in such a way as to avoid such occurrences. 24 This concludes the oral order.

25

MR. EMMERSON: Your Honours, since we're in public session, I

KSC-BC-2020-06

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

think it's only right, because anybody listening to that order might 1 gain the impression that the Defence has been in some way responsible 2 for the fact that the Court has sat in private entirely since the 3 beginning of the trial. 4 I'd like, if I may, to put on record that every application, 5 every deviation from open justice that has happened in this case is 6 as a result of the Prosecution request being granted by the Panel. 7 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We didn't make this order in order to 8 cast blame. 9 10 MR. EMMERSON: No, it -- [Microphone not activated]. THE INTERPRETER: Microphone, please. 11 MR. EMMERSON: It may not have been made with that intention. 12 But since it's one of the few things about this trial that the public 13 14 has been able to see, it was worded in a way which appeared to suggest that all counsel were somehow complicit in the private nature 15 of these proceedings and that is not the case. 16 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: There have been moments when somebody 17 violated one of the rules and mentioned a name of somebody who was 18 protected, and that didn't come necessarily just from the 19 Prosecution. There have been some breaches - innocent breaches, I'm 20 not saying they're at fault --21 MR. EMMERSON: Your Honour, we haven't had any public 22 sessions --23 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: I'm speaking. There were innocent 24 breaches and it causes a problem. 25

KSC-BC-2020-06

PUBLIC

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Procedural Matters (Private Session)

Page 4211

1	MR. EMMERSON: Yes.
2	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: And we have to be more cognisant of the
3	problem in order to avoid those kind of breaches.
4	MR. EMMERSON: Except it hasn't caused a problem because we have
5	been in private session the entire time and, therefore, it can be
6	redacted, as Your Honour suggested, from the transcript.
7	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: [Microphone not activated].
8	MR. EMMERSON: What I am concerned about, with respect, is that
9	the impression that will have been left with the public, from the
10	order that you have just given in public, is that the Defence are
11	somehow complicit or otherwise consenting to the situation that has
12	emerged in which this trial is taking place in private.
13	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: And that is exactly the kind of
14	statement that gets in the way of people trying to solve the problem,
15	so I would ask you to put that aside and try to deal with this in a
16	responsible adult manner.
17	Now you may bring the witness in.
18	[Trial Panel and Court Officer confers]
19	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Public session, I'm sorry. I mean
20	private session.
21	[Private session]
22	[Private session text removed]
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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04748 (Resumed) (Private Session) Further Cross-examination by Mr. Kehoe

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04748 (Resumed) (Private Session) Further Cross-examination by Mr. Kehoe

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04748 (Resumed) (Private Session) Further Cross-examination by Mr. Emmerson

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Procedural Matters (Private Session)

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20 [Open session]

22 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Please go into open session if we are 23 not already.

--- On resuming at 3.13 p.m.

THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we are in open session. PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: All right. And in open session I can

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Procedural Matters (Open Session)

state that we finished with the last witness, and we can now proceed 1 with the evidence on Prosecution Witness 3165. 2 So, Madam Usher, please bring the witness in. 3 MS. MAYER: Your Honour, if I --4 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't see you. 5 MS. MAYER: If I may just have a moment. The computer is not 6 logging me in very quickly, so I can log into this other computer, 7 but if I could just ask the Court's indulgence for just another 8 moment --9 10 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Sure, that's fine. MS. MAYER: -- to make sure I have the materials up. 11 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: You can bring the witness in, anyway. 12 MS. MAYER: Again, if I may, as you're bringing the witness in. 13 As Your Honour said at the last session, I would ask to do the 14 personal details but also the 154 statement. One of the issues with 15 this witness, as was briefed in the protective measures motion, is 16 [REDACTED] Pursuant to In-Court Redaction Order F1535. 17 [REDACTED] Pursuant to In-Court Redaction Order F1535. 18

So if we go into the specifics of verifying that statement, that will reveal the witness's identity potentially. I'm mindful of the Court's direction. I have two areas of the examination plan that I believe are general enough that will not reveal their identity. We also, obviously, are committed to Your Honours' instructions in the decision of yesterday directing us to review all of the testimony and provide to the Court by June 1st an answer as to what could be made

