The Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC) is mandated to investigate and establish an impartial historical record of the nature, causes and extent of violations and abuses of human rights committed during the period of July 1994 to January 2017 and to consider the granting of reparations to victims and for connected matters. It started public hearings on 7th January 2019 and will proceed in chronological order, examining the most serious human rights violations that occurred from 1994 to 2017 during the rule of former President Yahya Jammeh. While the testimonies are widely reported in the press and commented on social media, triggering vivid discussions and questions regarding the current transitional process in the country, a summary of each thematic focus/event and its findings is missing.

The TRRC Digests seek to widen the circle of stakeholders in the transitional justice process in The Gambia by providing Gambians and interested international actors, with a constructive recount of each session, presenting the witnesses and listing the names of the persons mentioned in relation to human rights violations and – as the case may be – their current position within State, regional or international institutions.

Furthermore, the Digests endeavour to highlight trends and patterns of human rights violations and abuses that occurred and as recounted during the TRRC hearings. In doing so, the TRRC Digests provide a necessary record of information and evidence uncovered – and may serve as “checks and balances” at the end of the TRRC’s work.

After each release, the Digests are translated into Fula, Jola, Mandika and Wolof, and transmitted over local radio stations. In addition to translation and transmission of the Digests, ANEKED and The Point Newspaper facilitate panel discussions which aim to engage journalists, activists, victims, politicians and the general public to expand on the themes of the sessions, the trends and patterns arising as well as how the country can learn from the findings to prevent such atrocities in the future (#NeverAgain).
DISCLAIMER

The current publication is NOT a document emanating from the TRRC. It is produced by ANEKED and The Point Newspaper.

The information in this publication has been compiled from live testimonies given at the TRRC hearings. Great care has been taken to accurately represent the verbal testimonies, however errors cannot be fully excluded.

Please note that the culpability of any persons mentioned by witnesses can only be established by a competent court.

Discrepancies and conflicting testimonies are highlighted on the next page.

Ayesha Jammeh’s father (Haruna Jammeh) was killed and forcibly disappeared in 2006 by members of the Junglers, Alieu Jeng, Omar A. Jallow and Sanna Manjang on orders of Yahya Jammeh.
DISCREPANCIES/CONFLICTING TESTIMONIES

Ismaila Jammeh (versus Demba Dem)

In his testimony, Ismaila Jammeh claimed that he only participated in the torture of Bunja Darboe. However, in his testimony to the TRRC on 24th and 25th June 2019, Demba Dem (session 4) recalled that while he was interrogated at the NIA in March 2006, one Ismaila Jammeh handed him a statement and told him to sign. The witness refused and Ismaila Jammeh threatened to cut his hand. The witness still refused and Ismaila Jammeh then stabbed him in the arm. He mentioned that on another occasion Ismaila Jammeh gave him a kick and two days later he started vomiting blood. Demba Dem also testified that Omar Faal was tortured by Ismaila Jammeh who wanted to cut his leg.

Ismaila Jammeh (versus Malick Mboob and Malick Jatta)

Ismaila Jammeh also claimed that he did not remember witnessing any torture. However, in his testimony to the TRRC on 11th July 2019, Malick Mboob (session 5) said that he (Ismaila Jammeh) was present when he was tortured but helped him. According to Ismaila Jammeh, he stayed behind when the Junglers went to kill the group of prisoners in 2006. This contradicts Malick Jatta’s testimony (session 6) which stated that Ismaila Jammeh was present during the mission.

Lamin Badjie (versus Amadou Badjie and Omar A. Jallow)

Lamin Badjie claimed that the Mile 2 Prison inmates were killed in the other Junglers’ vehicles, not in his presence at Solo Bojang’s range in Brikama. Yet in session 6, during Amadou Badjie’s testimony, the Lead Counsel asked whether the prisoners were killed in the car or at the range, saying there were inconsistencies between his (Amadou Badjie) testimony and that of Omar A. Jallow. Amadou Badjie repeated that they killed their prisoner in the vehicle, but the others may have been killed at the range. He reminded the Commission that he had been left as a sentry to wait for the ministers so he was not there for the other murders. During that same session, Omar A. Jallow testified that they put the inmates inside the vehicles, drove to Solo Bojang’s range in Brikama and there they took plastic bag, put them on the head of the inmates and suffocated them to death. After killing them, they took them to the bush and threw them inside a well.

Alieu Jeng (versus Lamin Badjie and Malick Jatta)

Alieu Jeng denied participating in the torture of General Savage, Yahya Darboe, Darboe although Lamin Badjie testified he (Alieu Jeng) had.

Despite being questioned about Ndogo Mboob several times and being read a statement by Malick Jatta (from session 6), which claimed Alieu Jeng had participated in his killing, Alieu Jeng denied any involvement.

Despite being again read out Malick Jatta’s testimony (from session 6), which stated that Alieu Jeng had participated in the enforced disappearance and killing of Daba Marenah, Manlafi Corr, Alieu Ceesay, Ebou Lowe, Alpha Bah, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia, Alieu Jeng stuck to his testimony claiming his role was limited to escorting to prevent the victims from escaping, that he was not present nor did he hear gunshots during the execution in the forest.

Alieu Jeng also denied having participated in the torture of Imam Baba Leigh and Bakawsu Fofana although Malick Jatta claimed otherwise (session 6) during his testimony.
Pa Ousman Sanneh (versus Omar A. Jallow)

Regarding the killing of Baba Jobe

Pa Ousman Sanneh said in his testimony that he did not participate in the actual killing of Baba Jobe. However, in his testimony at the TRRC on 23rd and 24th July 2019, Omar A. Jallow “Oya” (session 6) said that Pa Ousman Sanneh was part of the group who suffocated Baba Jobe to death.

Regarding the killing of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe

According to Pa Ousman Sanneh, after the arrest of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe, they were taken directly to Kanilai, while Omar A. Jallow “Oya” (session 6) said that the two men were then taken to their base in Kololi, interrogated and beaten by the officers. It was only after the interrogation, that the senior officers called General Sulayman/Saul Badjie who asked them to wait until he got instructions from Yahya Jammeh who was in Kanilai. Around 5pm, Saul Badjie called back and informed Nuha Badjie that Yahya Jammeh wanted to see the two Gambian-Americans.

Regarding the torture of Imam Baba Leigh, Imam Bakawsu (Fofana) and another Imam

Pa Ousman Sanneh denied having participated in the torture of Imam Baba Leigh and other Imams. Yet, in his testimony at the TRRC on 23rd and 24th July 2019, Omar A. Jallow “Oya” (session 6) cited Pa Ousman Sanneh as one of the persons who participated in the torture session of Imam Baba Leigh, Imam Bakawsu (Fofana) and a third Imam, whose name he could not remember.

Regarding the killing of Sulayman/Saul Ndow and Mahawa Cham

Pa Ousman Sanneh did not mention his involvement or knowledge of the killing of Sulayman/Saul Ndow and Mahawa Cham. This contradicts Omar A. Jallow “Oya”’s testimony (session 6) which stated that at one occasion, he received a call from Malick Manga briefing him to report at the base and mentioned that Pa Ousman Sanneh was present when Malick Manga briefed them that they would go to Kanilai and meet with Solo Bojang because two individuals by the names of Sulayman/Saul Ndow and Mahawa Cham had bought some weapons as they were planning a coup and had been looking for people to join them. Omar A. Jallow “Oya” did not mention Pa Ousman Sanneh as being part of those who killed or buried Sulayman/Saul Ndow and Mahawa Cham. The Lead Counsel did not probe this discrepancy/omission in the testimony.

Killing of death row inmates from Mile 2 Prison

Pa Ousman Sanneh denied having participated in the killing of the nine death row inmates from Mile 2 Prison, which conflicts with the testimony of Omar A. Jallow “Oya” (session 6) who mentioned Pa Ousman Sanneh as being part of the team in charge of the mission.
OVERVIEW

On 5th August 2019, the TRRC started its seventh three-week session of public hearings of witnesses.

Before the start of the testimony of the first witness, Jungler Ismaila Jammeh, TRRC Chairman Sise read a statement on behalf of the Commission, in which he recalled that in the last session three Junglers were heard. He defined the Junglers as being a group of soldiers selected from the State Guards, a unit of the Gambia National Army, GNA responsible for the then President’s security, officially called the Patrol Team. Its primary duty was to patrol the area of the Gambia-Southern Senegal border near Yahya Jammeh’s home village of Kanilai. In reality, they were a hit squad mainly engaged in arrest, tortures and killings of victims.

Chairman Sise said that “the truth of their atrocities was always there; it was just hidden from the public. The nation and the world were appalled to hear of these heinous crimes. We cannot now pretend that these crimes were not or could not have been committed by Gambians. Now we know that they were not only perpetrated by Gambians on Gambians but also on non-Gambians such as our brothers and sisters from Ghana and other West African countries.”

One of the Junglers who testified during this session, Pa Ousman Sanneh was subsequently released from custody on 10th August 2019 following recommendation from the Minister of Justice, Abubacarr Tambadou despite the many conflicting statements he made and discrepancies with the testimony of Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, which were highlighted by Lead Counsel Essa Faal.

The seventh session also focused on the 10th/11th April 2000 student demonstrations, in which at least 13 students, one Red Cross volunteer as well as a three-year-old child were killed by the security forces. Many students were reported to have been seriously injured during the crack-down.

The peaceful student demonstration had been called by the Gambia Student Union, GAMSU leadership following two separate incidents - the rape of 15-year-old Binta Manneh by a paramilitary and the beating to death of a secondary school student, Ebrima Barry by firefighters, and the lack of investigation of both of those incidents. During the protests, orders were given to the security forces to fire at the unarmed students, which resulted in the death of:

Babucarr (Burama) Badjie, Karamo Barrow, Lamin Bojang, Reginald Carrol, Modou Lamin Chune, Bamba Jobarteh, Wuyea Foday Mansareh, Bakary Njie, Modou Lamin Njie, Sainey Nyabally, Ousman Sabally, Ousman Sembene, Claesco Pierre, Abdoulie Sanyang (three-year old boy) and Omar Barrow (Red Cross volunteer).

Following the massacre, the government denied allegations that Yahya Jammeh had given the orders to shoot and through then Vice-President Isatou Njie-Saidy, claimed the students had broken into police armouries and shot at one another. A Commission of Inquiry was set up and the Indemnity Act Bill that backdated to January 2000 was passed, essentially securing those responsible for the killings from legal prosecution.

At the time of release of this publication, no perpetrator has been brought to justice.

During the seventh session of the TRRC, 12 persons testified including 5 persons who confessed to committing human rights violations, 5 victims (including 1 woman). 1 person testified via video conferencing/skype.

In the course of the session, the human rights violations reported include:

- Extrajudicial killing
- Enforced disappearance
-Torture, including rape

-Arbitrary arrest and detention

-Detention under inhumane and degrading conditions

-Forced marriage

56 persons were mentioned by witnesses in relation to human rights violations committed, namely:1

-Amadou BADJIE (nickname Chairman): Member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Confessed in session 6 to having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); in the killing and enforced disappearance of Ebou Jobe and Mamut Ceesay in 2013; in the killing and enforced disappearance of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye in 2016. Confessed to having participated in the arbitrary arrest of Ndure Cham in 2013 and to having participated in the torture of Bakawus Fofana and Imam Baba Leigh in 2012. Accused of having participated in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. Arrested in February 2017 and released on 10th August 2019 following recommendation from the Minister of Justice Abubacarr Tambadou after his testimony at the TRRC.

-Lamin BADJIE: Member of the Patrol Team but denied being a member of “the Junglers”. Confessed to being complicit in the killing and in to having participated in the enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe). Accused of having participated in the arbitrary detention of Ndure Cham (2013). Arrested in February 2017 and released on 23rd June 2018 allegedly following exoneration from other members of “the Junglers”. Working as a police officer at the time of release of this publication.

-Nuha BADJIE: Former Lieutenant Colonel in the army and senior official within the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of ordering the killing of Baba Jobe (2011), in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe). Accused of participating in the torture of persons interrogated by the panel investigating the March 2006 failed coup notably of General Musa Savage, Yahya Darboe, Bunja Darboe; of having ordered the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018.

-Sulayman/Saul BADJIE: Former Lieutenant General in the army and head of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of ordering the killing of Baba Jobe (2011), of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); of having been implicated in the killing and enforced disappearance of Ebou Jobe and Mamut Ceesay in 2013; of having participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Ndure Cham in 2013; of having ordered the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018. Reported to be in Equatorial Guinea at the time of release of this publication.

1The allegations against individuals listed here are only those that were mentioned in this session. Individuals might have been accused of other crimes in previous sessions. Please check our previous Digests.
- **Yankuba BADJIE**: Director of the NIA from 2013 to 2016. Accused of having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of Ndure Cham in 2013. Arrested in February 2017 and on trial for the murder of Solo Sandeng in detention and the torture of UDP supporters in 2016.

- **Seedy BALDEH**: Accused of extrajudicial killing and enforced disappearance of Almamo Manneh in 2000.

- **Solo BOJANG**: Kanilai Farm Manager and second in command of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Said to be a relative of Yahya Jammeh. Accused of having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of 56 West African migrants in 2005; of having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006; of the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Aliieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); in the killing of Deyda Hydara in 2004 and killing and enforced disappearance of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006; and in the torture of persons interrogated by the panel investigating the March 2006 failed coup. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018. Last reported to be in Casamance, Senegal.

- **Momodou/Modou I. BUSSO**: Police officer moved to the State House and incorporated to the Patrol Team and accused of having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Aliieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe). Accused of participating in the arbitrary arrest of Vincent Jatta. He is said to have been the one selecting many of the gravesites where victims’ remains were buried. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018. Last reported to be in Casamance, Senegal.

- **Wassa CAMARA**: Mentioned as having played a role in the killing and torture of students in Brikamaba on during the student demonstration on 11th April 2000. He was reportedly the one in charge of the detachment that came from Basse to reinforce the soldiers from Kudang.

- **Bora COLLEY**: Former Brigadier General in the army and member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); in the killing of Deyda Hydara in 2004 and killing and enforced disappearance of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006; and in the torture of persons interrogated by the panel investigating the March 2006 failed coup. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018.

- **David COLLEY**: Former Director General of The Gambia Prison Services. Accused of being complicit and present during the killing of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe). According to media reports, David Colley was dismissed on 24th February 2017 from his position as Director General of The Gambia Prison Services and was charged with conspiracy to commit murder and abuse of office in March 2018 but released on bail.²

- **Manlafi CORR**: Former corporal in the State Guard. Accused of participating in the arbitrary arrest of Vincent Jatta. Also accused of participating in the torture of persons interrogated by the panel investigating the March 2006 failed coup notably of General Musa Savage, Yahya Darboe, Bunja Darboe. Killed in 2006.

²See publication by The Point Newspaper: Ex-prison chief charged over Baba Jobe’s murder, 20 March 2018.
-**Michael Sang CORREA:** Captain in the army and member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of having participated in the killing and forced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Aliue Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); in the killing and forced disappearance of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Aliue Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006; of participating in the torture of persons interrogated by the panel investigating the March 2006 failed coup notably of General Musa Savage, Yahya Darboe, Bunja Darboe; of having participated in the arbitrary arrest of Ebou Jobe and Mamut Ceesay in 2013; of having participated in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018. Reported to have been arrested in September 2019 in Denver, USA and under US custody at the time of release of this publication.

-**Paul “Papu” GOMEZ:** Former Sergeant in the Gambia National Army, GNA, currently serving at time of mention. Accused of having kicked/tortured soldiers on 11th November 1994.

-**Momodou/Muhammed HYDARA:** Acting Director of the NIA in March 2006. Accused of being complicit in torture of persons arrested in relation to the 2006 foiled coup. Was reported to be living in Alaska, United States. Deported back to The Gambia by the US authorities in October 2018 and not under custody at the time of release of this publication.


-**Lalo JAITEH:** Accused of extrajudicial killing and enforced disappearance of Almamo Manneh in 2000 and of the arbitrary arrest of Landing Sanneh.

-**Omar A. JALLOW (alias Oya):** Member of the death squad “the Junglers”. Confessed to having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of 48 persons including: of Haruna Jammeh in 2005; of around 30 West Africans in 2005; of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Aliue Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); of Sulayman/Saul Ndow and Mahawa Cham in 2013; of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe in 2013; of Ndure Cham in 2013; of Toumani Jallow in 2016; of having participated in the killing of Baba Jobe in 2011; of Mustapha Colley in 2012; and confessed having participated in the torture of Imam Baba Leigh, Imam Bakawusu Fofana, another Marabou/Imam in 2012 as well as of the 30th December 2014 coup plotters in 2015. Accused of having participated in the enforced disappearance and killing of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Aliue Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006; accused of having participated in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. Arrested in May 2017 and released on 10th August 2019 from detention following recommendation from the Minister of Justice Abubacarr Tambadou after his testimony at the TRRC.

-**Buba JAMMEH (alias Kanilai):** Cousin to Yahya Jammeh and a former soldier of the Gambia National Army. Accused of being complicit in the execution of Ebou M Ceesay and Basirou Camara in November 1994. Also accused of extrajudicial killing and enforced disappearance of Almamo Manneh in 2000 and of the arbitrary arrest of Landing Sanneh as well as Tamsir Jasseh.

-**Ismaila JAMMEH:** Member of the death squad team “the Junglers” in 2006. Confessed to having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of Almamo Manneh in 2000; of participating in the arbitrary arrest of Vincent Jatta, Landing Sanneh and Tamsir Jasseh in 2006; and of participating in the
torture of Bunja Darboe in 2006; accused of having participated in the killing and forced disappearance of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006. Detained at Yundum Barracks at time of release of this publication.


