# INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMITTED IN THE-TERRITORY OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA SINCE 1991

# AMALGAMATED WITNESS STATEMENT

WITNESS INFORMATION:

Name:

Šefik HURKO

Date of Birth:

22 November 1957

Gender:

Male

Ethnic Origin:

**Bosniak** 

Religion:

Islam

OTP representatives present on 1 September 2011:

Fergal-Gaynor, Trial Attorney Zlata Divković, Interpreter

Signature:

This statement represents an amalgamation of parts of a statement given at CSB Sarajevo on 16 November 1994, a statement made to members of the Office of the Prosecutor of the ICTY ("ICTY Statement") on 24 January 1999, and further information given to members of the Office of the Prosecutor of the ICTY on 1 September 2011.

## **Background**

- 1. I lived and worked in Sarajevo from 2 April 1992, when I took a bus home in order to rest and celebrate Bayram. The bus I took to Rogatica was stopped and searched at Stjenice by Serbian soldiers from Sokolac, none of whom I knew. After they had searched us and checked our identity, we had no problems with them, and we continued our journey.
- 2. I stayed in the neighbourhood of Rudo with my father, my mother and my family from 6 April 1992, when I heard on the radio that Sarajevo was being shelled. My father became worried because of that too and, at his proposal, we decided to go to our family house in the village of Mader. As soon as we arrived in the village, we organised night watches together with the other inhabitants. We were poorly armed, and I had a CZ M 57 7.62 mm pistol.
- 3. It was relatively calm until 22 May 1992, when heavy small arms fire was opened on our village from the surrounding hills. In the immediate vicinity of our village lies the village of Leleci. The neighbours from that village told us that the Chetniks might soon attack the village of Mader. The person who was most often in contact with the Serbian inhabitants of Leleci was my father Fejzo. Mijo LELEK was a good friend of his. After receiving information of a possible Chetnik attack, all of us from the village of Mader hid in the woods above the houses of Leleci. We spent around a month and a half there, and we had no problems with our neighbours from Leleci. [...]
- 4. I have been shown a copy of a document, which appears to be issued by Rajko KUŠIĆ, addressed to the Supreme Command of the Serbian Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to the Sokolac TO commander. KUŠIĆ says "we conducted armed operations" with the military police on 22 May 1992 on "enemy strongholds" in a number of Muslim villages, including "Kopljevići", and "Rudo 2", which is a neighbourhood in Rogatica. Mader is next to Kopjevići. This document says that there were "enemy strongholds" in these Muslim locations. I know this area very well. I was in the area at the time. There were absolutely no "enemy strongholds" in these areas. These were Mulim civilian areas.<sup>1</sup>
- 5. I have also been shown a copy of a document dated 23 May 1992, which appears to be issued by Rajko KUŠIĆ, ordering units to hold their positions in certain villages in Rogatica municipality, and ordering the mopping up of Oškoplje, Kusturice, Zakoma and Kalimanići. Oškoplje, Kusturice and Kalimanići are Muslim. Zakoma is mixed. In this, he orders that "all units are to carry out destruction of personnel without hesitation". This document is consistent with what I saw: there was an attack on many Muslim villages in Rogatica municipality on 22 May 1992 and the following days.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 65 ter 07859 in Karadžić. Paragraph added on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 65 ter 08538 in Karadžić. Paragraph added on 1 September 2011.

