



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF INTERNAL OVERSIGHT SERVICES
INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

RECORD of CONVERSATION

(ID) [REDACTED]

ID case No.: [REDACTED]

Date of interview: [REDACTED] 2006, 18.25

Name, Title and Index No. or dob of person interviewed:

[REDACTED]

Address and Telephone No(s). of person interviewed:

[REDACTED]

Time, Place and Method of Interview (i.e.: personal/telephone/mail):

Personal meeting on [REDACTED] 2006, 18.25hrs, in [REDACTED]

Interviewing Officer(s):

[REDACTED]

Also present was [REDACTED], a MONUC Human Rights Officer [REDACTED] who introduced [REDACTED] to the investigators

Reason(s) for Conducting the Interview:

Allegations of Gold Trafficking supported by PAKBATT Officers.

Objective(s) of the Interview:

Verify allegation

NARRATIVE of INTERVIEW

1. ID/OIOS's investigators explained to the witness the mandate of OIOS and how it works independently of MONUC. The aspect of confidentiality was also outlined to [REDACTED] and he confirmed that he understood it. The interview was conducted in English.
2. [REDACTED] was informed that the objective of the interview was to verify allegations that MONUC Military, namely PAKBATT officers, were supporting FARDC, militia and civilians in Gold Trafficking Operations from MONGBAWALU gold mines to RWANDA and UGANDA.

3. [REDACTED] stated that he is a MONUC Interpreter employed at [REDACTED]. He stated that he previously worked as an Interpreter at [REDACTED] April to December 2005. Witness stated that he first worked with PAKBATT at [REDACTED] and then moved with them to MONGBWALU mid of April 2005, when PAKBATT became the first MONUC troop deployed there.
4. [REDACTED] stated that when he first worked with PAKBATT in FATAKI the Commander in charge of the [REDACTED] Company was Major [REDACTED]. Witness stated that when PAKBATT moved to MONGBWALU Major [REDACTED] was the Company Commander and his Deputy was Captain [REDACTED]. Witness further added that Major [REDACTED] left MONGBWALU before the September 2005 rotation and was replaced by Major [REDACTED] and Major [REDACTED] who were in charge of the [REDACTED] Company.
5. The witness when asked about his work as an interpreter with PAKBATT explained that there were two MONUC interpreters employed at that time, the other being [REDACTED]. Witness explained that [REDACTED] was the one who was called most often by MAJOR [REDACTED] for confidential meetings and especially at night. Witness stated that he was only called if [REDACTED] was on leave or if work was of a general nature. [REDACTED] also worked as interpreter [REDACTED].
6. [REDACTED] recalled one occasion [REDACTED] when he returned from leave and as it was generally quiet in the region [REDACTED] decided to avail of his leave. [REDACTED] was also away from the camp. Witness recalled that one night at around midnight he was called by Major [REDACTED] to a meeting in the officer mess in PAKBATT, MONGBWALU. Witness stated that on the way to the meeting Major [REDACTED] warned him that he was not to say a word to anybody about what he was about to hear. Witness stated that he found this to be very unusual and was uncomfortable with the situation.
7. Witness stated that on arrival at the Officers Mess there were already three people there. Witness stated that he knew them as frequent visitors to the camp and named them as Gen Mateso NINGA, aka KUNG FU and military leader of the FNI militia controlling the Kilo Moto gold mine area of MONGBWALU, his deputy COL MASASI aka DRAGON and (one other). Witness stated that his working relationship with these people would have been such as that they would have been able to name him by his first name.
8. [REDACTED] when asked what transpired at this meeting stated that the first comment from Major [REDACTED] was to KUNG FU and he said 'what about the weapons I gave you, what about the weapons MONUC gave you'? Witness claimed that KUNG FU's response was 'we share them out to different positions, the militia don't respect us, [REDACTED] don't respect me as a General, it is tough trying to control them'. Witness stated that Major [REDACTED] response to this was 'MONUC gave you weapons to control the border, you should stay there to keep our security'. Witness stated that KUNG FU responded saying that 'we will try to capture back the weapons' we don't need them at the moment, we have no problems'.