-Yahya JAMMEH: Chairman of the Armed Forces Provisional Ruling Council (AFPRC) and President of The Gambia until December 2016. Accused of ordering the firing of unarmed students during the April 2000 demonstrations; of ordering the killing of and enforced disappearance of Almamo Manneh in 2000; of ordering the killing of Deyda Hydara in 2004; of ordering the killing of and enforced disappearance of 56 West-African migrants in 2005; of ordering the killing and forced disappearance of Dawda Nyassi in 2006; of ordering the killing of Baba Jobe in 2011; of ordering the killing and forced disappearance of nine death row inmates at Mile 2 Prison in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); of ordering the killing and enforced disappearance of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe in 2013. In exile in Equatorial Guinea at the time of mention.

-Michael JATTA: Member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006; of participating in the killing of Baba Jobe in 2011; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Ndure Cham in 2013; of participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe in 2013; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye in 2016; of having participated in the torture of persons interrogated by the panel investigating the March 2006 failed coup; of having participated in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018.

-Momodou/Modou Lamin JARJU (alias Rambo): Major in the army and member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in

\[^3\text{During session 6, he confessed to having beaten only General Savage during these events.}\]
the killing of Baba Jobe in 2011; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe in 2013; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Ndure Cham in 2013; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye in 2016; of participating in the torture of Imam Baba Leigh, Bakawsu Fofana and another Imam in 2012 as well as in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018.

-Saikouba /Saïkou JARJU: Member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe in 2013; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye in 2016; of having participated in the arbitrary arrest of Ndure Cham in 2013; of having participated in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018.

-Alieu JENG: Member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Confessed to taking part in the killing and enforced disappearance of Haruna Jammeh in 2005; of West African migrants in 2005; of Dawda Nyassi in 2006; of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006. Confessed to taking part in the killing of Deyda Hydara in 2004. Confessed to having participated in the torture of five persons interrogated by the panel investigating the March 2006 failed coup notably of General Musa Savage; Accused of having participated in arbitrary arrest of Vincent Jatta. Arrested in 2017. In detention at the time of release of this publication.


-Lamin/Babading JOBARTEH: Minister of Justice in 2012. Accused of having been complicit in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe).

-Musa JOHNSON: Soldier in the army in 2013. Participated and facilitated the arbitrary arrest of Ndure Cham in 2013.

-Alhagie (Bambo) KANYI (alias ‘mofa kanyi’ (“KillerMan”)): Former Army Corporal. Accused of being complicit in the execution of Ebou M Ceesay and Basirou Camara in November 1994. Serving at the Immigration department at Soma at time of mention.

- **Abdoulie KUJABI**: Former Deputy Director of the NIA. Accused of killing and enforced disappearance of Almamo Manneh in 2000.

- **Malick MANGA**: Warrant Officer Class 1 and member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in the killing of Baba Jobe in 2011; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Ebou Jobe and Mamut Ceesay in 2013 and decapitating them; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye in 2016; as well as in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018. Said to be in hiding in Senegal at time of release of this publication.

- **Mr. MANNEH**: Accused of forcefully marrying off his daughter, Binta Manneh shortly after her rape. And possibly of child marriage. It is assumed from Binta Manneh’s testimony that she was a minor when she was forced to marry. The Counsel did not probe further on the question of age at time of the forced marriage taking place.

- **Sanna MANJANG**: Former Lieutenant Colonel in the army and member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Deyda Hydara in 2004; of Haruna Jammeh in 2005; of West African migrants in 2005; of Dawda Nyassi in 2006; of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masi/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006; of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); as well as the arbitrary arrest of Vincent Jatta. Fled the country in 2017. Subjected to an arrest warrant for the murder of Deyda Hydara. His name is also on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018. Said to be living in Guinea Bissau at time of mention.

- **Alhagie MARR**: Soldier in the GNA. Accused of having done the surveillance that led to the arbitrary arrest of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe in 2013.


- **Sang MENDY**: Member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe).

- **David NJIE**: Accused of participating in the arbitrary arrest of Tamsir Jasseh.

- **Isatou NJIE-SAIDY**: Former Vice-President of The Gambia. Accused of being complicit in extrajudicial killing by giving the orders to fire at the students and of wilful misrepresentation of facts following the April 2000 student massacre.

- **Nfansu NYABALLY**: Member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masi/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Ndure Cham in 2013; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Mamut Ceesay and
Ebou Jobe in 2013; of participating in the torture of persons interrogated by the panel investigating the March 2006 failed coup notably of General Musa Savage, Yahya Darboe, Bunja Darboe; of having participating in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015 as well as having participated in the arbitrary arrest of Vincent Jatta in 2006. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018.

-Sanna SABALLY: Former Captain of the GNA and the first Vice Chairman of the AFPRC, reported to have been working as a nurse in Germany and most recently in Dakar for a German organisation at the time of the testimonies. Accused of ordering and participating in the executions of captured soldiers on 11th November 1994.

-Lamin SAMBOU: Police officer moved to the State House and incorporated to the Junglers and confessed to having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe). Accused of having participated in the arbitrary detention of Ndure Cham in 2013.

-Sulayman/Saul SAMBOU: Member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in the enforced disappearance and extrajudicial killing of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); accused of having tortured Ndure Cham in 2013 and having participated in his killing and enforced disappearance; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe in 2013; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye in 2016; of having participating in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018.

-Mustapha SANNEH: Captain and member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of being complicit in the killing and enforced disappearance of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe); of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe in 2013; of participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye in 2016; of participating in the torture of persons interrogated by the panel investigating the March 2006 failed coup notably of General Musa Savage, Yahya Darboe, Bunja Darboe; of having participated in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015. Also accused of having participated in the arbitrary arrest of Vincent Jatta in 2006 and in the arbitrary arrest of Ndure Cham in 2013. His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018.

-Pa Ousman SANNEH: Member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Confessed to having participated in the killing of Baba Jobe in 2011; to participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe in 2013; to participating in the killing and enforced disappearance of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye in 2016; to having participated in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju in 2014/2015 and to having participated in the arbitrary arrest and detention of Ndure Cham in 2013. Arrested in May 2017 and released on 10th August 2019 from detention following recommendation from the Minister of Justice Abubacarr Tambadou after his testimony at the TRRC.
- **Abdoulie SANYANG**: Public Relation Officer. Accused of arbitrary detention of students during the April 2000 students’ demonstrations.

- **Edward SINGHATEH**: Former Lieutenant of GNA and second Vice Chairman of the AFPRC, served in various position during the Jammeh regime. From 2016 to 2018, he served as the Vice-President of ECOWAS and was said to be residing in Nigeria at time of mention. Confessed to participating in the executions on 11th November 1994 at time of release of this publication.

- **Peter SINGHATEH**: Former Lieutenant of the Gambia National Army, reported to be residing and working as a pilot in the United Kingdom at time of mention. Accused of participating in the executions on 11th November 1994.

- **Ousman SONKO**: Former Inspector General of Police and Minister of Interior. Accused of killing and enforced disappearance of Almamo Manneh in 2000. Accused of being present during the arbitrary arrest of Landing Sanneh in 2000. Accused of having been complicit and present during the killing of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe). Detained in Switzerland and under investigation by Swiss authorities for crimes against humanity at the time of release of this publication.

- **Baboucarr SOWE**: Commissioner Admin. Accused of arbitrary detention of students during the April 2000 students’ demonstrations.

- **Landing TAMBA**: Major and member of the death squad team “the Junglers”. Accused of participating in the forced disappearance and killing of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe). His name is on the list of wanted persons issued by Gambian authorities in 2018.

- **Tumbul TAMBA**: Head of the death squad team the “Junglers” in 2006. Accused of having participated in the killing of Deyda Hydara in 2004; of having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of West African migrants in 2005; of having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of Dawda Nyassi in 2006; of having participated in the killing and enforced disappearance of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia in 2006; of having participated and ordered the torture of persons who were accused to be implicated in the 2006 attempted coup d’état in 2006, notably of General Musa Savage, Yahya Darboe, Bunja Darboe and accused of participating in the arbitrary arrest of Tamsir Jasseh in 2006. Deceased (2007.)

- **Yakuba TOURAY**: Officer at Janjanbureh Prison in April 2000. Accused of torturing Mr. Njie, a teacher following his arrest and detention after the April student demonstrations.

- **Yankuba TOURAY**: Former Lieutenant of the GNA. He held different ministerial portfolios in Jammeh’s regime, including Minister of Information, Tourism and Culture and Local Government and Lands. Accused of participating in the executions on 11th November 1994. Awaiting trial for the murder of Former Minister of Finance Ousman Koro Ceesay at time of the release of this publication.
6 TYPES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
- torture, including rape
- extrajudicial killing
- detentions under inhumane and degrading conditions
- enforced disappearance
- forced marriage
- arbitrary arrest/detention

12 PERSONS TESTIFIED
- 7 victims (including 1 woman)
- 5 confessed perpetrators of human rights violations

56 PERSONS MENTIONED
in relation to human rights violations committed

PLACES
- Bond Road
- Cashew Farm
- Casamance (Senegal)
- Solo Bojang’s Range in Brikama
- Brikama Police Station
- Yundum Barracks
- Police Headquarters
- Westfield
- Foni
- Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital
- Police Intervention Unit Headquarters
- Kololi Tavern
- Tanji
- Gambia Technical Training Institute
- Mile 2 Prison
- Janjanbureh Prison
- Yahya Jammeh’s Farm in Kanilai
- Brikamaba Police Station
- Police Headquarters
- Landing Sanneh’s Residence
- Brikamaba Health Centre
- National Intelligence Agency
WITNESS NAME: Ismaila JAMMEH

TRRC HEARING DATE (S): 5th August 2019

EVENT (S) DISCUSSED: Killing of Almamo Manneh (2000); the arrest and torture of several people who were implicated in the 2006 attempted coup d’état including Vincent Jatta, Tamsir Jasseh, Wassu Camara and other soldiers of GNA; torture of civilians who were arrested in connection with the Freedom Newspaper gate (2006); arrest and torture of Ndure Cham (2013); killing and enforced disappearance of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia (2006).

POSITION BEFORE THE EVENT (S): Soldier in the GNA and member of the Junglers/Patrol Team, relative of Yahya Jammeh.

ROLE DURING THE EVENT (S): Member of the Junglers; Participated in the killings and torture

POSITION HELD AT TIME OF TESTIMONY: Soldier in the GNA – in detention

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

The Lead Counsel told the witness had been warned that it is an offense to lie before the TRRC as well as to refuse to answer questions. The Lead Counsel explained that he however has a right not to incriminate himself, meaning that if the TRRC compels the witness to answer a question, which would incriminate him, the Commission would grant him immunity for that answer. This means that the answer cannot be used in evidence against him but it cannot stop other similar evidence obtained from elsewhere or from another source to be equally used against him. The Lead Counsel then said that the witness was entitled to a lawyer and legal counselling but informed the public that the witness had waived this right.

Starting with his testimony, Ismaila Jammeh told the TRRC that he is a brother of Yahya Jammeh and explained that after the 22nd July 1994 coup, he was deployed as a sentry man to the State House. He reckoned that due to his hard work, he was appointed as a close protective officer to Yahya Jammeh and became his orderly. He denied vehemently having been chosen because of his family ties with Yahya Jammeh. The witness explained that his duties as orderly were to “work out” whatever Yahya Jammeh needed and support him in his daily activities. He added that there were certain conversations he was not privy to, notably private conversations because he knew how to respect his privacy. He said he worked in this position from 1998 to 2001, when he was sacked from the army.

Explaining the reason for his sacking, the witness said that in 2001, he was posted at the then President’s residence in Kanilai together with one of his friends Ebrima Njie.

One day in the morning “one of our nephews by the name Aziz Tamba (...) came and said, we came to bury something here.”

Ismaila Jammeh remembered that Aziz Tamba was accompanied by several people he did not know who were standing outside.

When asked if he inquired what had to be buried, the witness responded that in Africa it is better not to ask too many questions and therefore he did not
know what it was. He just told Aziz Tamba to wait outside while he would confirm with his boss in Banjul if he could let him pass.

At this point, the Lead Counsel told the witness that in his statement, he had indicated that Aziz Tamba had come to bury some charms at the residence and asked him why he was now claiming that he did not know what it was. While acknowledging that his was not very significant, the Lead Counsel warned him that it the fact that he changed versions affected his credibility and he was taking the risk of not being believed by the Commission. Ismaila Jammeh explained that he had assumed that it would be a charm because when someone buries something it has to be “something like charm”. When asked, he denied that it could have been a dead body.

When the Lead Counsel told him that Yahya Jammeh’s farm has been a graveyard for a lot of the people who were executed, he retorted that he was not aware of it until now.

The witness went on to explain that he called Yahya Jammeh to inform him that there was a man there with “some marabouts or strangers to bury this thing”. When probed by the Lead Counsel, Ismaila Jammeh admitted that he assumed that the strangers were marabouts. Yahya Jammeh told him to put Aziz Tamba on the phone and the witness was then given permission to allow the group to bury the charm, but he did not witness it.

Ismaila Jammeh stated that later that day he had a discussion with Aziz Tamba, in which he explained to him that as a soldier, he could not obey him as he was a civilian and he had to ask for instructions before letting him pass. He did not consider this to be an argument between them, and was therefore surprised when in the evening Lieutenant Yankuba Badjie came to see him with a frown face and told him that he would be locked up at Fajara Barracks the following day.

Ismaila Jammeh told the Commission that he was detained for five days and then escorted to the Office of the State Guard Commander Lang Tombong Tamba. There he was accused of having threatened to kill a civilian, which he categorically denied and asked that they hear his witness who could confirm that he was not guilty. His request was denied and Ebrima Njie was suspended for two weeks, while the witness was dismissed until November 2003. He then was reinstated to the Office of the President.

Ismaila Jammeh then said that he was deployed to Kanilai. After one month, he saw Yahya Jammeh for the first time again. He greeted the witness and gave him a potato to hold, which he did. When asked about the significance of this gesture, the witness responded that he thought it was to test his loyalty towards the then President. He said that while he was faithful to Yahya Jammeh, he was posted as a sentry man and was never allowed to get close to him again. The witness explained that in 2004, he was sent to Sudan for about ten months.

Ismaila Jammeh stated that before being deployed to Sudan, he was told by Essa Bokar Sey, the then Ambassador to France, that he was “creating a package for us to go to Hungary”. He added that Essa Bokar Sey was a former gendarme, who used to work with Yahya Jammeh. According to the witness, the men who were selected to go to Hungary were those who “can deliver”, and he was part of these people. He mentioned that this package is where the name “Jungler” came from. He explained that the package was “unfortunately given to the National Intelligence Agency, NIA”.

He called the Commander of the State Guard, Lang Tombong Tamba and explained his side of the story and even put him on the phone with Ebrima Njie who confirmed his version. The witness also appealed to Lang Tombong Tamba saying that he was the only breadwinner of his family and had to care about his parents. Despite this, Yankuba Badjie informed him that he would be locked up at Fajara Barracks the following day.
At that time Serigne Modou Njie (the witness added that he is an Ambassador now) just came back from a training and was very good on the ground-training people about navigation in the bush. He wanted to share that knowledge of “jungle warfare” with the other soldiers. So, a group of soldiers converged at Kanilai to form a group. However, something happened and Serigne Modou Njie did not deliver the training.

Ismaila Jammeh said that the group of soldiers did not receive any other training and were just sharing information and patrolling the border among themselves. The Lead Counsel reminded the witness that in his statement, he had indicated that after his reinstatement in 2003, he was again posted at Kanilai where he underwent a training for border patrol and that a team was formed. The witness claimed that this is what he said and explained that the group in fact trained itself on border patrol.

He then explained that Abdoulie Kujabi brought in a man from Italy called Francisco, but that they soon realised that he did not know anything. When probed by the Lead Counsel about the year, Ismaila Jammeh answered that this happened in 1999. The Counsel informed him that the evidence received by the TRRC is that the training happened in 2003, but the witness said that it was not the case for him.

On the training delivered by Francisco, he stated that he had often been wondering if what this man told them was genuine. The witness further testified that 15 people participated in the training, including Famara Camara aka Sicon who is now in the USA, Aliou Bojang who is no longer a soldier, Babucarr Bojang (the witness added that he is no longer a soldier) and Lamin Senghore, who is no longer a soldier and used to be called Assassin. Ismaila Jammeh confirmed that Lamin Senghore was a Jungler but said that he could not remember anyone else.

The Lead Counsel then suggested names to the witness and he confirmed that Modou Lamin, Tamba Pa Ousman Sanneh, Paul Bojang and Wally Nyang (the witness added that he is presently in the USA) were also part of the training. He said he could not remember Ebrima Jallow taking part and refuted that Solo Bojang, Omar Bojang Solo Jammeh, Kawsu Camara aka Bombardier, Omar A. Jallow “Oya” had taken part.

Ismaila Jammeh explained that when they initially received the announcement that Serigne Modou Njie would train them in jungle warfare, they were so happy that they called themselves Junglers and assigned numbers (Jungler 1, Jungler 2 etc.). He further stated that they were working in teams and that his partner was Famara Camara. The witness explained that they would also do patrol as part of their regular duties and added that only those who are very active were on the Patrol Team.

Upon being asked how the government called them, Ismaila Jammeh responded that it would have been Jungler, but also Patrol Team. He further said that any type of Patrol Team can go for patrol and can be created anytime a Patrol Team goes out. He explained that his group was not only asked to patrol the area around Kanilai but all the borders of The Gambia.

According to him the group was not known by any other name and denied that it was also called “Black, Black”. Regarding the term “Black Scorpions”, the witness reckoned that it could have been used because of the things that they were wearing. When told that his colleagues had mentioned all these names as synonyms for the Junglers, Ismaila Jammeh responded that in Africa people are fond of giving names the way they want.

When probed further, he confirmed that the Junglers were also called “border Patrol Team”, “Black, Black” and “Black Scorpions”.