# Arrest and detention at garage belonging to Mićo Andrić: 14 August 1992

- 6. On 14 August 1992, I-was forced to go to the village of Mader and get some food, although my wife Džemila, née SARAČEVIĆ, tried to dissuade me. I started out towards the village with Ahmed DŽUBRO. We went to the village of Orahovo together, and then we went our separate ways. I arrived in Mader and went to our hut, where my mother, Izeta was. She told me-that my father was working in the field. Some 15 to 20 minutes after my arrival, intense small arms fire began. Since bullets were flying all over the place, I hid in-aditch with my mother.
- 7. When the shooting subsided, I heard somebody calling my mother, and I got up from the ditch. I saw four Serb³ soldiers, my father and my uncle. Among the soldiers, I recognised Milisav PEČENICA from the village of Kosovo, born in 1957 dark, around 175 cm tall, medium build, has a moustache, and Dragomir ABAZOVIĆ also known as Pide, born in 1958, from the village of Gnionik, around 175 cm tall, dark-brown hair, burly build. As soon as I emerged, they told me to lie down and asked me to surrender my weapons. Since I did not have a weapon, PEČENICA told the others not to beat me. He told me that from that moment on I was a prisoner.
- 8. They took me, my father, my mother and my uncle Abdulah HURKO<sup>4</sup> to the village of Kosovo. They took us to a garage by the house of Mićo<sup>5</sup> ANDRIĆ. A large group of armed Chetniks in uniform-was in the garage.
- 9. They began beating me and my father instantly. I was beaten by a man called Brane Krsmanović from Rogatica, and another Chetnik Stojan Perković. Krsmanović then stabbed me in the hand with a knife; I still have a scar on my hand from this. 8
- 10. When they had beaten me up, good and proper, I saw that my father, Fejza was lying, covered in blood, on the garage floor. A burly man with an exceptionally big moustache stood by and watched the whole incident quietly. After some time, he asked me if I knew him. When I said no, he asked that I take a good look at him. When I repeated I did not know him, somewhat proudly he introduced himself as Commander Rajko KUŠIĆ. All the time, my mother kept asking the Chetniks not to beat me any more.

## Kušić questions Witness

11. Then Rajko KUŠIĆ ordered his escort Danko NERIĆ from Rogatica, aged around 25, skinny, with very black hair, around 180-cm tall, to take me out of the garage so that he could question me. I was taken out of the garage with NERIĆ's gun pointed at my back. Outside the garage, I could still hear them beating my father inside. KUŠIĆ asked me about the deployment and strength of our soldiers. That did not last long, and then he ordered them to stop beating me and my father. They led me into the garage again. PIĐE came in, and KUŠIĆ asked PIĐE what to do with them. PIĐE said that KUŠIĆ should bring me and my parents to Rogatica, but not my uncle Abdulah. We have

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Six" changed to "four", and "aggressor's" changed to "Serb" on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> URKO changed to HURKO by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Name corrected by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Name corrected by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Name provided by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Sentence clarified by witness on 1 September 2011.

- never seen Abdulah again. As we were leaving, I saw Brane Krsmanović and Stojan Perković beating my uncle-Abdulah. I believe that he was killed at the garage by Brane Krsmanović and Stojan Perković.<sup>9</sup>
- 12. When we were arrested, I had a packet of 70 bullets and my father had my 7.62 mm pistol. At the garage, Rajko KUŠIĆ ordered that we be searched, and they found this packet of bullets on me. They had earlier, in the village, found the pistol on my father. Stojan Perković hit me on the head with the packet of bullets, which then went all over the garage. Perković cursed me-and forced me to eat three of the bullets; I swallowed the three bullets. (I have read the judgement of the Court of BiH of 24 December 2009 which records Perković's admission that he forced me to eat the bullets; the Court sent the judgement to me as I testified in that trial.) Rajko KUŠIĆ was present when Perković forced me to eat the bullets. Krsmanović would beat me for a while while Perković beat my father; then they would swap and Perković would beat me and Krsmanović would beat my father. Rajko KUŠIĆ was present while we were being beaten. 10
- 13. I have been shown a copy of another document, which appears to be issued by Rajko KUŠIĆ, to the Main Staff of the VRS and to SRK Command. KUŠIĆ refers to "enemy forces" on 14 August 1992 in the villages of Orahovo and "Kopjevice", which appears to be a reference to Kopjevići. I was arrested in Mađer, next to Kopjevići, on 14 August 1992. The men who arrested me were under KUŠIĆ's command, as far as I knew, and they handed me over to KUŠIĆ. 11