9. As they were leaving [REDACTED] the witness stated that he was told by MAJOR [REDACTED] to explain to them (the visitors) 'our situation'. Major [REDACTED] said to KUNG FU 'you know they (FARDC) are looking for you, but I will warn you before they come for you, [REDACTED]'. Witness stated that Major [REDACTED] also asked KUNG FU 'what about our business' and KUNG FU replied 'I will bring you some later'. The witness when asked what they meant by business said they were referring to gold. Witness claimed that everyone in MONGBWALU knew KUNG FU and DRAGON were dealing gold in PAKBATT with Major [REDACTED] and Major [REDACTED].
10. Witness, when asked about other incidents he was aware of, claimed that frequently in the middle of the night in PAKBATT, 4 WD trucks were loaded with food, brought to a nearby school and handed over to KUNG FU to be distributed to the Militia. This food was meant for the local population. Witness claimed that on two separate occasions he witnessed this event himself and saw Dragon's vehicle in PAKBATT during the night.
11. Witness claimed that PAKBATT were selling rations and food in exchange for gold. He further added that KUNG FU had two or three shop in MONGBWALU which sold PAKBATT rations and the money raised was used to buy gold which in turn was given back to PAKBATT. The witness further added that the local population and NGO's working in MONGBWALU were aware of this arrangement and were angry. Witness stated that he was approached by a [REDACTED] from an NGO working in [REDACTED] named [REDACTED] and told that they were trying to get access to food for almost a year with very little success. She further stated that 'your people (meaning MONUC) are not good'.
12. [REDACTED] outlined another incident where Major [REDACTED] gave 4 computers to DRAGON to sell for him in exchange for gold. According to the witness DRAGON then should give the computers to [REDACTED] to sell. [REDACTED] was a [REDACTED] and was almost a daily visitor to PAKBATT according to the witness. Witness stated that DRAGON returned to the camp and informed Major [REDACTED] that the computers had been stolen. According to the witness Major [REDACTED] then became very angry and said 'give me my gold or my computers'. The witness stated that on the way out he heard DRAGON say in Swahili to his guard 'we'll shoot those white men' (meaning [REDACTED] and he (the witness) became concerned and warned Major [REDACTED] to be careful.
13. That same night, the witness stated, Major [REDACTED] called KUNG FU on his mobile and asked him to come to the camp, which he did. The witness stated that he heard KUNG FU promise Major [REDACTED] that he would get him his gold.
14. Witness stated that KUNG FU often took his own militia to the gold mines and would take over the sites of locals to get gold. Witness stated that he heard on one such occasion an old man who would not hand over his site was killed by KUNG FU. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

15. The witness recalled another incident when he was called to the gate of PAKBATT and met with a local Congolese man. The man told the witness that 'you're people (meaning MONUC), it is wrong what you are doing, you are providing weapons to these people, making business with DRAGON and KUNG FU, they are looting villages and you still do business with these people. They now want to kidnap [REDACTED] and kill her'. The witness stated that he called Major [REDACTED] to the gate to speak with the man. At this time the witness stated that the [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] NGO was at a meeting across the road with the local Mayor. She had been provided with protection from PAKBATT as she was concerned about her safety in the town. The witness stated that earlier [REDACTED] had visited PAKBATT and informed Major [REDACTED] that Dragon was going to do something [REDACTED]. Witness added on receiving that information Major [REDACTED] called KUNG FU but he didn't come. The witness stated that when Major [REDACTED] came to the gate of PAKBATT the militia were surrounding the Mayors office and were heavily armed. Witness added that Major [REDACTED] appeared to be terrified and started negotiating with them. Witness stated that he heard Major [REDACTED] promise them passports and visa's so they could get to Pakistan [REDACTED].
16. The witness was asked about other visitors to PAKBATT and he confirmed that a number of business men came and met with Major [REDACTED] and Major [REDACTED]. One of these was a gold dealer of Indo/Kenyan origin, a fat man he saw different times also in Bunia. [REDACTED]. The witness stated that he never acted as interpreter during these meetings as it was usually [REDACTED] who was called. Witness added that he was not aware of any of these visitors staying overnight at PAKBATT. Witness stated that Major [REDACTED] was also involved in the gold dealing in PAKBATT.
17. The witness stated that he left PAKBATT due to problems he had with Major [REDACTED] who took over as contingent commander in [REDACTED]. Witness stated that [REDACTED]. Witness further added that the situation remained unchanged under a new command.
18. When asked if he was aware if PAKBATT ever passed on information about planned operations in the region to the militia, witness stated that he was not aware if this happened.
19. The witness, [REDACTED] stated that PAKBATT when on military operation would loot houses in villages they are operating in, and stealing goods to take them with them. Among the population on that region it would be well known, and that the population would not understand what MONUC is doing to them [REDACTED].
20. The witness, [REDACTED] stated that the interpreter [REDACTED] who attended most of the secret meetings held at PAKBATT would be in a position to further substantiate allegations of PAKBATT'S involvement in gold trafficking in MONGBWALU.

21. The witness stated that the two interpreters currently working in PAKBATT are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

End of ROC: 18.10

[REDACTED]