When asked if he was part of the selection of those who would be trained as Junglers, the witness explained that while he was at the Office of the

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5 Francisco Casio.
6 Lamin Senghore appeared before the Commission on 8th April 2019 and confirmed that he had taken part in the Jungler training but denied having participated in any mission.
President as an orderly, he was given the opportunity to identify good soldiers who can do the job. He stated that as he himself was working for Yahya Jammeh, he had a good sense of who could work with the then President. He indicated that Yahya Jammeh did not give him the responsibility, but that he was selecting soldiers on the order of Abdoulie Kujabi, the former Director of the NIA. When asked if it was normal for a soldier to take orders from a civilian, the witness responded that Abdoulie Kujabi was a security man whose aim was to maintain the stability of the country, and therefore he agreed to do whatever he said and that he did not consider it to be a violation of the chain of command. He later added that the intelligence agency was working hand in hand with the military and that was another reason why he obeyed the order.

Ismaila Jammeh further explained that he established a list, which he gave to Abdoulie Kujabi so that he could make his findings. When asked, he refuted that it was Yahya Jammeh who had given him the order to identify suitable soldiers. He also explained that he did not ask Abdoulie Kujabi because in the military the soldiers are not supposed to ask where the order comes from.

When asked if he believed that the order came from Yahya Jammeh, he did not give a clear answer and stated that he believed and trusted the person who gave him the order directly, which in this case was to “select good soldiers who can take responsibility”. Upon being further probed, he said that Abdoulie Kujabi told him that he would take the list of names, make his findings and seek approval and indicated that approval would have to come from the Office of the President. He acknowledged that the final approval could have been given by Yahya Jammeh but added that there was a panel, which would make final recommendations. When asked again if Yahya Jammeh gave that order for him to select suitable people, the witness responded in the affirmative.

The Lead Counsel then asked the witness who were selected to become Junglers, but the witness responded that it was a long time ago and that it was difficult for him to remember the names of the soldiers. The Counsel then presented him with names from which Ismaila Jammeh confirmed that he did recommend Sergeant Saul Badjie – who later became General, Bai Lowe and Ebrima Jallow to undergo this training.

He, however, refuted having recommended Lieutenant Samba Baldeh (now in the USA), Mustapha Faal, Malick Jatta, Sanna Manjang, Michael Correa, Modou Sanneh, Saikou Jallow, Jola Moror, Faring Sanyang, ML Bah, Sanjali Sallah, Maulude Colley, Sheriff Gisseh, ML Colley, Sheikh Omar Joof, Biram Nget, ML Mendy, Jerreh Sis'sah, Alhagie Corr, Alieu Ceesay, Nfansu Nyabally, Alieu Jeng, Yusupha Sanneh and Sutukun Barry. He explained that these individuals came in later and that he met them in Kanilai when he was reinstated in 2003 but did not know how they were deployed there.

He said that he believed that Sulayman (Saul) Badjie, Dembo Jatta, Sambou Barrow, Buba Darboe, Solo Bojang, Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and Lamin Sillah must have recommended them.

When asked which qualities he was looking for in the men he would recommend, the witness responded that he would choose those who he believed could “maintain law and order, to obey the word of command and to maintain a peaceful Gambia”, in addition the men should show respect for their job, be punctual, obedient and he added that he chose those who he believed to be loyal to Yahya Jammeh.

When asked if he chose those who would obey the command without question, he responded that given the choice between an individual who would accept every order and one who would use his reason, he would choose the latter.

The Lead Counsel asked specifically if Omar A. Jallow
“Oya” was a soldier who would accept all orders or if he was someone who would question the orders he was given, and Ismaila Jammeh responded that he could not say what Omar A. Jallow “Oya” mindset was. He added that he believed that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” would do what was expected of him.

After being probed further by the Lead Counsel on if he selected persons who would accept any order, he responded that while the ability to accept and implement orders was an important criterion for him, he only established the first list, which was then handed over to Abdoulie Kujabi from the NIA. When asked what his role was, Ismaila Jammeh explained that Kujabi was very close to Yahya Jammeh. The witness explained that once the list was handed over to him, he would make an assessment and if he was not satisfied, he would drop some of the names from the list. When asked, the witness said that he did not know what Abdoulie Kujabi was looking for. He explained that he himself would never have selected soldiers who did not support Yahya Jammeh’s political objectives because he wanted soldiers who “would not fail people”.

The Lead Counsel concluded that the witness not only chose good soldiers but also those who supported Yahya Jammeh.

Ismaila Jammeh explained that he selected only one group for training before being dismissed. According to him, that group’s responsibility was to “maintain peace and order”. When asked why the Jungler squad was created, he repeated that it was for no other purpose than to maintain law and order and peace at the border.

The Lead Counsel then reminded the witness that there was a police force in the country whose duty it was to enforce the law and that the immigration department was responsible for managing the border. He then asked the witness why there was a need to create a force to do the exact same job. The witness responded that at the time the border area was a hot area because of the presence of rebels and criminals, and that that the police was not trained for that even if he acknowledged that they were armed.

Ismaila Jammeh explained that the Junglers were responsible for controlling the whole Gambia but more specifically the borderline between Gambia and Casamance, which is close to the home village of the former President.

When asked if he knew that the Junglers were deployed to do other work apart from patrolling the border, the witness had a long back and forth with the Lead Counsel and repeated that he was only aware of the border patrol duty but not of any other missions and that as far as he was concerned the Jungler was a very clean organisation.

At that point, the Lead Counsel told the witness that his colleague had said that the Junglers were a killer squad for Yahya Jammeh, to which the witness responded that this might have been his (the colleague’s) decision, but that he (the witness) had clean intentions, which were “to maintain the security of my people and to save their lives, that was in my heart”. He further claimed that he never knew that the Junglers were a killer squad for Yahya Jammeh until this moment. He denied having ever witnessed the Junglers killing or beating for Yahya Jammeh.

He then listed the two operations he was involved in: one concerned Almamo Manneh and Landing Sanneh and the other the Ndure Cham’s foiled coup in 2006. He affirmed that these were the only ones he participated in and explained that he left the group in 2006 as he was then posted “at the mum’s residence”, which was near to his own residence.

Talking about his different residences, the witness said that at some point he moved with his family in Baba Jobe’s house in Kotu, where other Junglers such as Sanna Manjang, Malick Jatta and Mustapha Sanneh were living. When told it was said that he is still living there with his family and that he never had to pay any rent, he explained that he stayed there because he could not afford the rent of 1500 dalasi at Baba Conteh’s compound in Kololi.

When asked if rent-free accommodation was a privilege given only to the Junglers, Ismaila Jammeh answered that some civilians were occupying some

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1 Probably meaning the residence of Yahya Jammeh’s mother.
areas of the house, but when probed, he admitted that these civilians were in fact his two younger brothers coming from the same place in Foni.

The witness admitted that the house was in fact a Jungler base.

Regarding the number of operations in which the witness was implicated, the Lead Counsel said that he believed that they were more than two, but Ismaila Jammeh stood by his own account.

Turning to the first operation, the witness said that it was in 2000, as he was posted in Kanilai as an orderly to the then President. One evening Abdoulie Kujabi who was the then Deputy NIA Director, arrived at Kanilai and met Yahya Jammeh and later spoke to Musa Jammeh aka Maliamoogoo. They later called the witness and asked him to listen to a recording on a cassette. He recognised Lieutenant Landing Sanneh’s voice, the former State Guard Commander. When asked, the witness said that he did not know if Landing Sanneh was related to Yahya Jammeh.

Landing Sanneh was talking about how they were going to carry out a planned coup and how they had controlled the armouries including the one at the State Guard. Ismaila Jammeh stated that the situation was threatening because they were terrified of what was being said, especially by the fact that he said the attack was going to take place the following day at the airport and also because Almamo Manneh was so aggressive. On the tape, they could hear him say “I’m not going to inform any motherfucker but if they hear that I’m behind the coup everybody would come in”.

Ismaila Jammeh explained that the conversation had been recorded by Ousman Sonko who was in that planning meeting and who later became the Minister of Interior. Those who listened to the audio were Yahya Jammeh, Musa Jammeh alias Maliamoogoo, Abdoulie Kujabi and himself. When asked, the witness acknowledged that all three of them were related to Yahya Jammeh.

They were then given a command ‘to arrest the situation’ and Musa Jammeh selected several soldiers for the mission including the witness, Lalo Jaiteh, Buba Jammeh and Seedy Baldeh. The men were directed to go and find out what the coup plotters were doing, the objective being to arrest them. He was armed with an AK47 with life ammunition. When asked if this meant that they went to kill, he explained that when soldiers are moving for a mission they always go with live ammunition and that this was ordered by the commanders: “We went with a clear intention to get him and not to kill him but the situation did not allow it.”

The witness recalled that they left Kanilai and laid an ambush at Bond Road under the instruction of Ousman Sonko, who had called Almamo Manneh to meet him there to discuss something. According to him, this tactic was used to avoid bringing chaos in the public because Almamo was very aggressive but agreed with the Lead Counsel that it was probably also because they expected that there would be shooting.

Ismaila Jammeh also admitted that the place was chosen because there would be no witnesses to what would happen.

Once Almamo Manneh arrived at Bond Road, he was told that he was under arrest but he resisted the arrest, insulted their mothers and opened fire at the soldiers who fired back and killed him, while Ousman Sonko dashed down. According to the witness, no soldier was wounded by Almamo Manneh. The Lead Counsel highlighted that from a military point of view, this did not make sense and suggested that since Almamo Manneh was a trained soldier, his reaction should have been to take Ousman Sonko hostage. He asked if Almamo Manneh was not killed as soon as he stepped out of the vehicle, but Ismaila Jammeh repeated that he was killed because he opened fire.
first. The Lead Counsel suggested that the whole plan was to ambush Almamo Manneh somewhere out of the public view and execute him, to which the witness responded that he was a junior soldier and he was not the one taking decisions. He admitted that he fired at Manneh but indicated that no-one knew who exactly killed him since many shot at him. He said that the killing was a collective responsibility. When asked, what he would say to Almamo Manneh’s family, he stated that he was sorry because it was not their intention. The Lead Counsel again questioned that version of events and the witness admitted that Almamo Manneh in fact shot at nobody. When asked if he and his colleagues killed him in cold blood, he responded: “His time was up, nobody can stop it”.

The witness however reiterated that the intention had been to arrest Almamo Manneh and when asked why they did not go to his house then, he replied that it was Ousman Sonko’s plan to do it like that and that he knew best “where to get him”\(^8\). Ismaila Jammeh said that they were all responsible for his death, but that he was a subordinate.

He mentioned that Almamo Manneh had been his “good senior man” but when it “comes to life there is no friend in military”, he added that in any “competition there must be a first man and a last man”. He explained that “Allah put the set on a brain of a human being to return the fire”.

He then explained that they carried Almamo Manneh’s dead body “very gently” and put him in Ousman Sonko’s car. While he saw the dead body, he said he could not say if it was riddled with bullets but reckoned that there were more than three of four. They then took the body to the Yundum Barracks and delivered it to Pierre Mendy, the Commander of the Military Police. He stated that being a junior man, he would not know if the body was returned to his family and claimed that he did not know where the body was buried.

Ismaila Jammeh said that they then left in three vehicles for Landing Sanneh’s residence to get him. He and Buba Jammeh surrounded the compound. He mentioned that Ousman Sonko, who was part of the operation, had been asked to go and talk to Sanneh but did not because he was too scared. The witness recounted that he and Lalo Jaiteh discussed the best way to arrest Landing Sanneh and assumed that Landing Sanneh, who was inside his house might have heard their discussion. They heard him trying to call Almamo Manneh and find out about his whereabouts. He also called Denton Bridge asking that they come and rescue him. Ismaila Jammeh explained that while he and Buba Jammeh were preparing to enter the house, they heard the noise of a grenade and Landing Sanneh tried to escape through the back gate but was arrested.

When asked why Landing Sanneh did not suffer the same fate as Almamo Manneh, the witness responded that it was Allah who saved him. He added that if they had had the intention to kill Landing Sanneh he would not have survived.

Ismaila Jammeh explained that he was taken to Yundum Barracks without being beaten. He explained that since the mission was accomplished, they returned to Kanilai. When asked about Landing Sanneh’s fate, he explained that he was sent to Mile 2 Prison, sentenced by a court martial and detained for about nine years. He added that he (Sanneh) was no longer in the army.

The Lead Counsel then mentioned that somebody else was killed the next day, to which the witness responded that he was in Kanilai and did not know anything about that. Later, the Lead Counsel mentioned that this third person was Dumbuya\(^9\) who was killed around Banjul market.

When asked again what he had to say to the family of Almamo Manneh considering that he participated in his murder, Ismaila Jammeh said that he apologised but repeated that it was not his intention to kill him. When asked, he stated that he felt sorry deeply as Manneh was a close and good brother to him and was hardworking.

He however added that “when God said this is going to happen, nobody can stop it”.

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\(^8\)This explanation was repeated several times in the course of the testimony.
\(^9\)Our research indicates that is Momodou Dumbuya.
He explained that he would apologise to the sons, wife, family and to the parent of Manneh and prays for Allah to open heaven for him.

Turning to the second operation in which the witness participated, Ismaila Jammeh said that in 2006, Solo Bojang called him and said that there was a coup plan by Colonel Ndure Cham. They converged at the State House where the Junglers Sanna Manjang, Mustapha Sanneh, Malick Jatta, Nfansu Nyabally, Alieu Jeng, the witness and some State Guard members whose name he could not remember were given a list of people allegedly involved in the coup. Ismaila Jammeh explained that his group was tasked to arrest Vincent Jatta and that his commander was Manlafi Corr.

He said when they arrived at Vincent Jatta’s house, he surrendered and therefore no gun shot was fired. The witness added that he himself spoke to Vincent Jatta and reassured him that nothing would happen to him and sat next to him in the car. Ismaila Jammeh denied that Vincent Jatta was beaten on the way, on the contrary, he was treated well because he was a respected commander and also because the witness explained that there is a special relationship between the Jammehs and the Jattas.

The Lead Counsel highlighted the difference with the fate of Almamo Manneh, and the witness responded that “different commanders had different way of commanding” to which the Counsel responded that different operations also have different objectives.

Ismaila Jammeh explained that Vincent Jatta was arrested because he was part of the Ndure Cham’s planned coup. He stated that Vincent Jatta was then handed over to the NIA and added that he did not witness any torture being meted on him.

Ismaila Jammeh said that the second mission was to go to Farato at a place where Ndure Cham was believed to have spent the night. He said, they were later told that Tamsir Jasseh had driven Ndure Cham out of the country to Casamance. Tamsir Jasseh was arrested and interrogated to obtain information about the whereabouts of Ndure Cham. When asked if he had been beaten, the witness claimed that he did not know what methods of interrogation the CID used.

Tamsir Jasseh revealed that a person gave 5,000 dalasi to Ndure Cham to escape and indicated the place where he had spent the night. The witness explained that when they got to that place, they only found “a boy” and arrested him. They also arrested the “boy” who gave the 5,000 dalasi to Ndure Cham and brought him to the NIA in Banjul. He claimed that he did not know what happened to him as his job was just to arrest him and hand him over. He thinks that his surname was Lowe, but mentioned that this happened a long time ago and therefore he did not remember well.

Going back to Tamsir Jasseh, Ismaila Jammeh explained that Tumbul Tamba and Musa Jammeh told them to arrest him. He added that he refused to go with Tumbul Tamba because he had caused a lot “of troubles” in his life and decided to go in the group headed by Musa Jammeh. This operation happened when Yahya Jammeh had already returned from Mauritania.

The witness recalled that Buba Jammeh, David Njie and himself as well as some physical guards went to the residence of Tamsir Jasseh in Kotu. As he tried to resist arrest, the witness pulled out his pistol, which made him run away. The witness then explained in detail how he and his colleagues eventually succeeded in arresting and bringing him to the NIA. He refuted that he was beaten on the way.

The Lead Counsel recalled that in 2006, people were arrested, detained at the NIA and were investigated either for an alleged coup plot or for criticising Yahya Jammeh. He asked the witness if he was involved in that. Ismaila Jammeh responded that he participated in bringing Faring Sanyang and Pierre Mendy from Mile 2 Prison to the NIA for interrogation.

He explained that as they went to pick them up from the Prison, Malick Jatta, who had had a conflict with Faring Sanyang, hit him with his pistol on the head. He stated that this behaviour made him to be mad at Malick Jatta. Jatta responded that Faring Sanyang had done bad things to him when they were at the

10 The so called “joking relationship”, whereby those in the relationship can be frank to each other and should take no offence in case of teasing.
11 Criminal Investigation Command.
12 Possibly Ebou Lowe, who was killed and forcibly disappeared along with Daba Marenah and Manlafi Corr in 2006.
training. As the witness was the senior man, he ordered Malick Jatta to stop or we would “take the hell out of him”.

The Lead Counsel told him that Faring Sanyang said that the witness had tortured him, but Ismaila Jammeh denied having done that.

He admitted that he witnessed torture at the NIA but claimed that he could not remember the names of the victims, that in fact he did not know many of them. The only cases of torture he could recall were those of Faring Sanyang and Pierre Mendy but added that he did not go close to the place where the tortures were done. He added that Malick Jatta did hit Pierre Mendy the same way he did with Faring Sanyang when they collected him at Mile 2 Prison.

When asked how far away he was from the torture scene, he explained that it was difficult to say because it was at night but admitted that he was close behind them sometimes, he also added that the “boys were drunk”. He described the situation as being “so confusing”, with many people being arrested. Ismaila Jammeh said that they were sometimes curious to hear what certain persons would say when giving their statements and that so much was going on that it was impossible to be everywhere.

The Lead Counsel then asked him to describe step by step what happened when they brought in Faring Sanyang from the NIA. The witness recalled that when they got there, NIA officers took him up to the interrogation room. When asked what he did after the NIA officers took over, he responded “I will relax down and waited for the next order”. When asked how many times - 5, 10 or 15 the witness went to the NIA during this period, he repeatedly claimed that he could not remember. He finally admitted that he went “many times”.