# Detention at Rogatica Secondary School Centre

- 14. My father, my mother and I were taken by car to the Secondary School Centre in Rogatica and imprisoned there. This was in the evening of 14 August 1992, and Rajko\_KUŠIĆ was in the car with us. 12 We found 35 to 40 Muslim men, women and children there. I shared the room with Kemo ŠOŠO who used to work with KUŠIĆ and his family. KUŠIĆ ordered Kemo's wife to give us some food right away. Although I was too afraid to have any appetite, I forced myself to eat the food. Then KUŠIĆ said that my father had to be interrogated further, and took him away. I heard from my father later that he had spent the night in Rogatica police station. Apart from the ŠOŠO family, there was a man called HODŽIĆ there with his family and another man and his family I only knew this other man was a plumber by profession.
- 15. The following day, 15 August 1992, 13 Danko NERIĆ and KRSMANOVIĆ 14 came to pick me up in a car. My father, Fejzo was already-in the back of the car. We started to drive towards the village of Kosovo right away. Behind us was a FAP truck driven by Sinan ĆATIĆ from Kozadari. They left me and my father with a soldier at the cross-roads in Kosovo, and they went on in the Golf (Volkswagen) and the FAP towards the village of Duljevac. About 15 minutes

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> These sentences were clarified and expanded by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Paragraph provided by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 65 ter 07336 in *Karadžić*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Sentence provided by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Clarified by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> KRSMAN changed to KRSMANOVIĆ by witness on 1 September 2011.

later, a a minibus came from the direction of Rogatica<sup>15</sup>, and then NERIĆ returned in the *Golf.* Danko NERIĆ told the bus driver, Radisav LJUBINAC, that my father and I should not board bus, on KUŠIĆ's orders, since KUŠIĆ wanted to question us once again. Danko NERIĆ went in his car and the minibus followed him.

- 16. The mini-bus drove by and I managed to see a board which said on it "Rogatica Istanbul", and that there were a large group of civilians inside. Ten minutes later, intense infantry fire could be heard-from the direction the bus had gone. A Serb soldier who was at the cross-roads with us told us not to look in that direction.<sup>17</sup>
- 17. Some time later, Danko NERIĆ and Brane KRSMANOVIĆ came back in Danko NERIĆ's car. KRSMANOVIĆ got\_out of the car, and NERIĆ took my father to KUŠIĆ to be interrogated.KRSMANOVIĆ said to the soldier "Wc killed all the balijas". RRSMANOVIĆ took methe garage of Mićo ANDRIĆ where I had been beaten the first time., where there were many Serb soldiers, who verbally abused me. One of them said "I killed 30 balijas today; if you don't obey, you'll be next". Is stayed in the garage until the evening, when a man named CEROVIĆ from Gučevo, a security officer, who had the rank of captain, came in a Golf car to pick me up. I heard later that CEROVIĆ was killed in a car by a mine explosion, which seriously wounded the president of the Rogatica Municipality by the name of BATINIĆ.
- 18. My father and Sinan ĆATIĆ were in the car. When we left, I heard Sinan say to CEROVIĆ: "Did you see that? I was almost killed by our guys."
- 19. They took me back to the school, while my father was taken to the *Rasadnik* camp, as he told me later.
- 20. Again I spent the night in the High School Centre in Rogatica, where my mother was.

# Transfer to and detention at Rasadnik: 16 August 1992

- 21. The next morning, someone named KOJIĆ from the Bosnian Serb<sup>20</sup> MUP came and gave orders that all the "loyal" Muslims should be released, and everyone else taken to the *Rasadnik* camp. Kemo ŠOŠO and his family, a man named HODŽIĆ and his family and the plumber from Rogatica, whose name I do not know, and his family, were released as the "loyal" ones.
- 22. In the evening, we were taken to Rasadnik. The men were separated from the women, and I was taken to a room where I found the following people: my father Fejzo; MUŠOVIĆ; Mujo JAŠAREVIĆ and Mahir JAŠAREVIĆ from Seljani; Alija ISAKOVIĆ, a teacher from Rogatica; Huso KRAJINA from Rogatica; Rusmir MUFTIĆ from Rogatica; Avdo RAMOVIĆ from Seljani; Bećir ĆUTAHIJA, crippled in one leg, from Rakitica; and Munib MUTIĆ, principal of the primary school in Rogatica.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "the opposite direction" changed to "the direction of Rogatica" on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Sentence clarified by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Sentence inserted by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Sentence inserted by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Sentence inserted by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> "so-called Serbian MUP" changed to "Bosnian Serb MUP" by witness on 1 September 2011.