KSC-BC-2020-06

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

But because the details of [REDACTED] Pursuant to public afterwards. 1 In-Court Redaction Order F1535. testimony are so intertwined with where the events occurred, with the fact of who the 2 relative is, those matters, I'm concerned about doing that in open 3 session. But I do have two areas that I believe we can do in open 4 session. 5 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We may have more questions for you about 6 that at the time. As we said, we can open session and close session 7 when you get to that particular part. If you need to make reference 8 9 to the judgment that you're talking about or the court session, you can find a way to work around that or we can close session while you 10 mention that. All right? 11 MS. MAYER: Understood, Your Honour. So are we going to be in 12 13 private session and then we'll ask to go to public session? Is that right? 14 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: No, we're starting in public session --15 oh, you want to start with the personal ID. We will go into private 16 session once we get the witness in for that brief section. 17 MS. MAYER: Thank you, Your Honour. 18 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: All right. 19 [Trial Panel confers] 20 [The witness entered court] 21 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: One other thing. Please, everyone, be 22 conscious of your microphones. And that goes for me, too. We need 23 to not leave them on, because especially over here you're very close 24 to the witness's stand. 25

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W03165 (Open Session) Procedural Matters Page 4230

1	Good afternoon, Witness. The Court Usher will now provide you
2	with the text of the solemn declaration which you are asked to take
3	pursuant to Rule 141(2) of our Rules of Procedure and Evidence.
4	Please read it aloud.
5	THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Conscious of the significance of
6	my testimony and my legal responsibility, I solemnly declare that I
7	will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and
8	that I shall not withhold anything which has come to my knowledge.
9	WITNESS: W03165
10	[Witness answered through interpreter]
11	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you, Witness. You may be seated.
12	THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Thank you.
13	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Witness, today we will start with your
14	testimony, which is expected to last approximately two days. As you
15	may know, the Prosecution will ask questions first. Once they are
16	done, the Defence has the right to ask you questions. Members of the
17	Panel might also ask questions of you.
18	The Prosecution estimate for your examination is two hours. The
19	Defence estimates that it will need seven hours. As regards each
20	estimate, we hope that counsel will be judicious in the use of their
21	time. The Panel may allow redirect examination if conditions for it
22	are met.
23	Witness, please try to answer the questions clearly with short
24	sentences. If you don't understand a question, feel free to ask
25	counsel to repeat the question or tell them you don't understand and

Witness: W03165 (Open Session) Procedural Matters Page 4231

1 they will clarify.

Also, please try to indicate the basis of your knowledge of facts and circumstances which you will be asked about.

In the event you are asked by the SPO to attest to some corrections made regarding your statements, you are reminded to confirm on the record that the written statement, as corrected by the list of corrections, accurately reflects your declaration.

8 Please also speak into the microphone and wait five seconds 9 before answering a question, and speak at a slow pace for the 10 interpreters to catch up.

During the next days while you are giving evidence in this Court, you are not allowed to discuss with anyone the content of your testimony outside of the courtroom or anywhere else. If any person asks you questions outside this Court about your testimony, please let us know.

The Panel understands that the SPO has hard copies of your prior witness statements for you to reference during your testimony possibly if that is needed. If you cannot recall something and, therefore, wish to consult those documents to refresh your memory, please notify the Panel before doing so. I repeat that this should only be done in the event that you need to make the reference because you cannot recall. You should not read directly from any document.

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

25

And Madam Prosecutor will begin her questions now, but we will

KSC-BC-2020-06

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness:	W03	3165	5 (P:	rivate	Session)
Examinat	ion	by	Ms.	Mayer	

1	go into private session for purposes of dealing with your personal
2	information for your own protection.
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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W03165 (Open Session) Examination by Ms. Mayer

[Open session] 1 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session. 2 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Go ahead. 3 MS. MAYER: 4 Witness, you said that you saw men with firearms. I want to Q. 5 focus your attention on that. How close were you when you first saw 6 7 them? I was about 3 to 4 metres away. Α. 8 That was when you first saw them, you said 3 to 4 metres away 9 Q. 10 when you first saw the men? No, the last time I saw them. When I met them, I was about 3 to 11 Α. 4 metres away. 12 I want to start with when you first saw them. How far away were 13 Ο. 14 you when you first saw them? I was about 150 to 200 metres away when I first saw them. Α. 15 And did you stand still or did you move towards them? Q. 16 Α. I went to another route in order for me to stop the case. 17 When you say you went on another route, can you explain what you 18 Q. mean by that? 19 There was this other route. There was this shortcut. It was a 20 Α. shortcut. And I just wanted to shorten the route to see them. 21 And why did you want to get -- to catch up to them or to see 22 Q. 23 them? 24 Α. I listened to the shouts, and I knew that my relatives were taken in a car by people that were wearing masks. 25

