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CASE NO. Teir-98-41-T
EXHIBIT NO. BNT 128
DATE ADMITTED 23-6-2005
TENDERED BY DEFENCE
NAME OF WITNESS J. DEWEZ

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col Marshall. See note.

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TO: BARIL, UNATIONS, NEW YORK
FROM: DALLAIRE, UNAMIR, KIGALI, RWANDA
DATE: 30 MARCH 1994
NUMBER:
SUBJECT: GENDARMERIE CAPABILITIES
REFERENCE: TELECON MARTIN\BEARDSLEY 23 March 1994

1. During the reference your HQ requested an assessment of the National Gendarmerie of Rwanda commonly known as the Gendarmerie.
2. This analysis will cover the size, organization, locations and capabilities of the Gendarmerie and will conclude with an assessment of their effectiveness.
3. The Gendarmerie numbers approximately 6000 personnel and is organized as follows:
 - A. 1 Headquarters (Kimiurura, Kigali).
 - B. 1 Training School (Ruhengeri).
 - C. 9 Territorial Groups (1 per Prefecture or Province).
 - D. Specialist Units (Mostly in Kigali).
 - E. Support Units (Mostly in Kigali).
4. Headquarters for the Gendarmerie is in Kigali at Kiminhurura. The Gendarmerie is commanded by the Chief-Of-Staff, a Major-General. While technically under the Ministry of the Interior, the Gendarmerie appear to take their orders from the Minister of Defence. The Headquarters consists of the normal staff branches of personnel, intelligence, operations and logistics. The Headquarters also contains the communications centre for the Gendarmerie. It should be noted that communications in the Gendarmerie is by radio and telephone only and only goes down to the company level.
5. The training school of the National Gendarmerie is in Ruhengeri at Egena. Basic, advanced and specialist training is

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conducted in this complex. Officer and NCO training is conducted at the Army Officers and NCO schools in Kigali and Butare respectively.

6. The territorial groups number in total approximately 3000 personnel as per the attached organization chart. Strength of territorial groups varies with the prefecture and the peculiar security needs of that prefecture (ie a second territorial company is added in areas with a large concentration of refugees or displaced persons). The territorial groups are located and headquartered in the prefecture capitals as per the attached chart. The organization of each group varies but generally consists of:

- a. One territorial company with one brigade for security duties (30 personnel), one traffic control platoon (30 personnel) and one Headquarters and Service platoon (20 personnel).
- b. One intervention company of 100 personnel.
- c. One Group Headquarters and Service Platoon of 30 personnel.

7. Some territorial groups have a second territorial company to deal with special security situations. The average territorial group has only three vehicles (one jeep, one small truck and one large truck). Other transport is provided by National Service Units, rented or expropriated for transport tasks.

8. The Kigali Territorial Group has four territorial companies due to the security tasks of the capital.

9. The specialist units of the Gendarmerie number approximately 1200 personnel are based primarily in Kigali. They consist of the following units:

- a. Traffic Control Company (111 personnel) is responsible for traffic control on the roads into the city and within the city. It is based in Camp Muhima near the national prison. This company has two motorcycles, two cars, two small trucks and one large truck.
- b. The VIP Security Company (266) is responsible for security of VIPs or bodyguard duties. This company is based in Camp Kacyiru. This company has one jeep and 2 small trucks. Bodyguards travel in the vehicle of the VIP they are protecting. They also protect residences. Their salary is augmented by the VIP they are protecting. Their weapons are superior to the normal Gendarmes (ie SA Assault Rifles or UZI SMGs vice FN FAL).
- c. The Airport Security Company (112 personnel) is responsible for security of the Kanombe Airport in Kigali and is based at that location. This company has one

minibus and two small trucks. This company is very well uniformed.

- d. The Criminal Research and Documentation Centre (81 personnel) is responsible for criminal investigations and documentation. This centre is based in the CRCDC building near the Belgian School. This centre has two small trucks and one minibus. As most crime goes unsolved in Rwanda this group is not particularly effective.
 - e. Mobile Group of Kigali (265 personnel) is anything but mobile. It is responsible for static vital point guards in Kigali. This group is based at Camp Muhima. This group has one jeep and one small truck.
 - f. Mobile Intervention Group (283 personnel) is responsible for intervention to maintain law and order. It is in effect riot control police. It is based in Camp Jali. Transport resources vary depending on the situation.
10. The Support Units consist of approximately 900 personnel and are mostly based in Kigali. They consist of:
- a. Headquarters Company of 699 personnel is based at Camp Kacyiru. It provides administrative and defence support to Gendarmerie Headquarters. It can also provide 3 to 6 platoons for emergency operations.
 - b. The Service Technical company of 61 personnel is based at Camp Kacyiru. It provides service support to the Gendarmerie.
 - c. The Medical Company of 80 personnel is based at Camp Kacyiru and is responsible for medical support from its hospital for the Gendarmerie and their dependents.
 - d. The Music Company of 70 personnel is based at Camp Muhima and is responsible for ceremonial support to the Gendarmerie.

ASSESSMENT OF CAPABILITIES AND LIMITATIONS

11. The Gendarmerie is assessed to minimally if not ineffective. Their major shortcomings are:

- a. When the war commenced in 1990, the pre-war gendarmerie of 2000 personnel was rushed to the front and employed as untrained and lightly equipped infantry. This action decimated the pre-war gendarmerie which contained the trained and experienced personnel. The gendarmerie was later withdrawn but the damage had been done and was not corrected. In addition, the gendarmerie was rapidly expanded to 6000 personnel with ineffective instructors

and training time (4 weeks). As such most of their new personnel are not trained or experienced in police or other security duties. Even Gendarmerie Commanders openly lament the poor quality of gendarme and their poor standard of training.

- b. During the war, to avoid military front line service, questionable recruits opted for the Gendarmerie as a way of avoiding combat duty and living the so called "good life". Therefore the motivation of many gendarmes is questionable. The number that have been arrested for crimes since UNAMIR arrived in Rwanda bears evidence of this fact.

In this really correct?
No!

The Gendarmerie, especially at the high levels, is thoroughly politicized. They owe their positions and future to certain political interest groups. They are therefore reluctant to respond to certain situations or investigate certain activities (ie responding to demonstrations, roadblocks or riots sponsored by one of the parties or investigating ethnic or political assassinations). They therefore only react or intervene if it is cleared with their political leaders and in their interest.

- d. The Gendarmerie is desperately short of transport and thus is largely immobile and unable to respond to routine calls for assistance like traffic accidents, neighborhood complaints or even more serious violations of law and order. This is compounded by severe budget and fuel restrictions.

- e. The Gendarmerie is desperately short of communications and other specialist equipment due to budgetary constraints. They lack communication and basic equipment at the platoon and company level.

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The Gendarmerie lacks the support and confidence of the local population who fear, distrust and in some cases are openly hostile to them. This situation is aggravated by the RPF and opposition parties who frequently and intensely condemn the Gendarmerie in their propoganda campaigns.

Most police have been

- g. The Gendarmerie lacks gas masks and tear gas for crowd control operations.

- h. Despite a year of relative peace the standard of training in the Gendarmerie has not improved.

In this really correct?

- i. The standard of leadership, particularly in the junior level is poor lacking initiative, flexibility and good judgement. They tend to remain stiff to tasks and are easy to lose their temper and resort to violence.