23. I asked my father if they beat the prisoners and he replied affirmatively. *Rasadnik* was\_at that time guarded by the civilian police from Rogatica. The warden of *Rasadnik* was Mišo VOJINOVIĆ from Plješevica and the guards were a certain Šolaja (nickname) and a certain Buco (nickname).

# Killing of 25 detainees from Rasadnik

- 24. I asked Mujo JAŠAREVIĆ whether there were any other prisoners in the camp. He said there were, but that they had been taken in a minibus that day to collect hay, and that his father was among them. It was only then that I made the connection between what I had-seen on the road and the shooting I had heard, and I realised that all those taken from the camp that morning had been liquidated. Twenty five people were taken out from the camp, including my school friend Šukrija OMERAGIĆ from Seljani and killed.
- 25. From 16 August 1992 to 1 September 1992, I went to work—and nobody beat me. On 1 September 1992, around 0200 hours at night, they first took my father to the warden's office for questioning. I could hear the sounds of beating through the wall. They brought him back about half an hour later, and then called me out. I entered the office in which I found warden VOJINOVIĆ and the guard called Buco.

## Witness is beaten at Rasadnik

- 26. VOJINOVIĆ immediately warned me that if I wanted to keep my head on my shoulders, I had to tell them the truth in-response to all their questions. He inquired about the locations of trenches and mines on Mount Šaran, of which I had no knowledge, and that is what I-told him. He-did not believe me, and he ordered Būco to beat-me, while he kept repeating the same question. Buco beat me on the back with a baton, and when I-fell down, he began to jump and "dance" about on me. I felt I was losing consciousness, so they stopped and poured a bucket of water over me. I could not get up on my own, so Buco and VOJINOVIĆ helped me up. VOJINOVIĆ then ordered Buco to take me back to the room.
- 27. In the morning, at first light, I saw that my father had also been beaten, because his face was swollen from the blows. That day, a man called ĐIDA, an inspector in the Rogatica SUP, came to the camp and asked for my father to be brought to him. From a window in the room, I could see that they were sitting and talking-in the courtyard, and that ĐIDA was not harassing or beating him. Half an hour later, VOJINOVIĆ took me and three other prisoners to work in the neighbourhood of Gračanica in Rogatica.
- 28. Two or three hours later, Pero RAJAK and someone called KOVAČEVIC, policemen of the Serbian SUP, came for me. In the car, KOVAČEVIĆ asked me whether my father had organised the meeting between LELEK and Ramiz ALAJBEGOVIĆ, and I answered negatively. KOVAČEVIĆ asked me the same question again, and I gave him the same answer. Then he told me that, if I wished to stay alive, I had better admit that my father had done it, because he himself had already admitted to it after a beating at the Rogatica Police Station. He repeated that I should admit it, because they had orders to take me away and shoot me in front of my father if I failed to do so.

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Beating and interrogation of detainees at Rogatica police station

- 29. When we arrived at the Rogatica Police Station, we found about five policemen there and my father, all covered in blood. He was questioned by someone called Andelko, a former policeman, aged around 35 40, with brown hair, plump, around 180 cm-tall. Among the policemen, I recognised Željko BOGDANOVIĆ from Drobnići.
- 30. They ordered me to-sit next to my father and asked whether he had organised the meeting between ALAJBEGOVIĆ and LELEK. I said he had. Then they gave my father a statement to sign, and Andelko ordered that I be taken back to work, and my father taken away and liquidated at once. In the car, as they were taking me back to work, KOVAČEVIĆ asked me whether he had done me a great favour, and I said he had. At that time, I was convinced that my father had been shot.

