

[Left margin]

Gendarmerie

Legal detachment

[illeg] military

Palais de Justice

Brussels

02/508.60.11

Minutes no 686

In the case

X...

Under the heading of

Assassinations and

Hearing of Collet Jacques

Follow up to file no. 02 02545

8 of the Military Investigator

in Brussels

Ver Elst Reul

Military Hearing

Brussels

18 May 1994

[illeg]

Brussels

PRO JUSTITIA

Today sixteenth of May nineteen ninety four at 11.00 hours

We the undersigned Artiges, Guy, Adjutant, OPJ

Resident in Brussels- military hearing in civilian clothes (1)

We report that we have heard, at the date and time as above, at IPC, Bd Charlemagne in Brussels

Collet, Jacques

Born in Rwamkuba, (Rwanda) on 22.05.47

Belgian

Domiciled in France in Bergerac, Route de Sigolles

who states to us:

“I wish to express myself in French.

I am an independent journalist.

On 07.04.1994 around 11.00 hours, I was at the Rwandan Embassy in Brussels to get a visa.

At that time I was overheard a conversation between a group of people who were coming out of an office. One of them said in French “It is confirmed”. He continued in Kinyarwanda, a language I speak, and said “It is Belgian soldiers who have shot down the aircraft, five have been hit there and five shortly after.” The person stated that these soldiers had been reported

by the blue helmets of the Bengla-des. They had an over-excited air. I then asked the question what did the Belgians have to gain from the execution of the President of Rwanda. My interlocutor told me laughing “You know perfectly well why they have done it” He was alluding to the FPR. All the group were amused by this reply. I knew this person^{1st} continuation to minutes no. 686 dated 16.05.94 Legal Detachment of Brussels ... as a “student” in Belgium and as an activist of the CDR working in cahoots with a certain “Papias” of Gembloux.

One person asked me who I was. I in turn asked who they were and they said they were students at the ERM.

“I state that before I spoke with a person in the group, I heard them say in Kinyarwandan that the aircraft had been shot down with a Mistral.

I was amazed that so soon after the attack these people had so much information. This happened as I recall on 07.04.1994 at 11.00 hours in the morning. These people already knew that a “dozen or so” Belgian soldiers had been or would be killed when in all likelihood the Belgian soldiers in the ground only learnt of it much later.

Mr Can Tran, a Belgian volunteer in Rwanda informed me of a detail making one think that on the same morning of 06.04.1994 the Rwandan army was expecting a large event. Some soldiers I think had told him:

“Today is a big day. Something big is going to happen” That being the morning of the attack.

I can further state that during my stay in Rwanda I talked with 2 soldiers of the 2nd Commando. From them I learnt that from eye-witnesses the missiles used for the attack were without doubt French “Mistrals”.

Mr Cam Tram also told me that he had learnt from the wife of the captain of the aircraft crew on the Presidential aircraft that he, the captain, did not wish to carry on in his job, that it was becoming too dangerous and as he was worried, he had given his wife a receiver tuned to the aircraft frequency. Mr Cam Tran told me that the control tower had asked 5 times if the President of Burundi was on board. It would seem that the presence of the President of Burundi on board was not foreseen on the Rwandan President’s aircraft.

After reading, signs our information file.

Signature