COALITION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

TOGETHER FOR JUSTICE



JEAN-PIERRE BEMBA GOMBO

INFORMAL WEEKLY SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 26 - 30 2011

Situation Central African Republic

Case 01/05-01/08

The Prosecutor vs. Jean-Pierre

Bemba Gombo

Hearing Trial Proceedings

Chamber Trial Chamber III: Judge Sylvia

Steiner (Presiding Judge), Judge Joyce Aluoch and Judge Kuniko

Ozaki

Parties: OTP: Ms. Bensouda, Ms. Kneuer

and team

Defence: Mr. Nkwebe Richard Liriss, Mr. Aimé Kilolo-Musamba

and team

<u>Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo</u>: born in 1962 in Bokada, <u>Equateur Province</u>; National of the DRC; Alleged <u>President and Commander-in-chief of the</u> Mouvement pour la libération du Congo (Movement for the Liberation of the Congo) (MLC).

Participants: 1713 victims represented by Legal Representatives for Victims: Ms. Marie Edith Douzima-Lawson and Mr. Assingambi Zarambaud

Alleged crimes:

<u>Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo</u> is allegedly responsible, as military commander, of:

- Crimes against humanity: Murder and rape.
- War crimes: Murder, rape and pillaging.

Start of Trial: 22 November 2010

This week one witnesses testified:

Witness 32 is a witness testifying under protective measures. The identity of the witness remains unknown.

26 September 2011

The Defence continued its cross-examination of witness 32.

During cross-examination by the Defence, the witness provided testimony on:

• Code of Conduct: The witness alleged that the MLC¹, as with every other military installation or movement, operates under a code of conduct, or a set of military rules and guide.

27 September 2011

The Defence concluded its questioning of witness 32.

During the examination-in-chief of the Defence, witness 32 provided testimony on:

- General Chief of Staff of the MLC: The witness testified that General Amuli² was the General Chief of Staff of the MLC. The witness further alleged General Amuli was in charge of soldier preparation and training.
- Nationality of the MLC Troops: The witness testified that approximately 25% of the MLC forces were former Zairian soldiers trained by 'Bravo

¹The 'Mouvement pour la Liberation du Congo' is a political party in the DRC founded by Mr. Bemba.

² General Major Dieudonne Amuli Bahigwa was the General Chief of Staff of the MLC

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Charlie' (BC)³. The witness further noted that most of the Zairian soldiers had previously fled the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo (AFDL) to join the MLC.

• Looted Vehicles: The witness alleged that a commander in the MLC, also known as Mr Bokombé, drove a looted Jeep, which he had acquired in Bangui. The witness claimed that this information was public knowledge, as Gbadolite was a small town. Furthermore, the witness made clear that the vehicle had no license plates.

28, 29, 30 September

No Hearings for the rest of the week.

³ Bravo Charlie is a code name for a high-ranking member of the MLC.

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