Mistreatment of detainees at Rasadnik

- 31. I returned to *Rasadnik* in the evening and my mother told me that my father had been brought back to the camp, seriously beaten up. Because of the beating, my father could not move for 15 days, and we had to care for him like a small-child. Throughout that time, I went to work to Rogatica. Huso KRAJINA had the best treatment of all, because everybody knew him, and he was a friend of KUŠIĆ's which gave him special status.
- 32. In October 1992, Mile BOJAT was appointed warden. A day or two before his appointment as camp warden, all the women and children were taken to Sarajevo to-be exchanged-at-Hreša by VOJINOVIĆ's orders. The following people were among them: Ćamil JANAKOVIĆ and his son Amir; Nail MUŠOVIĆ; Adil MUŠOVIĆ; Šemso VATREŠ; Edina MUŠOVIĆ and a father and son whose family name was JANAKOVIĆ, but I do not know their first names.
- 33. These\_prisoners were not exchanged, and were brought back to the camp. They told us that the afore-mentioned JANAKOVIĆ's, father and son, had been taken out of the bus on Trebević, allegedly to chop wood for the local Chetniks, and that was the last time they were ever seen. During the two days, all the newly arrived prisoners were beaten by the guard called Šolaja and by warden VOJINOVIĆ. I, Mujo JAŠAREVIĆ and Bećir ĆUTAHIJA were also beaten that night.

Vinko Bojić as warden of Rasadnik, on Kušić's orders

34. Mile BOJAT was the warden for a very short time, and then Vinko BOJIĆ, also known as Vili, from Plješevica took charge of the prison, on orders from Rajko KUŠIĆ. The military police took over the security. For about 10 days, BOJAT and BOJIĆ ran the camp together. On one occasion, when he was alone, Mile BOJAT told us to that BOJIĆ was an idiot, and that we should wary of him, because he might hurt us. Soon enough, we realised that BOJAT was right. Around that time, civilians from Berkovići were brought to the camp.

## Sexual assault of detainees at Rasadnik

- 35. Vinko gave Brano PLANOJEVIĆ, his neighbour from Plješevica a job as a guard in the camp. PLANOJEVIĆ often called out prisoners at night and took them to BOJIĆ's office, and they returned cruelly beaten. All members of the JANAKOVIĆ, MUŠOVIĆ and VATREŠ families went through this kind of torture. Women were often taken out at night, too. Vinko forced them to perform sexual acts with the elderly prisoners, and they were all forced to strip naked. When he would—have had enough of this kind of "fun", he took the women to another room. I do not know what took place there.
- 36. Several Muslim women, who were detained at Rasadnik, several said that Vinko BOJIĆ had raped them. <sup>21</sup> He often forced naked male prisoners to perform unnatural sexual acts. One evening in that period, Ibro KARAMAN, who suffered from asthma, was taken out. That night, he was brought back, severely beaten. In the morning, we found him dead.
- 37. On a day in around February 1993, a guard called Brano PLANOJEVIĆ came to our room, called five adult male detainees out, including myself, and took us to Vinko BOJIĆ's office. There, I saw a group of four Muslim women, who were detainees, undressing. One was around 65 years of age. Five Serb soldiers were sitting around Vinko's office. They had ammunition belts and skull insignia on their hats. Vinko BOJIĆ ordered us to undress. We begged him not to, but he ordered us all to undress completely. Vinko BOJIĆ ordered the naked Muslim female detainees to dance with the naked Muslim male detainees around the Serb soldiers. Then Vinko BOJIĆ ordered the men to grab the women by their breasts and ordered the women to grab the men by their penises. There are no words I can use to describe how humiliated I felt on that day.<sup>22</sup>

# Killing of Bećir Ćutahija

38. On 21 March 1993, I was digging trenches at Trnovo, together with a large group of prisoners, and-we were brought back to the camp around 1700 hours. Edina MUŠOVIĆ was distributing food, and we noticed that one plate had been left untouched. Dina told us that it was the dinner of Bećir ĆUTAHIJA'S, who had just been taken to BOJIĆ's office. We could hear the sounds of beating through the walls for a long time. Bećir was not brought back to the room that night. In the morning, BOJIĆ summoned Suljo KUSTURA. Suljo told us later that he had buried Bećir who had been cut to pieces.

## Killing of Adil Mušović

39. On 29 March 1993 around midnight, Adil MUŠOVIĆ was killed. He had been called out and taken to warden BOJIĆ. Sounds of beating could be heard for a short time, followed by a pistol shot. Adil never returned to the room, and as far as I know, none of the prisoners ever buried his body.

## Killing of Nail Mušović

40. On 1 April 1993, around midnight, Nail MUŠOVIĆ was called out. Sounds of beating could be heard for about half an hour, followed by a shot. Nail never showed up again, and none of the prisoners buried his body either.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Sentence added by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Paragraph added by witness on 1 September 2011.