The Lead Counsel asked him what he did there the entire time, since he claimed that he participated only in two transfers from Mile 2 Prison (Faring Sanyang and Pierre Mendy). The witness responded that he was there as a team member to witness the interrogations and others things which were happening there. He claimed that he learnt a lot the way they were interrogating people.

When asked by the Lead Counsel if his team was not in fact there to torture the arrested persons and to get them to confess to crimes whether they had committed them or not, he said that he did not go there to do that but acknowledged that his team was there to torture suspects to get them to confess.

He then changed his version again, saying that the Patrol Team was there to escort the detainees but admitted that in the course of the operation orders changed from escorting to torturing and that they had to obey because they were working under command.

Ismaila Jammeh said that he witnessed the interrogation of Pierre Mendy, who he knew before. The witness noted that he found the situation so interesting that he stayed to listen. According to him, Pierre Mendy ended-up saying what he knew about this coup and Musa Jammeh inquired why he did not report it. Pierre Mendy responded that the he would not tell him (Musa Jammeh) because “you are the one who fought me out of the State House”. When he was later asked if Pierre Mendy was beaten during his interrogation, he responded that he was not beaten in his presence and added that he left before the end of the interrogation and went to sit at the reception area of the NIA.

The witness mentioned that NIA officers were part of the panel and remembered Hydara\(^\text{13}\) but not the names of the others. The army was represented by Musa Jammeh and “others were all there”, such as the late Farley Jabang. He said that he could not recall General Martin or Lang Tombong Tamba being present even when probed several times by the Lead Counsel. He later specified that the Junglers were not part of the panel and he did not remember if they were even present in the interview room. Ismaila

\(^{13}\)Based on information from our work, we believe this person to be Momodou Hydara.
Jammeh explained that Musa Jammeh was not a Jungler but that he was representing Yahya Jammeh in the panel and would give him feedback.

When asked who from his group was present, he claimed that he could not remember because the men were scattered, the activities were “too much” and the situation was “so stressful”. The Lead Counsel implied that he was trying to hide information and suggested some names to him. The witness then admitted that Malick Jatta and Nfansu Nyabally were present, and that in fact the whole team was present at the NIA. These were: the witness, Sanna Manjang, Mustapha Sanneh, Malick Jatta, Alieu Jeng, Nfansu Nyabally as well as Tumbul Tamba who commanded the team. He mentioned that there was another group of Junglers that was present but he could not remember their names. When asked he said that Nuha Badjie was there and that Manlafi Corr was in command until he was replaced.

At different points in this testimony, Ismaila Jammeh spoke about the torture of General Savage. He explained that when Savage was brought from Mile 2 Prison, he was at the NIA with the Patrol Team. He explained that he only witnessed the torture of General Savage because the rest of the time he would go up and listen to the interrogations. Regarding the torture of General Savage, he claimed that he intervened in his favour when his colleagues wanted to beat him and said that the General could testify to that.

The Lead Counsel informed the witness that the TRRC had received evidence that he was beaten ant that he (the witness) had participated in it. Ismaila Jammeh responded that he might have been hit while he was not present but that he made it stop. When asked if General Savage was being beaten when he arrived or if his colleagues were about to start beating him, the witness reiterated that this happened a long time ago, that was very stressful and therefore he could not remember. He also denied having participated in the beating himself and said that General Savage would be lying if he said otherwise. The Lead Counsel said that Malick Jatta testified that the witness was present, which he also qualified as a lie – “a black lie”.

When asked for the reasons why he intervened, Ismaila Jammeh explained that he believed that he had committed no offense and therefore should not be tortured. He explained that he however considered that when individuals commit an offense, they should be tortured and that when an order is given to torture, soldiers are to execute the order.

When asked how many times he had seen torture in his life, he replied that he could not remember but added that it happened only on rare occasions.

Ismaila Jammeh maintained that he only witnessed the torture of General Savage and could not remember any other, but later recalled that he also saw the one of Buba Jammeh, but that it was at a different occasion. He then also remembered that he witnessed the torture of Yahya Darboe who is now a Major. When asked to give more details, he said that he was tortured “by the group” but because it was night and they were surrounding the victim, he could not identify who exactly participated. He only admitted that he remembered Sanna Manjang and reiterated that he did not participate, which the Lead Counsel doubted. When asked about the torture of Wassa Camara, he repeated that he could not remember.

The Lead Counsel then moved to the torture of civilians who were arrested in connection with the Freedom Newspaper saga. Here again the witness claimed that he did not remember. The Lead Counsel suggested that this might be because he participated in such terrible atrocities that he decided to block his mind of these things, but Ismaila Jammeh refuted that explanation.

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14 For the sake of clarity, all the information given by the witness on General Savage were compiled.
15 Based on information from our work, we believe this person to be Musa Savage.
16 In 2006
He mentioned that he did not want to see people being tortured, that he did not like it and that he was not interested in “most of these things”. While he admitted that he was present at the NIA when the civilians were arrested, he argued that he focused on the conference room where the statements were taken. When asked, he repeatedly and vehemently refuted that he participated in any torture even when told by the Lead Counsel that the TRRC had received evidences of some civilians who said that he helped them during their torture. He said that even positive actions can be forgotten.

Ismaila Jammeh then said that he remembered that Lamin Cham who was a sports reporter was interrogated at the NIA but could not remember his torture. He however admitted that he heard of it and believed it.

When asked about Bunja Darboe, he admitted that he tortured him and admitted that he held his hands while he was being beaten.

He said that he deeply regretted what happened, especially because of the special relationship of the Darboes and the Jammehs. The Lead Counsel highlighted that Bunja Darboe was a Lieutenant and hence his superior officer while he was just a private soldier and asked him if he was embarrassed. The witness responded that he acted upon orders and that it was not his will.

The Lead Counsel then interrogated the witness about the arrest of Ndure Cham in Farafenni, but he denied categorically that he participated in that operation and explained that by then he had left “the group”.

He was then asked about the execution of Daba Marenah and others, Ismaila Jammeh explained that he received a call from Tumbul Tamba telling him that they were going on a normal patrol and that therefore everybody had to converge at the State House. When asked if his group was reporting to work like all regular soldiers, he explained that they stayed home until they were needed – which was about twice a week to go on patrol. The Lead Counsel told the witness that the TRRC had received information from other Junglers that they would rarely report to work unless there was an operation. Ismaila Jammeh responded that in the period when he was there, it was different and that they used to mount a series of checkpoints at around Senegambia highway.

He mentioned that during the period of the foiled coup in 2006, nobody would relax and that it was a continuous process by then, in which they constantly reported to the State House. The day Tumbul Tamba called, he said that they would go for the normal patrol again. Ismaila Jammeh explained that, however, the operation was different because they did not receive a briefing, which they usually got and that he personally was not informed of anything.

At this point, he was questioned about his difficult relationship with Tumbul Tamba and he explained that he did not want to work with him because he felt that he had hindered his promotion and privileged others over him. He said that he thought that he did this to side-lined him and get closer to Yahya Jammeh. He stated that he was not aware if Yahya Jammeh was directly involved with the work of their team, because he was too junior and because he was later removed. He confirmed that Tumbul Tamba was reporting directly to and working for Yahya Jammeh. The Lead Counsel concluded that since the witness was reporting to Tumbul Tamba and that he was reporting to the then President, the witness was working for Yahya Jammeh’s group. The witness finally admitted that the group had committed torture and that it was in fact a torture squad for Yahya Jammeh.

Going back to the operation, Ismaila Jammeh said that they left at night, after 12 with many vehicles and that he was in the same car with Sanna Manjang and Michael Jatta. They first drove to Mile 2 Prison where Tumbul Tamba’s vehicle entered, while they stayed at the gate. He recalled that the outside lights were off but he saw them coming back with individuals who had something on their faces, like a nylon bag and their hands handcuffed behind their backs.

When asked, the witness said that the fact that they had removed prisoners at that time was not normal and that the fact that they had plastic bags over their heads was also not normal.

17 April 2006. The other victims were: Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia.
When Ismaila Jammeh confirmed that the individuals were put in his car, the Lead Counsel questioned the fact that he could have ignored what the intention of the mission was but the witness argued that he was only a junior soldier and that he had not been told anything and that he could not judge what would happen (he repeated this several times in the course of his interrogation). When asked what he thought, he said that it could well have been a transfer of prisoners to another location.

The Lead Counsel asked him if they would have been covered with a plastic bag and reminded the witness that at the time one, of the most or deadliest weapons that the Junglers used to kill on behalf of Yahya Jammeh were plastic bags.

However, the witness continued to deny that he knew that they were going to be killed and argued that handcuffing prisoners was a normal procedure.

The Lead Counsel reminded him that when the witness arrested Tamsir Jasseh, he did not handcuff him. Ismaila Jammeh responded that it was different because Tamsir Jasseh was not proven guilty while these individuals were already in Mile 2 Prison and had already confessed. The Lead Counsel told the witness that he just contradicted himself, as he had claimed that he did not know who these persons were and now he mentioned that he was aware they had confessed.

When asked again, if he did not know “honestly and genuinely” that these people were going to be killed, he answered that even if he had known, he could not have done anything about it but admitted that he felt sorry for them but then added that it was not because he knew that they are about to die. The Lead Counsel stated that he must have known because in addition to everything else, the soldiers were dressed in combat and were armed but Ismaila Jammeh remained adamant that he did not know what the intention was.

He further explained that he was not guarding the prisoners but that he was just “minding his business” and that he did not talk to any of them. He explained his attitude in saying that he had learnt a lot. When asked what that meant, he explained that he used to have conflicts with his comrades and that he feared that something could also happen to him and that is why he controlled himself. He wondered what would have happened if he had intervened to say that this was wrong.

The Lead Counsel concluded that the witness decided to play and go along with them, which he confirmed. He then explained that on the way, as Solo Bojang stopped at the forest after “Kuruno”, he pretended that he needed to urinate and waited for about 20 minutes before going back to the car. He said that he knew no-one would monitor him, especially because many were drunk.

The Lead Counsel questioned that version of the events by highlighting that the witness had just explained that at Mile 2 Prison, he had not said anything and decided to apply a military technique to show them that he was cooperating and participating because he feared reprisals. And now he was claiming that he removed himself from the group “just at a nick of time” when the individuals were about to be killed.

Ismaila Jammeh responded that “there is a saying that if you cannot avoid the rape just enjoy the sex”.

Again, the Lead Counsel exposed the inconsistencies of the witness’ testimony, but he responded that he acted like that because he did not want to witness “whatever”.

When asked details about the men who were in the operation, the witness said that he only remembered those in his car and the fact that they joined Solo Bojang somewhere in Foni and were told that he would lead the way. He added that he heard him but did not see him. He confirmed that Solo Bojang vehicle was in front.

Ismaila Jammeh explained that when they stopped, it was dark and everybody was in a haste and hence
no-one noticed that he had not come along. The Lead Counsel told the witness that Malick Jatta, who had come in Solo Bojang’s vehicle had testified that the witness was present and participated in the execution. He responded that Malick Jatta was “totally lying”.

The witness said that Malick Jatta might have seen him at State House but the Lead Counsel objected that Malick Jatta came from Kanilai that day and not from State House. Ismaila Jammeh responded that he (Jatta) was lying. The Lead Counsel responded that he could not have come from State House since he was in Solo Bojang’s car. Ismaila Jammeh maintained that Malick Jatta was lying. When asked why he had not mentioned him earlier when listing the persons who converged at State House, the witness explained that he only named those who were in his vehicle and that he did not board the same car as Malick Jatta when they were going for patrol, because he did not like his attitude, which was “very dirty” and added that he was very disobedient.

The Lead Counsel reminded the witness that in paragraph 10 of the statement, he had indicated that those who reported at State House following Tumbul Tamba orders were: Tumbul Tamba, Sanna Manjang, Michael Jatta and Michael Correa and that they drove to Mile 2 Prison. Ismaila Jammeh confirmed that he read and even corrected his statement and then signed it. The witness claimed that the statement-taker might have forgotten to add Malick Jatta and that this was an oversight.

Ismaila Jammeh explained that Malick Jatta was lying because when they reached the final destination, he (the witness) pretended to go urinate and then waited for their return. When asked if he heard anything while he waited, he responded in the negative. The Lead Counsel explained to him that in this event, seven people including his former boss Manlafi Corr were shot and that it was impossible that he did not hear anything. The witness argued that it could have been because of the distance and because they used a weapon with a silencer but then admitted that the Junglers were never issued silencers.

Ismaila Jammeh explained that the next day, he heard on the radio that some prisoners were taken to Janjanbureh and escaped on the way and he thought that those were perhaps the ones taken to the forest the night before. The Lead Counsel asked if he believed the story and the witness responded that he did not. When asked if it was because he was present when they were executed, he repeated that he did not witness the killing.

The Lead Counsel then asked about the Italian national who was training the Junglers and the witness responded that he believed that he was an “intruder” and that he did not trust him. He added that this Francisco did not train him because he did not know anything. Ismaila Jammeh explained that he was sacked before Francisco left and therefore, he could not do anything about this impostor. The witness confirmed that there were never any rulebook training manuals for the Junglers.

When asked why he remembered some incidents but not others, Ismaila Jammeh explained that it was because he was not perfect. He then concluded his testimony by saying that today was an opportunity for him to stand before the whole Gambia to apologise about the wrongdoings – those he knew and those he did not know – and asked for forgiveness, especially to Almamo Manneh’s family.

He stated that he had forgiven everybody and reiterated that his intention was not to kill anybody.

**Persons Mentioned By Witness During Testimony:**

**Extradudicial killing and enforced disappearance (of Almamo Manneh)**

Yahya Jammeh, Musa Jammeh alias Maliamoogoo, Abdoulie Kujabi, Ousman Sonko, Ismaila Jammeh, Lalo Jaiteh, Buba Jammeh, Seedy Baldeh

**Complicit of enforced disappearance**

Pierre Mendy

**Arbitrary arrest (of Landing Sanneh)**

Ismaila Jammeh, Buba Jammeh, Ousman Sonko (present during the operation), Lalo Jaiteh
Arbitrary arrest (of Vincent Jatta)
Solo Bojang, Manlafi Corr, Ismaila Jammeh, Sanna Manjang, Mustapha Sanneh, Malick Jatta, Nfansu Nyabally, Alieu Jeng

Arbitrary arrest (of Tamsir Jasseh)
Tumbul Tamba, Musa Jammeh, Ismaila Jammeh, Buba Jammeh, David Njie

Torture (of Faring Sanyang and Pierre Mendy)
Malick Jatta

Torture (generally during the March 2006 events, notably of General Musa Savage, Yahya Darboe, Bunja Darboe)
Tumbul Tamba, Nuha Badjie, Malick Jatta, Nfansu Nyabally, Sanna Manjang, Mustapha Sanneh, Malick Jatta, Alieu Jeng, Manlafi Corr, Ismaila Jammeh (confessed having participated only in the torture of Bunja Darboe)

Complicit of torture
Momodou Hydara

Extrajudicial killing and enforced disappearance (of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia)
Tumbul Tamba, Solo Bojang, Sanna Manjang, Michael Jatta, Michael Correa

The witness finally admitted that the group had committed torture and that it was in fact a torture squad for Yahya Jammeh.
WITNESS NAME: Lamin BADJIE

TRRC HEARING DATE (S): 6th August 2019

EVENT (S) DISCUSSED: Deployment with the Patrol Team/Junglers, execution of nine Mile 2 Prison inmates in 2012 (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe), the arrest and detention of the witness in 2017.

POSITION BEFORE THE EVENT (S): Military Police

ROLE DURING THE EVENT (S): Member of the Patrol Team/Junglers

POSITION HELD AT TIME OF TESTIMONY: Police Officer

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

Lamin Badjie testified before the Commission that he joined the police force in December 2004. After completing his training, he was transferred to the Kanifing Police Intervention Unit, PIU where he held the rank of Constable. In 2005, he was promoted to First Class and in 2010 to the rank of a corporal. The witness explained that he was posted to different stations around the country during this time before being posted at the State House.

On the types of duties he performed throughout his career up until then and at the different places posted, he stated that he embarked on border duties, covered the lumos (weekly markets), went on patrols, set up checkpoints and also conducted residential guards and station duties. The witness also gave an outline of the trainings he underwent, which included VIP training with the Egyptians, VIP anti-terrorism training with the Algerians and VIP training with the American Embassy under the United States Secret Service as he essentially served as a bodyguard.

Answering how he got transferred to the army after working with the PIU, the witness explained that Babou Cham, his Officer Commanding at the time in Brikama informed him that those of them who had undergone the VIP training were instructed to report to Kanifing PIU Headquarters, which he did. He added that there was a large group of men there, about 40 and they spent about a week there.

The witness further stated that one day, Inspector Momodou I. Busso, Sergeant Lamin Sambou and himself were taken to the then Minister of Interior Ousman Sonko’s office who told them they were being transferred to State House. The witness however said he appealed to him and told him that the army did not promote anyone and that he wanted to stay with the police. Nevertheless, Ousman Sonko replied that there was no way out and assured him that he was going to make a personal call so that he would be promoted to the rank of corporal. The witness stated that he did not object and went to Headquarters where his rank was promoted to the rank of corporal. The witness told the Commission that he did not object and went to Headquarters where his rank was promoted to the rank of corporal. He moved to State House on the same day. There, they met the Commanding Officer Lamin Sanneh (now late) who briefed them and told them that as servicemen, wherever they found themselves, that was their home.

The witness told the Commission that he underwent a series of training and took up duties at Mile 2, the Quick Reaction Force, QRF at State House and then was transferred to the Regimental Police, RP desk. He stayed there for two or three months and in March was handpicked to attend training in Fajara and eventually transferred back to State House where he was given a military police uniform. He specified that prior to this, he dressed in military uniform.

Upon being asked, Lamin Badjie clarified that when he was first transferred to State House in 2010, he joined the State Guard and remained with the State
Guard until 2016. He explained that initially he wore his paramilitary uniform until his orientation was completed and he was issued with military uniform. He confirmed to the Commission that he was an employee of The Gambia Military Army at that point.