KSC-BC-2020-06

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court Witness: W03165 (Open Session) Examination by Ms. Mayer I want to focus on what the people were wearing. Can you tell Ο. the Judges what the people were wearing? Yes. They were wearing black uniforms with the insignia of the Α. Kosovo Liberation Army, and they were wearing black masks over their faces as well. When you say it was insignia of the KLA, can you describe what Ο. you saw, the insignia, for the Judges? So there is this circle where there is the KLA. That was the Α. insignia that we wore, the people that were with the KLA wore. And this was the insignia that you saw on the men in black who Ο. took your relative? Α. Yes. You mention that "we" wore that insignia. Who do you mean when Ο. you say "we"? The soldiers that were uniformed. The Kosovo Liberation Army Α. soldiers. PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Counsellor, we need to break for the day. Do you have one more question or are we finished with that particular line? MS. MAYER: I have two more questions in this line that I can finish very quickly, Your Honour. PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Go ahead and ask those. MS. MAYER: Ο. Where was this insignia located on their clothing? The shoulder. Α.

KSC-BC-2020-06

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1	Q. How close were you to the men when you saw that insignia?
2	A. 3, 4 metres away.
3	Q. Thank you, Witness.
4	MS. MAYER: This is a good stopping point, Your Honour.
5	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you.
6	Witness, we will end our session for today. You will start
7	again tomorrow morning at 9.00. Thank you for being with us. The
8	Court Usher will escort you out of the room.
9	Please stay in public session.
10	THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Thank you.
11	[The witness stands down]
12	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Mr. Emmerson, yes, sir.
13	MR. EMMERSON: May I make an oral application to the Court for
14	an order that the Prosecution review their pleading as submitted in
15	relation to adjudicated facts and indicate which adjudicated facts it
16	now continues to seek to rely upon so that we're in a position to
17	respond. Because, clearly, what occurred at the end of the last
18	witness requires now a clarification of the position of the
19	Prosecution on its entire list of adjudicated facts. The case cannot
20	continue with the Prosecution maintaining a Janus-faced or
21	forked-tongue position in relation to the truth or otherwise of the
22	witness that they're relying on.
23	So we would respectfully request an order with a time limit that
24	the Prosecution review at the very least those particular adjudicated
25	facts relating to the two individuals concerned, the two named
KSC-B	C-2020-06 17 May 2023

Procedural Matters (Open Session)

Page 4251

individuals concerned, the two named victims, and that they provide 1 their up-to-date position. Because at the moment, their position 2 remains on the record extant, we're awaiting a ruling from 3 Your Honours, which appears to be somewhat different from the 4 position they're asking Your Honours now to believe. 5 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We will take that under advisement and 6 make a decision. 7 While we're in open session, I also will rule on the admission 8 of Exhibits 2D6 and 2D7 which were marked for identification earlier. 9 10 They were submitted by the Veseli Defence. I first turn to Exhibit 2D6, which contains a medical record and 11 a related extract from the records of the Sabit Geci et al trial. In 12 Albanian, it is SITF00018880 and SITF00370180. In English, 13 14 SITF00018867, as well as SITF00370160 to SITF00370161. The Panel is prepared to admit the first page, that is the 15 Albanian version SITF00018880, and in the English version with the 16 number previously noted. 17 This is to ensure that this part of the questioning is complete 18 and fully understandable. Therefore, pursuant to Article 40(6)(h) of 19 the Law and the Rule 138(1) of the rules, the first page of 20 21 Exhibit 2D6, both in Albanian and English, is admitted. The second part of 2D6, however, is in fact a statement being 22 offered for the truth of its content. As such, it is subject to 23 Rules 153 to 155. If the Defence wishes to tender it, it will, 24 therefore, have to do so in accordance with these rules. However, 25

KSC-BC-2020-06

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Procedural Matters (Open Session)

Page 4252

1	the relevant parts of the doctor who treated Mr. Geci was already
2	placed on the transcript and commented upon by the witness. There is
3	no benefit to adding the actual statement to the record and no
4	prejudice to the Defence.
5	The remaining page or pages of 2D6 and 2D6-ET are therefore not
6	admitted.
7	With respect to Exhibit 2D7, which is SITF00299827 to
8	SITF00299830, which are the subject of SITF00299825-00299851 RED,
9	which is the UNMIK witness statement of Shaban Krasniqi, the Panel is
10	not prepared to admit this statement.
11	As a statement and being offered for the truth of its content,
12	it is subject to Rules 153 to 155. If the Defence wishes to tender
13	it, it will therefore have to do so in accordance with these rules.
14	At this point, the Panel will not admit Exhibit 2D7.
15	This concludes our proceedings for today. We will reconvene at
16	9.00 tomorrow morning. Thank you for your attendance today, and we
17	are adjourned.
18	Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.07 p.m.
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