# Killing of Mirsad Omanović

- 41. At the beginning of July 1993, Mirsad OMANOVIĆ from Bjelogorci, a captured member of the ABiH was brought to the camp. We could hear to the sounds of beating and torture coming from the warden's office for a long time. In that period, around 10 July, I was summoned to BOJIĆ's office. Mladen VASILJEVIĆ, the chief of police at the station in Rogatica and his deputy, a man called Mrki, were in the office. That was when, I was cruelly beaten.
- 42. A couple of days after that, BOJIĆ singled out 10 of us prisoners. Then he called out Mirsad OMANOVIĆ, and from the solitary confinement cell he brought Sinan ĆATIĆ from Trnovo, also a captured fighter. He handcuffed them together and took us all by truck to the village of Starčići. There, we found the chief of the military police, a man called Dok, a young man I did not know and an ambulance with a nurse inside. When we saw that, we knew that something serious was going to happen. Vinko explained that we had to recover the bodies of 17 of their soldiers from an area where there was the danger of mines, and that Mirsad OMANOVIĆ, who knew their positions, would lead us.
- 43. We began doing what we had to do when the young man I mentioned earlier hit a land mine, which blew off his leg. BOJIĆ took it out on OMANOVIĆ. He separated him from ĆATIĆ and then stabbed him in the side. Then he took a rifle and threatened to kill us all, cursing our Balija mothers. We stooped down, and then we heard 7 to 10 single shots. When I looked up again, I saw Mirsad lying covered with blood. Then I saw a cut on his neck caused by a knife, that is to say, he had been slaughtered. Vinko ordered me and Mujo JAŠAREVIĆ to dig a grave. When we had dug 50 or 60 cm deep, he told us to bury Mirsad's body in the shallow grave. As we were lowering him into the grave, I saw that his chest was riddled with bullets. After that, Vinko ordered that we fan out and search for bodies. We did this for three days, and we found all 17 bodies and buried them there. Throughout that time, we did not strike any land mines.

#### Kušić at Rasadnik

44. Rajko KUŠIĆ visited Rasadnik on several occasions. I saw him there seven or eight times in 1992 and 1993. My impression was that he had 100% control over the prison. I will explain one incident to show why I had this impression. On around 23 July 1993, he came to the prison and spoke to about 30 of us in a room at Rasadnik. He told us "I'm going to send you to be exchanged. I'm going to send you to Alija to feed you. I don't need you here". Two or three days later, two buses came, and we were told that we'd be sent to Batković, in Bijeljina. We all boarded the buses except for one detainee who was held separately, and got as far as Zvornik, where we spent the night. We were then taken on a truck, packed like sardines, to Batković. At Batković, the women were separated from the men. However, before this process was completed, we were ordered back onto the truck and were taken back to Rasadnik. That evening, Rajko KUŠIĆ came to Rasadnik and he entered the room where I was detained and he was very angry. He started cursing, saying words to this effect: "Alija doesn't want you, I don't know what to do with you, I'll invite the International Red Cross to send you where they want, and if they don't want you, I'll kill you all". On 28 July 1993, the International Red Cross came to visit Rasadnik.<sup>23</sup>

Vinko Bojić beats Witness after ICRC visit

- 45. On 28<sup>24</sup> July 1993, we were interviewed as prisoners of war by representatives of the International Red Cross. The representatives met Vinko BOJIĆ and Ranko KUŠIĆ in BOJIĆ's office. Then BOJIĆ took them to our room. The Red Cross representatives asked BOJIĆ to leave and we spoke to them after he left. They assured us that we could speak frankly and in confidence. I believed them, and told them that our situation was difficult, that they were taking us to the confrontation line, that we did not have enough food, and that we would not survive if they did not help us. Mujo JAŠAREVIĆ told them similar things. My father pleaded for us to be transferred to a third country. They said they would only register Mujo JAŠAREVIĆ and myself as we had done the talking, and this would offer us some kind of security. They said that they would come back in two weeks with clothes and would register the rest. They gave me and Mujo registration cards. After about three days, BOJIĆ beat me in a bestial way in his office. He put his pistol in my mouth. He pulled hair from my armpits and inserted it in my mouth. He extinguished cigarettes on me and ordered me to eat the extinguished cigarettes. He ordered me to remove my clothes. He then hit me in my ribs with a knife handle. One of my ribs was broken in the beating. While he was beating me, BOJIĆ asked me if I had enough to eat; if I was going to be taken to the confrontation lines: basically all of the things that I had complained about to the Red Cross.<sup>25</sup>
- 46.—After several minutes, he ordered me to get dressed and then brought my father in. BOJIĆ beat my father. BOJIĆ asked my father if he wanted to go to Germany, or to a third country, which reflected what my father had told the Red Cross. BOJIĆ then ordered me to beat my father. I hit my father-maybe five or six times; I was out of strength. BOJIĆ then said, "If you don't want to, I will", and hit my father about fifteen or sixteen times until my father fell down. 26