When asked if he knew why he was targeted to join the military police, he replied that whenever he was in his uniform, he did not play around and made sure he was dressed neatly. According to the witness, he was told by Serigne Modou that nobody at the RP compared with him in terms of dressing, which resulted in him being selected to join the military police. Counsel made him confirm that he was with the regimental police before he joined the military police, the latter similar to being a police officer.

Lamin Badjie told the Commission that he was with the military police until 2012 when Lamin Sambou informed him that together with Momodou I. Busso they were to report to then Commander of the Republican National Guard’s General Sulayman (Saul) Badjie, which they did. General Saul Badjie then informed them that they were to join the Patrol Team as intelligence officers and answer to (Ba) Nuha Badjie moving forward. He added that he told them to go and wait for Nuha Badjie’s call, which he (the witness) recalled receiving after two or three weeks. According to the witness, Nuha Badjie told him to meet at Kololi Tavern where a barbeque was being organised so everyone could meet.

The witness stated that at the barbeque, Nuha Badjie told them (the witness, Lamin Sambou and Momodou I. Busso) that they were part of the Patrol Team as intelligence officers and they would oversee investigations. He added that Nuha Badjie told them they had Gamcel lines that they were going to give to each one of them so they could call them whenever they needed them.

On being asked what being an intelligence officer entailed, the witness explained that they were just told they were going to be intelligence officers and admitted he had never had any training as an intelligence officer. He also highlighted that he did not meet all the members of the Patrol Team on that day because he was told some were in Kanilai and others were home. He only recalled meeting Major Nuha Badjie who acted as liaison between the Patrol Team and General Saul Badjie. He highlighted that Nuha Badjie was in charge of the juniors in the group.

Further testifying, the witness recalled that in addition to Momodou I. Busso and Lamin Sambou, Lieutenant Michael Jatta, Lieutenant Michael Correa, Sergeant Omar Oya Jallow (commonly known as Oya), Amadou Badjie, Corporal Saikou Jarju, Warrant Officer 2 Nfansu Nyabally and Pa Ousman Sanneh were present at Kololi Tavern. He added that there were civilians there too, but he was not very familiar with them. He confirmed these men were all part of the Patrol Team.

The witness was asked to name other members of the Patrol Team who were not present on that day and he gave the names of Abdoulie Jallow, Sang Mendy, Major Landing Tamba, Sanna Manjang, Solo Bojang and Bora Colley. He specified that he did not know the ranks of the latter two at the time because he had only been told about them. He was asked if Alieu Jeng was part of them, to which he replied yes and also recalled Modou Jarju (Captain Jarju) alias Rambo as a member of the Patrol Team.

Lamin Badjie told the Commission that the Patrol Team was answerable to General Saul Badjie who affirmed that he (Saul Badjie) was “operating under orders of Yahya Jammeh and wanted everyone else to do same”.

When asked if he knew the Patrol Team by any other names, he confirmed that he was aware of names such as “Psycha” and “Jungler; and used to think it was because of a course they had taken. He also confirmed that he was aware of the name Black Black but never heard them being referred to as Black Scorpions.

When asked to confirm if he was part of the Junglers, he responded that the answer could be “yes” and “no” because he was only briefed that he was joining the Patrol Team. He added that he thought the other
names were individual names of the teams in the group and explained that he had enquired about the names Jungler and Psycha with Nfansu Nyabally who told him these were courses they had taken.

The Counsel then noted that the witness had confirmed that he was part of the Patrol Team, which he knew was also referred to as Junglers and Black Black.

She added that she was therefore asking if he was a member of the Junglers. The witness responded that he was not a member of the Junglers because to be a Jungler, one had to have taken the Junglers course which he had not. He added that he had only done VIP courses and military training. The Counsel stressed she was just seeking a “yes” or “no” answer and the witness finally replied “no”.

On his duties as a member of the Patrol Team, the witness explained that he was only told that he was an intelligence officer and confirmed that he joined in 2012. The Counsel then asked the witness if he had heard of the Junglers before he joined the Patrol Team and he responded “yes”. He recounted a time when he was still at Brikama PIU in 2009 and heard that one of his female colleagues was slapped by Sanna Manjang for asking for his documents when he reached her checkpoint.

On being asked if his female colleague lodged a complaint, he responded in the negative and stated that when the Junglers would pass on the highway, they would not stop them as “only somebody who is selling his life would be the only person to stop these people or ask them”. He added that he had heard that they were involved in killings and torture. He admitted that he also knew Sulayman Sambou before joining the Patrol Team as he had once stopped him at a checkpoint in Faratoto on suspicion of cannabis possession but upon realising he was part of the Junglers had not arrested him out of fear and had instead accepted bribes from him (which happened on several occasions).

The Counsel then iterated that it meant the witness knew of the Junglers before he joined the Patrol Team and he replied “yes”. He agreed that he knew that Sanna Manjang and Sulayman Sambou were part of the Patrol Team, which obviously meant he knew he was meeting a group of Junglers at Kololi Tavern.

He admitted that he knew their modus operandi, that they were killers, torturers and criminals basically.

On being asked if Kololi Tavern was the base for the Junglers, the witness said there was another location. He explained that the owner (whose name he could not confirm) of Kololi Tavern was friends with some members of the Patrol Team such as Nfansu Nyabally. He explained that the gatherings at Kololi Tavern were accompanied by heavy cannabis smoking, drinking and also some members of the team brought their girlfriends along and even spent the night there.
With regards to whether the barbeques were funded by Yahya Jammeh, the witness stated that he could not confirm as he had never been informed as such. He did however recall when once upon offering some meat to one of his colleagues, he retorted “this meat which you know that they used to put some spiritual waters there to control peoples’ mind, I will in fact not eat it and I will not come to any barbeque again”. The witness then stated that after hearing this, he believed this to be the case.

The witness told the Commission that together with Momodou I. Busso and Lamin Sambou, they were treated differently by the Patrol Team because they came from the police force and were looked at as if they were spies. According to the witness, they were belittled because they were usually not told of anything. He remembered when he once went to Nfansu Nyabally’s place to ask for a bag of rice, but to his surprise he met members of the Patrol Team in their military uniform with guns at his residence. He specifically recalled Ba Nuha Badjie, Nfansu Nyabally, Michael Correa, Michael Jatta, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Amadou Badjie alias Chairman and Alieu Jeng as being present and noted some cannabis on a plate.

Further testifying, the witness explained that he took a seat among his colleagues and after Nuha Badjie and Michael Jatta spoke to Nfansu Nyabally in a corner, he was asked to leave. He enquired with Nfansu Nyabally as to the reason and was told it was an order, which he had to obey.

The witness told the Commission that he often went to Nfansu Nyabally to ask for a bag of rice or fish money and once Nfansu Nyabally told the witness he was also going to join them when they next went to the bush so that he could make money too. Lamin Badjie anxiously waited and Nfansu Nyabally called him one day instructing him to meet at King Colley’s shop in Brikama opposite the Gambia Public Transport Corporation, GPTC. When the witness got there, he found Michael Jatta and Captain Modou Jarju’s pick-up trucks and Sulayman Sambou’s military jeep. He added that Modou Jarju alias Rambo, Michael Correa, Saikou Jarju and Manga (first name was not given) were there. They were there for a while when Nfansu Nyabally called him aside and told him the others had complained so he had to go home.

The Counsel asked if he meant that he was not trusted, which he confirmed. He recalled when Nfansu Nyabally once asked the witness how they got where they were, that is from the police to the patrol and the witness stated that they were transferred by General Saul Badjie. When asked if he was probably not trusted because he was an intelligence officer, he responded that if they believed what they were doing was right, they would not have had any problem including him.

On further being asked if Nfansu Nyabally, who the witness was friendly with, told him about the operations the team embarked on, he replied there were times Nfansu Nyabally would jokingly tell him (the witness) he was not a man.

He once asked him (the witness) if he could **strangle someone to death to which the witness replied no.**

Asked what he took away from Nfansu Nyabally’s statement, the witness said he believed Nfansu Nyabally to be a man who **suffocated** people to death by putting plastic bags over their heads. He added that after the **execution** of the death row inmates, he was with Nfansu Nyabally in Kanilai and he shared a lot of information with the witness.

Lamin Badjie explained that on 22nd August 2012, he was transferred to Kanilai to do a course and two days later, the death row incident took place. He explained that at around 8-9pm, Nfansu Nyabally woke him up and told him to get prepared because they were leaving for a mission in Kombo. When he got outside, he found them under a mango tree with a double cabin pick-up truck and a jeep. He said Modou Jarju alias Rambo told them to board the truck. Nfansu Nyabally sat in the front passenger seat, and the witness and Momodou I. Busso climbed behind. Sulayman Sambou and Lamin Sambou boarded another vehicle and they left.

18According to our research this must have been Malick Manga.
He further stated that when they got near to Mile 2 Prison at Warner Beach, at around 9-10pm, Modou Jarju left and went back to Kombo to pick up others. Solo Bojang who according to the witness was either a colonel or lieutenant colonel at the time met them under a mango tree and asked who the witness was. Solo Bojang then stated that he would give them a signal when the paperwork at the prison was ready. He specified that Solo Bojang was Sulayman Badjie’s deputy within the Junglers.

On Solo Bojang not recognising the witness as a member of the Patrol Team, Lamin Badjie explained that they were never introduced. He said there were many people within the Patrol Team and one kept seeing new faces all the time. He recounted a time when Malick Manga asked him to go with him as he was needed to prepare a barbeque. Once they got to Bonto, after a while the witness saw two vans carrying over 20 civilians. He overhead that they were rebels from Liberia that fought for Charles Taylor and that they were brought there to meet others as they were all part of the “system”. The Counsel asked the witness to clarify and he said it meant they were all members of the Junglers and that it was correct to say that the Patrol Team was different from Junglers.

Lamin Badjie stated that he could not say how the different teams conducted their operations because there was mistrust among the group and certain members of the Patrol Team confessed to him that they had never been called to join a mission. The witness then declared that he had never participated in any killings or torture conducted by the Patrol Team before the execution of the death row inmates and the only reason he got to participate was because he was in Kanilai at the time, attending a course. The Counsel then asked if it made any sense to him at all to be part of such a team and never participate in any operations. He reiterated that he came to the Patrol Team with Momodou I. Busso and Lamin Sambou and any information he received was passed through one of them and he was sure if he got to participate in any operations, then these two men would not have been left out. The witness stressed that the execution of the death row inmates was the first and only mission he had been part of.

Continuing on with his testimony, the witness stated that they were not initially briefed about the mission but later when Solo Bojang came back to tell them they could go inside Mile 2 Prison, he informed them that there were people who had gone against the law and had to be executed. On the people being present, he recalled Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Captain Jarju, Omar Badjie, Saikou Jarju, Michael Sang Correa, Sang Mendy, Solo Bojang, Sulayman Badjie, Bora Colley and then Prison Director David Colley amongst others whose names he could not remember. He specified that when he got inside Mile 2 Prison, he also saw then Minister of Interior Ousman Sonko, the then Justice Minister (whose name he could not remember) and a Ghanaian (whose name he also could not remember).

When asked about the paperwork Solo Bojang referred to when they met outside, the witness responded that only Solo Bojang could answer that question.

Going back to what happened once inside Mile 2 Prison, the witness stated that names of inmates were being called as they were brought outside. He remembered there was a disagreement between a few who had the lists, including Sulayman Badjie and Solo Bojang and which the witness assumed was because they wanted to amend the list to remove a name.

The witness could only remember the last name of one death row inmate, and it was Jarju. He was asked what was so particular about this person that made him remember and he explained that after the death row incident, he was told that one of those executed was Modou Jarju’s brother. The witness concluded that it was a brother killing his own brother. He told the Commission nine names were called, which included one woman and she was the first person to be called outside. He was asked if he could see their faces and he confirmed he was able to because the corridor they walked through was lit and he was also very curious to know who the inmates were.

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19 According to our research, this must have been Lamin Jobarteh.
20 Media outlets reported that one of the inmates, a Senegalese woman called Tabara Samba, was raped multiple times before her execution by members of the Junglers, including Solo Bojang. See The Gambia Voice, “Gambia: Yahya JAMMEH’s countless murder, torture, exile victims – updated list”, 4 September 2012); Fatu Network article, “Three years on, nine Mile 2 prison executions; but were 26 prisoners executed” (2 September 2015).
Describing how they appeared, he said their **hands were cuffed and their feet were shackled.**

Once the inmates were brought out, they were loaded onto Solo Bojang and Modou Jarju's vehicles. Solo Bojang asked Landing Tamba and Nfansu Nyabally to join him in his vehicle. Sulayman Sambou and Michael Jatta boarded Modou Jarju's vehicle. The witness added that since Landing Tamba's vehicle was left without a driver, he was asked by Mustapha Sanneh to drive it and pick Alieu Jeng outside. He said he could not tell how many inmates boarded each of the vehicles, but was certain there were nine altogether. The witness was asked about the whereabouts of Momodou I. Busso and Lamin Sambou and he replied that he saw Momodou I. Busso also board Solo Bojang's vehicle.

According to the witness, Mustapha Sanneh also informed him that he was to pick up some food around Westfield and also Alieu Jeng. The convoy, which was made up of about 15 vehicles then left Mile 2 Prison. The witness specified that he was alone in Landing Tamba's vehicle.

After they picked up of the food, which was to be shared with the other men, the witness together with Mustapha Sanneh headed to Solo Bojang's range in Brikama where the mission was to be executed.

Answering what part of the vehicle the death row inmates occupied in Solo Bojang and Modou Jarju's vehicles, he said the inmates were inside, they sat in the middle and the soldiers were around the sides of the door. At this point, he recalled that Amadou Badjie alias Chairman had boarded Modou Jarju's vehicle.

Continuing with his testimony, the witness explained that once at the range, they found many people there including Ousman Sonko, Sulayman (Saul) Badjie, the Justice Minister and the Ghanaian he had mentioned earlier. Though he could not remember all the names, he confirmed that the same group that was at Mile 2 Prison was the same group that went to the range. He was asked to clarify if the Ghanaian he kept referring to was a judge at the time. The witness said he could not ascertain but he concluded he was Ghanaian because of his facial features and also because the witness used to go to his home and to the High Court on duties, confirming thus he was from the judiciary.

Moving on to what happened once at the range, the witness narrated that when he alighted from his vehicle, he stood beside Saikou Jarju who told him they were done with the mission and they were only waiting for the bodies to be confirmed so that they could leave. The witness said he wanted to move closer to confirm himself, but he told himself “if you want to see all, then you say all”. He also remembered that he was not trusted by the others and realised that if he forced his way in, they might think he wanted to conduct investigations.

He further narrated that later Solo Bojang called Ba Nuha Badjie and informed him they were going to Foni and that he should inform the boys to board the vehicles. The witness then stated that he assumed he was going to be using the same vehicle he had come with but Landing Tamba asked for his keys back. The witness who felt uncomfortable around Landing Tamba decided to instead board Modou Jarju's pick up together with Amadou Badjie alias Chairman and Saikou Jarju.

**Going back to when he was told the “bodies were being confirmed”, the witness explained that Saikou Jarju told him that the Minister of Justice was confirming the dead bodies.**

On being asked if there was a medical doctor amongst their midst who was also confirming the bodies, the witness replied he could not confirm as he did not get close enough.

Lamin Badjie further noted that the death row inmates’ rights were not respected. They were not given food nor were they allowed a last visit from their family before being executed.
The witness then proceeded to explain their journey to Foni. He said at some point they took a bend in the right and arrived in a village, which he thought was in Casamance. They then stopped and Solo Bojang alighted. He recalled that although it was dark and raining, you could tell there was a settlement on the right. Solo Bojang went in and stayed there for almost 30 minutes and then came back with an old man. The two men passed them and took a path on the left. Then, Solo Bojang came back alone and told Nuha Badjie to bring out “the things”. Nuha Badjie then instructed everyone to alight the vehicles and converge towards him.

The witness further stated that the corpses were brought out which confirmed what he thought all along. Nfansu Nyabally instructed the witness to go to Solo Bojang’s vehicle to check if any of the executed inmates’ possessions were left in the vehicle and he found two pairs of slippers and one shoe, which he took to where the men were. He told Solo Bojang, who had a cow’s tail in his hand, about the shoes but he did not respond.

Going back to the incantations recited, the witness explained that it seemed like Solo Bojang was performing a sacrifice and argued that if one killed someone without offering prayers and then recited incantations when one was about to bury them, it looked like a sacrifice. He added that his father was a marabout and they used to discuss many issues. He further stated that though at that time he could not tell what had happened to the bodies, he later found out through Nfansu Nyabally.

The witness narrated that when they were in Kanilai, they got to discuss the fateful night. Nfansu Nyabally asked him which vehicle he had boarded from Mile 2 Prison and the witness replied Landing Tamba’s vehicle. According to Lamin Badjie, Nfansu Nyabally told him he was lucky because if he was in their vehicle, he would have instructed him to kill all those individuals and if he had not, he (Nfansu Nyabally) would have killed him. The witness said he asked how that was possible but Nfansu Nyabally simply retorted he was not man enough. Witness Badjie further stated that he just ignored him because he did not want to ask too many questions.

However, Nfansu Nyabally eventually voluntarily told him they had suffocated them to death using plastic bags. He specified that they placed them over their heads, they tied around their necks and then strangulated them to death.

When asked why they had not used pistols and Nfansu Nyabally simply stated that they could not control all that blood. The witness then affirmed that this was when he realised the inmates were killed in the vehicles while they were en route to the range.

The Counsel asked the witness why they were asked not to reveal the identities of those involved and those killed when briefed by Solo Bojang if what they had done was legal, and he said it was because it
was not and they were to cover up what had happened. When Counsel further asked if he was part of the killings, he replied that he could say “yes” and could also say “no”. He explained that he was just a puppet and only did what he was ordered to do. However, upon further probing, the witness agreed with the Counsel that he had indirectly assisted in the killing of the death row inmates by gathering the shoes of the dead inmates, setting up sentry and collecting food. He added that all they knew in the service was obey and complain later, and should have left the service in 2014 as so many things had happened which frightened him.

Witness Badjie then told the Commission that the execution of the death row inmates was announced on Gambia Radio Television Services, GRTS but he was very disheartened when he heard it because they had changed the day from Thursday to Sunday. He noted that there was a particular significance to Thursdays as that was when Muslims gave out charity, which is why he again concluded the inmates who were killed were in reality used as “sacrifice”.

Prior to the execution, the witness stated that he never received anything from the Patrol Team but a month after the incident, Nuha Badjie called him to his base. He found many others from the group there and they were each given 5000 dalasi. Nuha Badjie then brought a book where their names were written and the witness stated that to his surprise, his name and signature where in several places of the book. He said he asked Nfansu Nyabally and he told him he was very curious person and asked too many questions.

The witness further explained that on a second occasion, he met with Lamin Sambou who handed him 5000 dalasi. On where this money came from, the witness stated that Lamin Sambou told him it was from Yahya Jammeh but the witness believed this was given in exchange for his silence because there were many times he needed money and they did not give it to him until he participated in this operation.

Lamin Badjie stressed again that after the death row incident, he never participated in any activities or operations of the Junglers.

The witness then moved on to his arrest but before, he explained to the Commission that he was one day informed by Momodou I. Busso that he was being posted in Tanji and he would find Sulayman Sambou there. When he got there, Sulayman Sambou told him the place was a National Intelligence Agency, NIA training school and that he was going to be there with Pa Ousman Sanneh. He said he was never told of the reason for his posting but he later found out when he was arrested.

Discussing his arrest, he stated he was taken to Banjul Headquarters where he stayed for almost six hours. He was transferred to Kotu Police Station, in cuffs, but he was not told about the reason for his arrest. He testified that when he was under detention, Amadou Badjie alias Chairman who had also been arrested told him Ndure Cham was detained in Tanji during their time there.

The witness told the Commission that upon hearing that, Momodou I. Busso cried. The witness further added that he could not believe the information had been withheld from him and told Amadou Badjie that he was heartless as it meant Ndure Cham had been detained without food or water when the witness was posted in Tanji, to which Amadou Badjie replied that it was an instruction from Nuha Badjie not to tell anyone. He added that it meant they were sharing their food whilst Ndure Cham was probably starving.

He added that Momodou I. Busso uttered that they deserved every punishment that came their way and the Counsel asked him if he held a similar belief. The witness said he would erase what had happened if he had the power to because being part of the Junglers had ruined his reputation, and he was not the same person after that. He highlighted that it stopped him from even going to Darfur.

Going back to his arrest, the witness specified that it took place on 23rd February 2017 and was not given a reason for his arrest. He explained that whenever he had to go to the toilet there was an escort who would button and unbutton his trousers before and

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22A few minutes later, when the witness explained who the money came from again, he mentioned Nuha Badjie had told him it was from Yahya Jammeh.
after he used the toilet while he raised his hands. On the 25<sup>th</sup> February, he was taken to Kairaba Police Station and later taken to Fajara Barracks where the handcuffs were finally removed. He stated that in total, he spent 16 months under detention and was denied some of his rights, including moving him to five different cells without still giving him any reason for his arrest, which made him angry. He added that he would sometimes see his family but not all the time. He also complained to Bahoreh Jaiteh, the then legal advisor to the army.

Lamin Badjie told the Commission that when he was released on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2018, he found that his house had been demolished. He had to relocate to Brikama, where he rented a room. Not wishing to further discuss the impact of his arrest and detention, he closed by saying that his arrest even led to his divorce.

When asked why some were members of the Patrol Team were eventually released and others not, the witness explained that together with Momodou I. Busso and Sulayman Sambou, they were eventually exonerated by the other members of the Patrol Team who Bahoreh Jaiteh was in contact with.

He further testified that upon his release, he was asked to report back to the army, at Yundum Barracks but after a while, he resigned because the army was never his choice and instead eventually joined the police force again which was what he really wanted.

Commissioner Jones asked Lamin Badjie what other privileges he had had as a member of the Junglers other than the mobile phone given to him and the witness responded that sometimes they would be given 5 litres of fuel. She additionally asked about the old man who was accompanying Solo Bojang when they went to bury the corpses and the witness responded that he could not confirm his identity as it was dark.

Commissioner Sosseh Gaye then asked the witness if he had ever seen the Liberian contingent again and he explained that he saw one of them in prison at Yundum Barracks but he could not remember his name, only where he was from (Tunjereng).

In his closing remarks, the witness urged that attitudes be changed. He said one of the problems of Gambians is they leave leaders to do as they please. Using General Sulayman (Saul) Badjie as an example, he said he had thirty people working under him but not a single person ever had the courage to tell him the truth. He also urged the juniors to do their work as expected and let the Constitution be their guide.

**Persons Mentioned By Witness During Testimony:**

**Extrajudicial Killing and Enforced Disappearance (of Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe)**

Solo Bojang, Sulayman/Saul Badjie, Nuha Badjie, Michael Jatta, Michael Sang Correa, Omar Oya Jallow, Momodou I. Busso, Lamin Sambou, Amadou Badjie alias Chairman, Saikou Jarju, Nfansu Nyabally, Sang Mendy, Landing Tamba, Bora Colley, Alieu Jeng, Modou Jarju alias Rambo, Ousman Sonko, David Colley, Sulayman Sambou, Yahya Jammeh

**Complicit of Extrajudicial Killing and Enforced Disappearance (of Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe)**

Lamin Badjie (the witness), then Minister of Justice<sup>23</sup>, Mustapha Sanneh

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<sup>23</sup>According to our research, this would be Lamin Jobarteh.
In 2012, Imam Baba Leigh, a critic of Yahya Jammeh’s regime was abducted and forcibly disappeared for 5 months during which he was tortured by members of the security forces, including the Junglers.
WITNESS NAME: Pa Ousman SANNEH

TRRC HEARING DATE (S): 6th & 7th August 2019

EVENT (S) DISCUSSED: The 11th November 1994 killings, his participation in the killing of Baba Jobe (2011); in the arrest of Ndure Cham (2013); in the killing of Alhagie Mamut Ceessay and Ebou Jobe (2013); in the killing of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye (2016), his role in the torture of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju alias Hitler (2014/2015) and also allegations against him regarding the torture of Bakawsu Fofona, Imam Baba Leigh and others (2012) and the killing of prison inmates (2012).

POSITION BEFORE THE EVENT(S): Military Officer

ROLE DURING THE EVENT(S): Member of the Junglers

POSITION AT THE TIME OF TESTIMONY: Warrant Officer Class 1, in detention

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

Pa Ousman Sanneh testified before the Commission that he joined the army in 1990 and participated in several peacekeeping or United Nation missions abroad (Guinea Bissau under the command of Colonel Ndure Cham; Darfur and East Timor). Upon his return from the last mission in 2012, the witness explained that he was transferred to the State Guard, and after a training as a bodyguard he was transferred by General Saul Badjie to the Patrol Team, also called the Junglers. He remained in that team from 2013 until the impasse. His rank at that time was a Warrant Officer Class 1.

Pa Ousman Sanneh said that on 22nd July 1994, he was called to report to Yundum Barracks by one Yahya Jammeh (not the same person as the future president). There soldiers, including himself prepared to go to Fajara Barracks under the command of Sanna Sabally and Sadibou Hydara. He explained that it was around 8am when they started deploying inside the barracks and gathered soldiers and the gendarmerie officers. The witness confirmed that the aim of the mission was to overthrow the regime of then President Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara and that they succeeded.

The witness said that after the coup, he remained stationed at Yundum Barracks as an infantry man and then Regimental Police Officer, his role being order and discipline of the soldiers and being responsible for detainees. On 10th November 1994, he said he spent the night at home and when he came to the barracks in the morning, he realised that the barracks had been taken over by the State Guards and he went straight to the guardroom and took over the duties from Buba Jammeh alias Kanilai and found out that there were detainees in the guardroom cell namely: Nyang Kabareh, Bakary Manneh “Nyancho”, Abdoulie Bah alias Achopie, Buba Jammeh, Lamin Darboe and Bakary Trawally.

He said that around 12.30 to 1.00 pm, the Junta members Sanna Sabally, Sadibou Hydara, Edward Singhateh and Yankuba Touray arrived with, Peter Singhateh accompanied by their orderlies. They called for fall in, except for the witness as he was responsible for the detainees. After the fall in, the Junta members went to the guardroom and Lieutenant Bakary Manneh “Nyancho”, Lieutenant Abdoulie Bah “Achopie”, Lieutenant Lamin Darboe, Lieutenant Gibril Saye, and Lieutenant Buba Jammeh were taken out of the cell and put into a Land Rover on the orders of then Vice-President Sanna Sabally.

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that he was related to Gibril Saye and in the morning Saye had given him a cheque of 300 dalasi and a watch, telling him to hand it over to his wife Mabaya Demba.

He explained that Fraiser Joof, a Ghanaian Provost Marshal as well as Papu Gomez, a Warrant Officer Class 1 both played a role in getting the officers in to the vehicle and added that Papu Gomez was kicking some of them. Pa Ousman Sanneh said that he believed that the hands of the prisoners were cuffed...
behind their backs, some were wearing their military trousers while some were only in underwear.

He said a group composed of the Junta members and their orderlies (he could not remember their names) as well as Buba Jammeh alias Kanilai and Alhagie Bambo Kanyi boarded the vehicle and left in a convoy. The witness said that after two or three hours, they came back and went straight to the anteroom. He described that they took dead bodies from the vehicle and took them around the mosque. When asked later if he saw the bodies, he responded that he did not but that he saw the vehicle which carried the bodies and saw blood stains on the ground. He said he was later ordered by Sanna Sabally to bring out EM Ceesay and Basirou Camara from the cell.

He said Alhagie Bambo Kanyi and himself brought the detainees to Sanna Sabally who told them (the detainees) to join their colleagues, the dead bodies. He said Alhagie Bambo Kanyi proceeded with them while he (the witness) went back to the guard room. On his way, he heard two gunshots and knew that they had been executed and this was later confirmed by one of his colleagues. When asked about the circumstances of the death of the others, the witness said that he did not ask about it but believed that they were killed by those who he had left them with. Pa Ousman Sanneh said that he knew where the victims were buried, which was behind the cookhouse. He however did not participate in the burial.

He added that later, they were briefed by Sanna Sabally who told them “the Lieutenants had gone” and that “anyone who wanted to try it should desist from it”, that an example had been set already. After the speech, the five members of the Junta left. The witness confirmed that Yahya Jammeh was not present. When asked if Peter Singhateh was a member of the Junta, the witness replied he was not but “moved with his brother all over”.

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that the Remembrance Day Parade was cancelled and there was no lunch at the barracks that day.

He said soldiers were very sad that day, they missed their loved ones and he added that those who had been killed were their mentors.

He specified that he had lost his brother-in-law, Gibril Saye who was married to his sister. The Lead Counsel asked how he felt when he had to open that cell and let him walk out onto that vehicle, to which he responded that he felt very bad and very sad.

He stated that he could not even control his emotions at that time. He kept the belongings of Gibril Saye for a few days and was then escorted by the military police officers to hand over the cheque and the watch to the wife. When asked why he had to be escorted for that, he guessed that it might have been because “there was no trust”. He said that he had informed Gibril Saye’s wife of what had happened immediately after “the process”.

Continuing with his testimony, he said that from 1990 to 2013, he was a regular soldier until “one faithful day” when he was asked to join the Junglers by Saul Badjie, who told him that he would get his briefings by General Bora Colley. The Lead Counsel noted that by then, the Junglers had existed for almost ten years and the witness explained that he knew of their existence and had heard about them. When asked what he had heard, he stated that they were “soldiers with difference” and were responsible for patrolling the border but did not know much about their other functions.

The Lead Counsel interjected that by 2013, it was common knowledge that the Junglers were a killer squad and asked the victim if he knew they were killing for Yahya Jammeh and he replied that he did when he joined the group. He said he did not agree to join but wherever the army posted you, you could not refuse or deny it.

Lead Counsel told him that by joining, he accepted to being assigned to a killer squad and the witness agreed.

He said when being transferred to the Junglers, he went to take weapons and ammunition from the armoury but was never issued a black uniform. His first mission was a familiarisation tour at the border line under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Nuha Badjie.
Asked to describe the structure of the Junglers, Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that their commander was Lieutenant Colonel Nuha Badjie, who was answerable to Bora Colley, who was answerable to General Saul Badjie and General Saul Badjie was answerable to Yahya Jammeh.

Pa Ousman Sanneh said that the first operation he participated in as a Jungler was the arrest of Ndure Cham in 2013. He said they were all called upon to go for patrol and they all converged at the Trans-Gambia road, where they stopped and waited for others vehicles to arrive. There they were briefed that the operation was going to take place in Farafenni and that once they reach the ground they would be further informed. The group was composed of: Lieutenant Colonel Nuha Badjie, Captain Modou Jarju alias Rambo, Captain Mustapha Sanneh, Captain Michael Jatta, Warrant Officer Class 1 Nfansu Nyabally, Warrant Officer Class 2 Malick Manga, Staff Sergeant Sulayman Sambou, Sergeant Amadou Badjie, Corporal Saikouba Jarju and himself, a Warrant Officer Class 1.

The witness said they went up to Farafenni and Nuha Badjie made a call to Musa Johnson who was one of the soldiers at Farafenni Barracks and had been Ndure Cham’s orderly before the 1994 coup. When they arrived in Farafenni, Musa Johnson joined their vehicle and together they went to the Cashew farm where Ndure Cham was staying. Musa Johnson was speaking to Ndure Cham on the phone and told him he was coming. They drove up to 100 meters away from where Ndure Cham was stationed, stopped there and asked Musa Johnson to stay in the car.

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that they all lined up and surrounded the Cashew farm and then two people entered through a road that led all the way to the place. He said the two people that went found him, whistled and the other followed and captured Ndure Cham. The witness remembered that Ndure Cham said that it was not a surprise. When asked if Ndure Cham had been beaten, the witness responded that he was never. He said that Ndure Cham was then placed on the backseat of the pickup, sandwiched between two people and taken to the National Intelligence Agency, NIA annex at Tanji.

The witness recalled that in the evening, General Saul Badjie and the NIA Director Yankuba Badjie met with the prisoner and later left. In total, Ndure Cham was detained there for almost two weeks, in a small room.

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that they were guarding him in twos, taking turns and that he was the senior man and the rest were there as subordinates. He said that Lamin Badjie from the Police Intervention Unit, PIU was there and that he was also part of the Junglers as well as Sulayman Sambou, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Malick Manga, “Chairman” Amadou Badjie and Lamin Sambou. When asked if anything happened to Ndure Cham during those two weeks, he said he had realised Ndure Cham had been tortured as his face was swollen.

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that during his guard tours he let Ndure Cham out, as he had been his commander and knew him very well. He said sometimes he brew attaya29 for him. Ndure Cham confided to him “that tall boy was definitely disturbing him there”, referring to Sulayman/Saul Sambou, who was beating him. As he was the senior man there, Lead Counsel asked if he talked to Sulayman/Saul Sambou and the witness replied that he told him not to beat the man because he was already a captive and he told him investigations were not done yet but according to Pa Ousman Sanneh the “man never listens to people”, meaning that he did whatever he wished.

One evening around 9pm, the witness said that as he was on his turn of duties with Amadou Badjie, General Saul Badjie came followed by NIA Director Yankuba Badjie and Sheikh Omar Jeng (the witness only remembered Sheikh Omar Jeng later in his testimony), Lieutenant Colonel Nuha Badjie, Michael Jatta and some of the Patrol Team members and he was told to take Ndure Cham out. The witness stated that he believed they were going to take him for further interrogations at the NIA. The witness said he and Amadou Badjie waited until the following morning and when they saw no reliever coming to take the turn, he called Michael Jatta who replied that he should not worry and that the NIA officers were coming to take his place. He said that one NIA

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29Green tea.
officer called Tombong Sanyang eventually came and they handed over the annex to him. “Chairman” Amadou Badjie and the witness then went home to Bakau and Tallinding respectively.

Lead Counsel inquired about what happened to the NIA officers when they brought Ndure Cham to the NIA annex and he said they were asked to leave and did not return to work during these two weeks, meaning that only the Junglers were present during that time.

He was asked if he enquired about what had happened to Ndure Cham and he said he had never asked anybody. When asked why, he said the motto of the Jungler was “need to know basis” and that one was not allowed to ask questions.

Pa Ousman Sanneh stated that he never heard about what happened to Ndure Cham until after the impasse, when he came to realise he had been killed. He was asked what he heard about his killing. He said he learnt that his colleagues took him to kill him, these were those who came for him: Lieutenant Colonel Nuha Badjie, Modou Jarju alias Rambo, Michael Jatta, Sulayman Sambou, Malick Manga and Nfansu Nyabally. He explained that he did not see Omar A. Jallow “Oya” being there but added that it was night time. He described that some members of the groups stayed outside because the premise was small and all the vehicles could not fit there.

Pa Ousman Sanneh said that the other event he participated in was the murder of Baba Jobe. He received a call from the operation officer Michael Jatta who told him that they were to meet in Banjul at the Arch 22. He said from there they drove to Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital, RVTH. When asked if he knew what they were going to do at RVTH, he said in the initial stage he did not know what his mission was, but later, after the mission was completed and the others boarded the car, he was told that they killed a man at the hospital on his bed and the man was Baba Jobe.

When asked if he had a briefing at the Arch as to what his mission was going to be, the witness responded that while the others were briefed, he came late and was told to join Omar A. Jallow “Oya” at the main entrance of the hospital. The Lead Counsel urged the witness to tell the truth, but Pa Ousman Sanneh maintained that he had not been informed what the mission was about because he came late. He affirmed that when he came, he was told by Nuha Badjie that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” was standing at the entrance of the RVTH while the rest of the guys used the back way to enter.