# Killing of Sejfo Mirvić

47. On 18 December 1993, Sejfo MIRVIĆ, the prisoner from the solitary cell, was killed. A doctor came to confirm his death<sup>27</sup>, and BOJIĆ told us that Sejfo had been killed trying to escape.

Vinko Bojić kills captured ABiH soldier

48. In 1994, the prisoners from the camp were used to carry food and ammunition during the offensive on Goražde. A captured member of the BH Army by the name of Alija was brought to the camp in that period. He was killed on 27 April 1994 by the camp warden, Vinko BOJIĆ, in the presence of Edina MUŠOVIĆ. The body was thrown into a manhole, which was filled up by my father, Fejzo and Sinan ĆATIĆ. Beside BOJIĆ and PLANOJEVIĆ, the guards in the camp were a certain Deba (nickname) from Goražde a certain CACIĆ from Rogatica and Brane PAUNIĆ.

<sup>23</sup> Paragraph added by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>25</sup> Additional information added by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>26</sup> Paragraph added by witness on 1 September 2011.

<sup>27</sup> Clarified by witness on 1 September 2011.

5.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> "21" July changed to "28" July by the witness on 1 September 2011.

# Transfer from Rasadnik to Kula-prison

49. On 30 April 1994, Dragan BULAJIĆ, president of the Serbian Commission for Prisoner Exchange, transported 12 of us along with a large number of women and children to Kula by bus to be exchanged there. In Kula, we worked long days doing extremely hard work at *Ekonomija*. This was a farm about 1 km from Kula. We were completely exhausted with work there. The warden of the prison in Kula was Soniboj ŠILJEVIC, the commander of the guards was Nedo PANDUREVIĆ, and I know the following guards: a certain SAMARDŽIJA a certain Srdan and a certain Gvozden. At the beginning of September 1994, sixteen of us prisoners were taken to work in Jagomir. Six of us were moved to Ćekrčići right away, while ten of us stayed on in Jagomir. We dug communication trenches and fetched wood there. The commander of the Jagomir unit was a man called Vlado, who was a warrant officer in the so-called JNA. During our stay in Jagomir, we were once taken to Jasen, where we dug in three 122 mm howitzers. There, I met a captured member of the ABiH, Vahid DŽANKIĆ called Vaha, as he introduced himself.

# **Exchange of the Witness**

50. On 5 October 1994, they came with a bus to pick us up. Vaha and another captured BH Army member, Enes DURAK, were also on the bus. We were exchanged on 6 October 1994, at the *Bratstva i Jedinstva* bridge in-Sarajevo, but both DŽANKIĆ and DUREK stayed in the prison in Kula.<sup>29</sup>

## Composition of Rogatica Crisis Staff

- 51. One political matter that I can assist with is the composition of the Krizni Štab for the Municipality of Rogatica. I know the names of many of these people.<sup>30</sup>
- 52. They were:

Rajko Kušić

53. He was the commander of all military matters in Rogatica. It is well documented in my statement how he controlled a great many of the atrocities that took place in my area.

Jadranko Vuković

54. He was a Serb reserve Captain and a teacher prior to the conflict. On the Krizni Štab they used to call him Captain and wore army uniform.

Mile Ujić

55. Likewise he was also a Captain and I know that he commanded army attacks on these villages. Kovanj, Lepenica and Kramer. I overheard this when two Serb soldiers talked with one another. They had stolen a cow and had been caught and put in the same prison as me. Putting them in the same room with Muslims was considered by the Serbs to be a greater punishment. We all considered this to be an insult.

<sup>29</sup> Statement of Šefik Hurko given at CSB Sarajevo on 16 November 1994.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> On 1 September 2011, the witness removed Milovan Lelek from the list of Rogatica Crisis Staff members.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Sentence added by witness on 1 September 2011.

## Furtula Radomir

56. He was a major in the JNA and had been based in Belgrade. He was a full time officer in the JNA. I don't know exactly what his position was but I know he commanded the attacks on-Rogatica, Ustiprača and Goražde.

Razdoljac aka Đoko

- 57. He was also an ex-waiter that was now an army officer. He was what I would call a rear officer. He was not at the front fighting. He organised things and it was him that issued orders to the commanders of the prisons.
- 58. I did not see him kill anyone or anything like that but he would have known about all the terrible things that were happening in the detention camps.

Ćarkić Zoran

59. He was a security officer and on the Krizni Štab. I didn't see him hurt anyone and I don't think he was unfair to anyone in the prison.

Stojan Perković

60. This man was a Captain and was in Kosovo when I was taken there as a captive. The Serb soldiers told him that they had brought him a Balija. He then started to cut me with a knife and do the things that I talked about above.

[...]

# **Destruction of Mosques in Rogatica**

61. With regard to the destruction, by Serbs, of cultural buildings. I can say that I know of the two mosques in Rogatica being dynamited to rubble as well as one in Kovani. I myself was on a working party that was taken to the mosques in Rogatica and forced to clear away the rubble. It was another Serb act designed to rid the area of our presence.<sup>31</sup>

~ 5.#

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Statement of Šefik HURKO made to investigators of this Tribunal ("ICTY Statement"), on 24 January 1999

#### WITNESS DECLARATION

I have read my original statement of 16 November 1994 in Bosnian. Those parts of this amalgamated statement which are written in the English language and which were not in my 16 November 1994 statement have been read over to me in the Bosnian language, and I declare that the contents of this amalgamated statement, which is based on my previous statements/testimony as well as additional information provided on 1 September 2011 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand that this amalgamated statement will be used in proceedings before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY).

I have been advised that this amalgamated statement may also be provided to other law enforcement agencies and/or judicial authorities. I agree to my amalgamated statement being provided to those authorities at the discretion of the Office of the Prosecutor of the ICTY.

## POTVRDA SVJEDOKA

Pročitao sam svoju izvornu izjavu na bosanskom jeziku od 16. novembra 1994. godine. Oni dijelovi ove objedinjene izjave koji su napisani na engleskom jeziku, a koji nisu u mojoj izjavi od 16. novembra 1994. godine, su mi pročitani na bosanskom jeziku. Ovime izjavljujem da je sadržaj ove objedinjene izjave koja je napisana na osnovu mojih predhodnih izjava/iskaza pred Sudom, kao i na osnovu dodatnih informacija koje sam pružio 1.09.2011. istinit po mom znanju i sjećanju.

Razumio sam da će se ova objedinjena izjava koristiti u sudskom postupku pred Međunarodnim krivičnim sudom za ratne zločine u bivšoj Jugoslaviji.

Objašnjeno mi je da moja objedinjena izjava može biti data drugim organima sprovođenja zakona i/ili sudskim vlastima. Slažem se da se ova moja objedinjena izjava pruži tim organima uz odobrenje Kancelarije Tužioca Međunarodnog krivičnog suda za bivšu Jugoslaviju.

e: <u>Lew Tuno</u> 01.09.2011

## INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION

I, Zlata Divković, interpreter, certify that:

I am duly qualified and approved by the Registry of the International 1) Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 to interpret from the Bosnian language into the English language and from the English language into the Bosnian language.

- 2) I have been-informed by Šefik HURKO that he speaks and understands the Bosnian language.
- I have orally translated the above statement from the English language to the Bosnian language in the presence of Šefik HURKO who appeared to have heard and understood my translation of this statement.
- 4) Šefik HURKO has acknowledged that the facts and matters set out in his statement, as translated by me, are true to the best of her knowledge and recollection and has accordingly signed his signature where indicated.

Signed:

Date:

01/09/2011