The witness said they entered through the main gate and stood there until those who had gone through the back entrance arrived. He stated that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” told them that “the man” was lying in a private room upstairs. Pa Ousman Sanneh stated that once the group entered the hospital, he went back to inform Nuha Badjie and then stayed at the main gate until they came out and announced: “mission accomplished.”

When asked at what point he was told about the objective of the mission, he responded that it was when he went back to the car to speak to Nuha Badjie. He specified that it was Omar A. Jallow “Oya” who had ordered him to go inform Nuha Badjie that the men had entered. The Lead Counsel highlighted the inconsistency of the testimony of the witness, who had previously said that he was not told anything before the end of the mission. Pa Ousman Sanneh repeated that in the beginning he was not told anything because he arrived when the briefing had already taken place.

The witness explained that he was told by Omar A. Jallow “Oya” to wait outside, while he (“Oya”) would lead the others inside as he had done the recce of the area. At that point, he did not mention the identity of the man and did not say what they were expected to do to this man. When asked, Pa Ousman Sanneh reiterated that the arrangement was that he would remain outside and inform Nuha Badjie that the others had entered and added that this arrangement was made before his arrival.

*Military term for reconnaissance mission.*
Going back to the moment he was told to report back to Nuha Badjie, he explained that it was when he was outside with Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and that at the time there was no telephone communication. He reiterated that it was only when he spoke to Nuha Badjie that he was informed about the aim of the mission.

At that point, the Lead Counsel told him his story was not true but the witness remained adamant that it was the fact. The Lead Counsel asked him if he heard Omar A. Jallow “Oya” say\textsuperscript{31} that he and the witness went together to Baba Jobe’s room at the hospital. Pa Ousman Sanneh insisted that he remained outside, explaining that the room was too small to fit in that many people. The Lead Counsel inquired how he knew about the size of the room and the witness responded that he knew the premises of the RVTH.

When asked when he realised that the room was too small and that not everyone could fit in it, Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that it was after the operation. The Lead Counsel reminded him that the witness had looked at his statement, corrected several parts and had indicated that he did not enter the room. The witness maintained this version and reiterated that he remained outside. Reading his statement, the Lead Counsel said, “On this particular occasion, we were told by Nuha Badjie that Saul Badjie told them to finish Baba Jobe. I came through the main gate of RVTH with Omar Jallow and was instructed by Nuha Badjie to keep watch and immediately Omar Jallow and the rest of the team got to the private block.” The witness agreed that was his statement and confirmed he had a copy of it. The Lead Counsel highlighted that the witness knew what the orders were but he insisted he did not know at the beginning of the mission and that he was only informed of it when he went back to Nuha Badjie (he repeated this several times during the questioning).

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that he only heard about the mission as it was unfolding. Again, the Lead Counsel indicated that the same morning,

\textbf{the witness had reworked his statement with him and had told him about Yahya Jammeh’s order “that they go and finish Baba Jobe”.}

\textsuperscript{31}Testimony at the TRRC on 23rd and 24th July 2019.

Pa Ousman Sanneh agreed that that was the order they got from Nuha Badjie but repeated that he only got to know about it when he spoke to Nuha Badjie and not beforehand as he came after the briefing had already happened. When the witness said that he probably did not understand the question because of his lack of understanding the English language, the Lead Counsel offered to switch to Mandinka but he refused.

The Lead Counsel claimed that it was not that the witness did not understand but rather that he wanted to extricate himself from responsibility. The witness refuted that accusation because given he was standing there (at the hospital), he was part of them. The Lead Counsel told him he was part of them because he knew what was going to happen and that he knew what was going to happen beforehand. The witness agreed that he was told but insisted that it was afterwards.

\textbf{While continuing to disagree on this point, the witness was made aware of the aim of the mission,} the witness said that he agreed in having \textbf{participated in the killing of Baba Jobe.}

The Lead Counsel highlighted that the witness had said in his statement that he had returned from a peacekeeping mission in 2012 and that he was transferred to the Patrol Team/Junglers in 2013. As Pa Ousman Sanneh confirmed this, the Lead Counsel brought to his attention that Baba Jobe died on 28\textsuperscript{th} October 2011. When asked what he had to say about that, the witness said it was true.

The witness was asked if that meant that he joined the Junglers before 28\textsuperscript{th} October 2011 but the witness explained that he was incorporated into the Junglers to carry out the execution of Baba Jobe though he was not yet part of the Junglers. The Lead Counsel then said that in essence he was telling the Commission that the Junglers would bring in a stranger into their operation, to which the witness responded yes.
Pa Ousman Sanneh went on to describe the details of this mission and explained that when he was called, he took a vehicle, met Malick Manga at Denton Bridge and they picked-up Omar A. Jallow “Oya” on the way. Nuha Badjie was already at the Arch 22. As they continued towards the hospital, Nuha Badjie said that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and the witness should go in through that door and wait. They did as they were told but others had gone behind already. These men were the ones who got inside with Omar A. Jallow “Oya” who showed them where Baba Jobe was lying. He said when they got in, he returned back to Nuha Badjie to inform him that those people were inside. After some time, those people came back and said that the mission was completed.

The Lead Counsel noted that the day before\textsuperscript{32}, the witness gave them a somewhat different story: that he arrived late and the others had gone already. The witness responded that he must have forgotten and stated again that he got there late and that he was not present when they were briefed. The Lead Counsel told him that he was not asking him that and asked where he had met the other members of the team. He replied that when he came with the vehicle to the Arch 22, he did not see anyone so he went to the Banjul Pharmacy, where he met Nuha Badjie. The Lead Counsel highlighted that this version was different from the one he gave two minutes ago.

The witness said when he got to the Banjul Pharmacy, he found Nuha Badjie who told him that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” was at the hospital and that he should join him so they could all go in. Lead Counsel mentioned that this was a new inconsistency in this testimony as he had indicated that he first picked up Malick Manga at the Denton Bridge and then Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and then went with him to the Arch 22, where Nuha Badjie was.

Pa Ousman Sanneh told the Commission he came with Malick Manga and not Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and specified that he found “Oya” at the Banjul Pharmacy and Nuha Badjie told him “there is Oya, you go and join him.”

The Lead Counsel asked him if it had been a mistake when he initially said he went with Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and if it had also been a mistake when he stated that he met Nuha Badjie at the Arch 22. The witness said they were mistakes and the Lead Counsel told him that the mistakes were becoming too many.

When asked what he discussed with Malick Manga on the way, the witness responded that they did not know about the mission at that time and they were only having a normal discussion. He explained that Michael Jatta who was the operation commander had called him and told him that Malick Manga would be waiting for him at the bridge.

When asked if he was working under Michael Jatta the witness responded that he was not at that time but that he later was. The Lead Counsel inquired how it came that he obeyed his order to go to the bridge, and the witness responded that in the military when a superior calls you, you must answer to the call. The Lead Counsel concluded that at this time the witness was already a Jungler, despite his statement that he was not. Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that this mission was to test him to see if he would be able to work with them and explained that this was the reason he was there.

The Lead Counsel asked him if his test was to participate in killings, to which Pa Ousman Sanneh agreed.

The Lead Counsel told the witness that it was critical that he told the truth about when he first learnt about the objective of the mission and warned him that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” had given testimony about what had happened, and that if he did not speak the truth, the Commission would make its own assessment to determine who was speaking the truth.

The Lead Counsel asked if they were testing him to see whether he could participate in killings, the witness replied yes, he also responded in the affirmative to the question if he passed the test.

When asked how all the other players knew the role they were to play during that mission, the witness replied that the nature of the army is such that for every soldier “before you do anything, you must be briefed”. He then stated that he was told what his responsibilities would be and added that Malick Manga must have been briefed as well but that he was not present. The Lead Counsel reminded him

\textsuperscript{32}The testimony was heard on two consecutive days.
that he had testified that he had come with Manga and asked him where he had dropped him. Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that he dropped him at the back gate to the hospital; close to the State House.

The witness explained that when he dropped Malick Manga, he then took the vehicle to the military garage, opposite the hospital and walked back to the main gate, around Banjul Pharmacy on Independence Drive. When asked, he said he went together with Omar A. Jallow “Oya”. The Lead Counsel told him Omar A. Jallow “Oya” had testified that they entered together through the Accident and Emergency entrance and not the main gate.

When asked how he knew that he had to go to the hospital, since he claimed that he was only briefed later about the objective of the mission, Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that when he arrived he saw Nuha Badjie outside, waiting inside his vehicle, and he told him to join Omar A. Jallow “Oya” but the Lead Counsel inquired how he knew he had to drop Malick Manga at the hospital as he just described and that he would not need his car and should park it. He also asked how he knew Nuha Badjie was standing at Banjul Pharmacy and that he had to go to him. Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that “he was aware” and that when he came, he found Nuha Badjie standing there, dropped Malick Manga and then he returned back to Nuha Badjie.

The Lead Counsel highlighted a new inconsistency: before the witness mentioned that he dropped Malick Manga and then went to see Nuha Badjie and he was now claiming that he saw Nuha Badjie before dropping Manga. The witness explained that he thought that Malick Manga had spoken to Nuha Badjie before dropping Manga. The witness explained that when the mission was given, he was not present when the instructions were given.

The Lead Counsel asked him how and at what stage Malick Manga knew what to do, since the witness met him at the bridge, and dropped him off at the hospital. Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that he assumed Malick Manga had been briefed before going to the bridge but the Lead Counsel interjected that the witness had previously said that Malick Manga did not know what the mission was when they were in the car together. The witness replied that Malick Manga might have known about the mission but he did not disclose it to him when they were in the car.

As he was further probed about the inconsistencies of his testimony regarding the exact moment of the briefing (at the Arch 22), the witness explained that Nuha Badjie was an uncle to Malick Manga, so sometimes he briefed him about things before they happened. The Lead Counsel told him that his was an assumption and asked how Omar A. Jallow “Oya” could have known, to which the witness replied that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” had done the reconnaissance mission to find out where Baba Jobe had been admitted. He further explained that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” told him about that when they got in to the vehicle. He said that after the mission they dropped Omar A. Jallow “Oya” at Hamza Barracks.

When asked if in fact, the witness had not picked up Malick Manga from Denton Bridge, then Omar A. Jallow “Oya” from Hamza Barracks and then drove went to the Arch 22, the witness replied that this was not the case and that he had not taken Omar A. Jallow “Oya” along. The Lead Counsel then asked him if when he had said earlier that he went with Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and Malick Manga was a mistake, which the witness confirmed. The Lead Counsel told him that this was the third mistake in his testimony. Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that he entered RVTH without knowing what he was going to do, he responded yes.

The Lead Counsel mentioned that the witness’ story was very convoluted because he was trying to cover up one mistake after another.

He then informed Pa Ousman Sanneh that the evidence the TRRC has is that the group met at the Arch 22 and orders were given to them there and read him his own statement: “On this particular mission, we were told by Nuha Badjie that Saul Badjie said that the President ordered you to go and finish Baba Jobe.” While the witness agreed that he made this statement he stated again that he was not present when the instructions were given.
The Lead Counsel then asked the witness to describe his role, which he did again, saying that he was asked to enter the hospital, wait and then report back to Nuha Badjie to inform him that the others had entered. The Lead Counsel told the witness that the truth is that when he entered the hospital, he knew that his group was going to eliminate Baba Jobe. The witness insisted that at that spot, where they were standing, he did not know and that it was only when he went to see Nuha Badjie that he was told that Baba Jobe was the man lying in the hospital.

The Lead Counsel told him that this was not what the witness had said the day before and highlighted that this was the fourth mistake because before he had said that this was the time when Nuha Badjie told him what the objective of the mission was, while now he said that Nuha Badjie merely said that Baba Jobe “was lying there”. Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that Nuha Badjie had not only told him that but also that there was an order from General Saul Badjie that Yahya Jammeh said Baba Jobe was to be eliminated.

The Lead Counsel mentioned that it was difficult for the Commission to understand why the army would brief someone about an operation when it was done already. Pa Ousman Sanneh said again that he came late for the briefing and that’s why he was not informed. The Lead Counsel asked if he was implying that he was the only one who did not know what the operation was about, to which the witness responded yes and explained that it was because it was hidden from him.

When asked if he wanted to extricate himself from responsibility, the witness replied that once he left his home, he automatically became part of the operation but the Lead Counsel responded that the witness participated in the operation more than he was willing to admit but the witness claimed that he said everything.

When asked how he knew that it was Omar A. Jallow “Oya” who took the others to the room, he explained that it was because Omar A. Jallow “Oya” had done a reconnaissance mission before. Pa Ousman Sanneh added that he did not know if Omar A. Jallow “Oya” entered the room where Baba Jobe was and that he only reported to Nuha Badjie that the men had entered the hospital and went upstairs and not that they had entered the room.

Responding to the question who had given him the mission to report back to Nuha Badjie, the witness responded that Nuha Badjie gave those instructions: “he said go there and stand and confirm that they had gone inside.” Lead Counsel highlighted that this was another inconsistency or contradiction and noted that the day before the witness had said that if had been Omar A. Jallow “Oya” who had told him to wait there. Pa Ousman Sanneh said that might have been a slip of the tongue, and that when he got inside with Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, they went inside and stood at a particular spot and waited for others to join them. He explained that when they came Omar A. Jallow “Oya” led them and he went with them, he added that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” did not tell him anything.

The Lead Counsel noted that the witness’ story was very confusing, with lots of versions simply because he was trying to lie.

The witness explained once more that he was not briefed, that Nuha Badjie then told him to join Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and also told him that they should go through the main gate and wait for the other and that was what he did. The Lead Counsel told him that he was bringing in a new element and excluding another and stressed that before, he had not said, Nuha Badjie had told him to wait and see these guys enter and report to him. The witness mentioned that it may have been because of his difficulty in speaking the (English) language and added that they did not understand each other adequately on the issue.

At this point, the Lead Counsel told him that his story was getting more mixed up and that the Commission would make its own determinations. He asked the witness to confirm if his statement was that his role was only limited to standing watch. Pa Ousman Sanneh responded in the affirmative and added that he was playing the role of a scout, according to the instructions he was given. He also said that he was not asked to watch whether any other person would come to where the operation was to take place. The Lead Counsel asked him if during the operation anybody had to stand at the door of the room Baba Jobe was lying in. He replied he knew nothing about that.
When asked, Pa Ousman Sanneh said that he joined this operation because he was asked to by Michael Jatta, who had called him and told him to meet them at Banjul. He explained that he had a mobile phone and that they all had the numbers of one another. He further explained that the reason why he did not just call Nuha Badjie to tell him the group of men had entered was because every operation had its own mode. The Lead Counsel expressed his surprise that they would call him through the phone to tell him to come because they had an operation. The Lead Counsel informed the witness that the evidence the TRRC had is that the witness, Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and the rest of the group including Malick Manga entered the room and restrained Baba Jobe and suffocated him to death. Lead Counsel added that this was how the witness passed the test to qualify as a Jungler.

Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that this was not the case. The Lead Counsel asked the witness to answer the simple question if he had seen them entering the room. The witness responded that he saw people going upstairs but that he did not see them entering Baba Jobe’s room. The witness explained that he had told Nuha Badjie that the men had entered the room because if they had not Omar A. Jallow “Oya” would have gotten back to him to tell him. The Lead Counsel told the witness that he was there when Baba Jobe died, but he replied that while he was part of the operation that led to Baba Jobe’s death, he did not go inside, where he was killed.

The Lead Counsel told him that according to Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, they entered the room and used Baba Jobe’s sheets to suffocate him to death and reckoned that this would not take ten minutes in his estimation. He then asked the witness how long he was with Nuha Badjie before the others joined them. Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that it took “some time” before they returned. When asked the witness said that he estimated that it would take about seven minutes to walk from the private ward to the Banjul Pharmacy where Nuha Badjie was standing but explained that the reason why it took “some time” for some to arrive was because some did not come through the main gate where they were standing. He said that it took about 20 minutes before the first person, Michael Jatta and Rambo (Modou Jarju) got back to where they were. The Lead Counsel calculated that from the moment the operation started it took about 10 minutes before he left the group, seven minutes to walk to Nuha Badjie, that was 17 minutes and 20 minutes later Michael Jatta arrived. Lead Counsel told him so that was 37 minutes for that operation.

The witness said that was his own estimation because he did not check the time then. The Lead Counsel told him the evidence they received was that this was a quick and swift operation, they went in and few minutes later they were out having suffocated Baba Jobe and that eight of them restrained and “snuffed the life out of him”. Pa Ousman Sanneh maintained that the mission took about 30 minutes. The Lead Counsel asked him if Omar A. Jallow “Oya” was lying when he said that he went inside with the witness and that he participated in the killing of Baba Jobe. He responded that it was not true and that his role was one of a scout.

The Lead Counsel again confirmed with the witness that this mission had been a test to see if he could participate in murder, to which the witness said yes. The Lead Counsel expressed his surprise that the army would test his ability to murder someone by just standing there, watch and then go and report. The witness responded that everyone did what their responsibilities were and that one operates according to the extent of the briefing. The Lead Counsel concluded that the Commission had enough information to be able to assess the credibility of the witness on that particular issue.

The witness was asked to describe what happened after the mission was completed and he explained that they drove back home. He said he was in the same car as Malick Manga because they lived in the same area. The Counsel reminded him that earlier in his testimony he had mentioned that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” was also in the vehicle with them and that they had dropped him at Hamza Barracks. The witness responded that this was a mistake.

The Lead Counsel noted that this was about the sixth or the seventh mistake and told him that his story was patently false.
The witness offered explanations about this inconsistency and affirmed that he was telling the truth.

Moving on, the Lead Counsel asked him what happened between him and the Junglers after that event, and Pa Ousman Sanneh said he went on a mission abroad and was absorbed in the team upon his return. He explained that his task was now killing “because that was their job”. He added that if one holds a hand and another one the leg, you are both killers. The Lead Counsel asked him if that was what all of them did with regards to Baba Jobe and the witness responded that he could not extricate himself from the killing of Baba Jobe because he was present at the hospital.

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that he left for East Timor two or three months after Baba Jobe’s death and was incorporated into the Junglers soon after his return in 2013. The Lead Counsel inquired if his deployment to East Timor was not in fact a reward for serving with the Junglers and for killing Baba Jobe. The witness responded that this was not the case, and explained that the mission was a police package but when asked, he admitted not being a police officer but a soldier.

He went on to explain that this was regular procedure, for instance police officers were incorporated into the Darfur mission, even if it was a military mission. The Lead Counsel inquired if it was not rather the case that the government was closing its eyes and taking military personnel to be deployed as police officers. The witness said that this was not the case and that there was a slot given to Gambia Armed Forces.

At this point, Chairman Sise mentioned that when he was working for the United Nations, he was responsible for sending soldiers and police contingents to the United Nations:

“I have worked with the military, drawing up rules here and there, I never thought that they would have this sort of fraud perpetrated under the United Nations that within the police contingent, you had murderers sent to the organisation”.

When asked about the next operation he participated in, Pa Ousman Sanneh responded that it was the one involving the Gambian-Americans and said that this was his first mission as a proper Jungler. He then remembered that the first mission had in fact been the arrest of Ndure Cham but the first operation he participated in involving the killing of people was Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe, the two Americans in 2013.

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that he was called by Michael Jatta to meet with the group which was composed of Lieutenant Colonel Ba Nuha Badjie, Major Modou Jarju, Major Jallaw, Warrant Officer Class 1 Nfansu Nyabally, Warrant Officer Class 2 Malick Manga, Staff Sergeant Sulayman Sambou, Sergeant Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Sergeant Amadou Badjie, Sergeant Saikouba Jarju and himself. He explained the senior officers went inside to discuss while the subordinates (Malick Manga, Saikouba Jarju, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Amadou Badjie, Sulayman Sambou and himself) stayed outside.

The witness said that when the senior officers came out, they told them that there were some Gambian-Americans mercenaries who had the intention of toppling the government of Yahya Jammeh. They explained that they were to be apprehended and brought to Kanilai where Yahya Jammeh was.

The witness explained that someone called Alhagie Marr had been tasked by Nuha Badjie to conduct surveillance on them. The witness and Michael Correa were told to go to meet Alhagie Marr while the rest of the team was to go on the highway to conduct a VCP so that when these gentlemen boarded their vehicle and started moving, they would inform their colleagues.

The witness said that the men were sitting at the Chinese restaurant around Senegambia and when he arrived, he went to see Alhagie Marr who was there as well. Marr told them that the gentlemen were sitting at a table close by and described the way they were dressed. The witness and Michael Correa waited until they left the restaurant to go home. Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that the other Junglers had established a VCP before the Petroleum House junction and were waiting there.

33Nuha badjie is sometimes referred to by the soldiers as Ba Nuha or Ba Nuha Badjie
The witness continued on to explain that the men took a taxi and got in with two ladies. He said they alerted the people at the VCP and gave them the registration number of the vehicle and described the clothes they were wearing. He said that “these people” were later apprehended. He added that he and Michael Correa went to the home of these individuals and they searched the area. When they returned, the others were ready to leave and led the way to Kanilai. When asked if he knew if they had been taken to the house in Kotu, he replied no. According to the witness, once “those people” were apprehended, they continued with them to Kanilai. Lead Counsel said they had received testimonies suggesting that they were first taken to the house in Kotu or Kololi, their base and that General Saul Badjie came to say that Yahya Jammeh had ordered these two people be taken to Kanilai.

The witness said when these individuals were arrested, they were taken to their homes, which were searched and from there they proceeded to Kanilai, they did not go back to the base in Kotu. Once in Kanilai, the leaders took these individuals, went inside with them to Yahya Jammeh’s compound and after some time came out. They took the vehicle and went to the bush and they said “Chairman” Amadou Badjie should take the pickaxe from the vehicle. They were given the instruction to dig a hole and explained that while they were digging the grave, they were having discussions amongst themselves and they said Yahya Jammeh ordered that these individuals had to be chopped into pieces and buried. He stated that the junior officers were digging the grave namely Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, “Chairman” Amadou Badjie and Saikouba Jarju. The other Junglers present were Nfansu Nyabally, Malick Manga, Michael Jatta, Sulayman Sambou, Mustapha Sanneh, Ba Nuha Badjie and Modou Jarju.

Pa Ousman Sanneh said when they were done digging the grave, “those individuals” were brought in and specified that their heads were chopped off.

He stated that he did not know who specifically did it, because he was not there. He said that all of them buried the bodies. When asked if he participated in the murder of those two Gambian-Americans, he responded yes, he was there and that he had been acting under the order of his superior Nuha Badjie, but that he knew that he had instructions from Yahya Jammeh.

When asked what he had to say to the families of those two gentlemen who were executed in cold blood, the witness replied that he prayed they would rest in peace and indulged their forgiveness. He said they were junior officers and they are not perfect. He said they were doing their work according to instructions, when they were ordered to do something, they did it: “we were powerless”. He noted that whatever they did was not their intention and that the only operated based on instructions.

Pa Ousman Sanneh then narrated another operation in which he participated, which involved Toumani Jallow. He said that one day while they were on patrol around the Brikama highway, they were joined by Sheikh Omar Jeng, the NIA commander and two other NIA officials, Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye (the witness remembered his name after the Lead Counsel mentioned it).

The witness said that Sheikh Omar Jeng asked for Mustapha Sanneh and told him “here is Toumani”. He explained that Toumani Jallow got in the vehicle he was in while Abdoulie Gaye entered the other vehicle. When asked who was in the car with him, the witness listed Major Modou Jarju “Rambo”, Sergeant Saikouba Jarju and Sergeant Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and specified that he was the one driving. Warrant Officer Class 2 Malick Manga, Staff Sergeant Sulayman Sambou, Mustapha Sanneh and Michael Jatta were in the other vehicle.

When asked he explained that Toumani Jallow was handcuffed with his hands behind his back and was sandwiched between Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and Saikouba Jarju. He said that Major Modou Jarju “Rambo” told him to drive to Foni.

When asked if at this stage they all knew he was going to be killed, the witness responded that they all knew.
Pa Ousman Sanneh recounted that while he was driving Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and Saikouba Jarju for the rope and Omar A. Jallow “Oya” then strangled Toumani Jallow with it.

The witness confirmed that he was driving while he knew his passenger was being killed. He recalled that Toumani Jallow asked Omar A. Jallow “Oya” “my senior you are taking me to kill me?” to which “Oya” responded that this was the order he had received. He said that he did not say anything else and soon after that they strangled him and killed him. When they arrived in Foni, they met with Lieutenant Colonel Sanna Manjang, who led them to the bush.

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that they went to a big garden that belonged to Yahya Jammeh and dug a grave. When asked about details of the mission, he said that he knew that Mustapha Sanneh had gone to the NIA for investigation but did not know what Sheikh Omar Jeng and Mustapha Sanneh had discussed at the time of the handover of the two detainees.

When asked if he knew where the order to kill Toumani Jallow came from, the witness said he did not know but he knew that in their work, the directives always came from above because nobody would “just do anything in vain, especially something like killing an individual”. He explained that the orders came from General Saul Badjie who would tell Nuha Badjie what to do, but he knew that General Saul Badjie got instructions from Yahya Jammeh. He said that is the way it used to be.

He added that they did not have the power to kill anybody and only operated based on instructions.

When asked what was going on in his head when Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and Saikouba Jarju were strangling Toumani, he responded that it was bitter; he knew that death was not easy.

He said he felt bad, he was terrified and sympathetic. He said he was reciting the Quran. The Lead Counsel said that he still went along with it, to which the witness agreed but added that the whole thing is regrettable.

When asked, he said that the other passenger who was put in the second vehicle (Abdoulie Gaye) was also killed inside the vehicle on their way to Kanilai. He acknowledged that there was coordination between the two teams and described that when they arrived at Yahya Jammeh’s farm, the junior officers had already dug a grave.

Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that “Chairman” Amadou Badjie went to Sanna Manjang’s vehicle and took the tools from the boot of the car. He agreed that there was coordination with Sanna Manjang and added that he was in communication with the officers. He confirmed that it was the same farm where the Gambian-Americans had been buried. He listed those who participated in the burial of Toumani Jallow and Abdouli Gaye as being Lieutenant Colonel Ba Nuha Badjie, Major Modou Jarju “Rambo”, Captain Mustapha Sanneh, Captain Michael Jatta, Warrant Officer Class 1 Nfansu Nyabally, Warrant Officer Class 2, Malick Manga, Staff Sergeant Sulayman Sambou, Sergeant Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Sergeant Amadou Badjie, Corporal Saikouba Jarju and himself. After they buried the victims, they drove back to Kanilai to get some fuel and returned back to Kombo.

When asked if this was the last mission, the witness said that it was apart from some arrests he conducted during the impasse and he also went to the NIA for torturing. The Lead Counsel told Pa Ousman Sanneh they had evidence that he participated in the execution of the Mile 2 Prison inmates, but he responded that he was not there. The Lead Counsel warned him that this was an ongoing investigation and that the Commission may receive further evidence on the subject and on the basis of that, it should be able to make an assessment as to whether he was being truthful or not. The Lead Counsel recapitulated that the witness had so far acknowledged having participated in five murders – that of Baba Jobe, Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe, Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye, which the witness confirmed.

Turning to the other activities the witness was involved in, the Lead Counsel informed him that the Commission had received information that he had participated in the torture of civilians who were arrested and detained at the NIA including Bakawusu Fofana, Imam Baba Leigh and others. Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that they went to a big garden that belonged to Yahya Jamme
Sanneh replied that he was not involved in the torture of Bakawsu Fofana and Imam Baba Leigh but acknowledged that he participated in the torture of some soldiers who were arrested and detained after the 30th December incident.

The Lead Counsel warned the witness again and told him that they were investigating the torture of Bakawsu Fofana, Imam Baba Leigh and others and that based on the evidence received, the Commission would make its own assessment as to who is speaking the truth. He then asked the witness to describe the torture that he indicated he had participated in.

Pa Ousman Sanneh narrated that he was home the night of the 30th December attack and received a call from Modou Jarju “Rambo” around 2am who told him that the State House was under attack. The witness described that he took his gun and materials and they went and collected Malick Manga and continued on their way going up to Denton Bridge. He said they stopped there and waited for their colleagues. He said Nuha Badjie was there already.

He recounted that after about 20 minutes, General Saul Badjie joined them and led the way with his vehicle and when they reached the junction where N&N used to be before the turn towards the State House, the sentry told them they should alight from the vehicles and advance in a line, one at a time. When they got to the guardroom, they all stood and he saw the Chief of Defence Staff, CDS Ousman Badjie in handcuffs. The witness stated that he explained to the guards that this was the CDS and they removed the handcuffs. They then went inside the State House close to the Mosque, together with Saul Badjie and found corpses lying on the ground.

The witness said that the corpses were those of Lamin Sanneh, Jaja Nyass, Njaga Jagne as well as one of an American soldier.

They surrounded the corpses and also found a person -Private Njie- who had been beaten almost to death. He was then taken to the hospital. He said that Sarjo Jarju “Hitler” was arrested by the Patrol Team, disarmed and seated upstairs. General Saul Badjie called Nuha Badjie and told him to take Sarjo Jarju “Hitler” to the NIA.

He listed those who took Sarjo Jarju to the NIA as being: Saikoubab Jarju, Malick Manga, Michael Jatta, Nfansu Nyabally, Nuha Badjie and himself. They dropped Sarjo Jarju at the office of the NIA and returned to State House. Pa Ousman Sanneh narrated that they were later told to go to the training school and arrest Captain Abdoulie Jobe and take him to the NIA.

He explained that one night, they were told to go to the NIA to torture these individuals. He listed his team members as Nuha Badjie, “Rambo” Modou Jarju, Mustapha Sanneh, Michael Jatta, Michael Correa, Nfansu Nyabally, Malick Manga, Sulayman Sambou, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Amadou Badjie. When they arrived, their commander Lieutenant Colonel Nuha Badjie got inside and came back with Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju.

The witness explained that Sarjo Jarju was taken inside to a place with a table and placed on it. He said that while he held his feet other held his hands and he was beaten with hosepipes for almost 30 minutes and then released. He acknowledged being part of those who were holding the victim’s hands and legs. The Lead Counsel asked what Sarjo Jarju was saying during the beating and the witness said he was just crying, he was not saying anything. Lead Counsel asked if he sustained any injuries and the witness replied that he did.

Pa Ousman Sanneh said that there were only two individuals who were beating him up at that time, some were holding his legs but others were outside as not all of them could not fit in the room. He mentioned that Sulayman Sambou and Michael Jatta were doing the beating and said that no others joined in afterwards. He specified that it was only after they brought the second person that others came in for the beatings. Once they released Sarjo Jarju, they escorted him to his cell and brought in Captain Abdoulie Jobe. The witness described the same procedure as before but stated that this time it lasted about 20 minutes. The Lead Counsel asked
how he was reacting when he was being beaten and he replied he too was crying.

When asked if the victim sustained any injuries, the witness said that he did: bruises on his back. The Lead Counsel asked how he felt torturing his superior officers, to which he responded that they were powerless and added that even Sarjo Jarju himself knew that if they were able to do this kind of thing to him, it was because they had a directive from above.

When asked if he knew that these directives were unlawful, the witness said they knew, but in the army, they did not have that kind of legal advice.

He said nobody was there to tell them how they were to do their things. He said in the army whatever they did was considered right. He said whatever instructions the seniors gave you, you had to obey. The Lead Counsel asked him if they asked him to shoot himself, if he would and he replied yes, unconditionally. He said there is no way out, he would do it because they operate based on orders. They would tell them to obey all orders, whether written or verbal, so in that way you cannot challenge their authority.

The Lead Counsel explained to the witness that there was no crime under the Gambian Armed Forces called disobedience to an unlawful command. The witness responded that they were not taught that in the training school. The Lead Counsel told him he obviously knew that order was illegal and he said yes, he knew that sort of order was unlawful but he said they also operate based on orders. He said nobody’s order can be beyond that of the king. He said that power resides in him, he said if he said do this way, you do that, if he says stop here, that is what you do. The witness said all these killing instructions came from Yahya Jammeh. He said individually they did not have the power to kill anybody. He added that for them they were told to do it and they did it. The Lead Counsel told him ignorance of the law is no excuse and he replied that was true but the nature of their work is such that they were never taught these things. He added that at the school, when you go there, they tell you that the senior man is always right.

The Lead Counsel concluded by asking if he would agree that all of the Junglers were blinded by their loyalty to Yahya Jammeh and he said yes. The witness added that he was the Head of State and he was the Commander in Chief, he was in charge of the entire army. The Lead Counsel asked if it was his testimony that Yahya Jammeh ordered all the killings he participated in and the witness responded in the affirmative because he was the one God made president. He said at that time whatever he said is always what happened and you could not question him because they never had the access to ask him.

The Lead Counsel asked if he killed for Yahya Jammeh and he agreed. He asked him if he killed in his name and the witness said yes. He asked if he buried his victims in his garden, the witness agreed. He further asked if these victims were buried in Yahya Jammeh’s garden so that the crime will be kept a secret. He said yes. But he added that the reason they came to testify to the TRRC was to narrate for posterity.

The Chairman of the Commission led further questioning of the witness by asking the witness if he had received any form of compensation or money in addition to his salary after each of the killings or tortures he participated in and Pa Ousman Sanneh said no but went on to explain that he once received 5,000 dalasi a month for a period of three months. He said there was a book in which they signed and that he thought it was only those three months and after that he never got anything again.

Commissioner Bishop asked about disobedience to lawful authority and inquired if the soldiers could not differentiate between lawful authority and unlawful authority. The witness responded the soldiers did not know that because they have no legal education and did not know about their rights.

Commissioner Kah told the witness he mentioned he was called to the NIA to torture people, but he did not hear him mention who called him to torture people. The witness said they get their instructions from their immediate commander who was Lieutenant Colonel Ba Nuha Badjie. When asked the two victims were taken to the hospital after having been tortured, he responded that they were not. When asked why Private Njie was taken to the hospital, Pa Ousman Sanneh explained that that one was an operation
inside the State House and the way of torturing was not the same. He said Private Njie almost went into a coma. He said the manner of beatings was not even the same, that was why Njie was taken to the hospital and these other ones were left at the NIA.

Commissioner Kah reminded that the witness had said to the Commissioner all the orders he received to kill were from Yahya Jammeh and asked if the same applied to torture. The witness responded that all orders were from him.

Commissioner Kinteh told the witness they had evidence from other witnesses that when they embarked on such operations, especially those that did not take place inside Yahya Jammeh’s garden, all the witnesses said they used to place sentries to keep an eye on intruders who may see what was happening and gave the example of the killing of Daba Marenah and others as well as the murder of the prison inmates. The witness said no, it was not frequent and added that it could have been the case sometimes, but that he had not been present during the operations mentioned. Mr. Kinteh argued that one would assume that in Yahya Jammeh’s garden there was no need for a sentry while there was a need for one at the hospital where there were lots of people. The witness said he heard what the Commissioner said but sentries were not posted in every operation and that depended on the terrain. He further explained that Baba Jobe’s operation was like a long rope and added that maybe the one at the door was supposed to secure the place. Commissioner Kinteh then said this brought in a new question because he said he was far, he did not know where the door was actually situated, but he had confirmed that there was an individual who accepted this order and that if he had refused this thing would not have happened. When asked how he had that knowledge, the witness responded that he was told after the operation that a prison officer was there and added that he had spoken with this man. The witness was asked what his relevance in that operation was, if his role was only limited to observing that those people had gone in and to inform Nuha Badjie about it, when sentry men who were most essential were left out completely. The witness said his role was just to observe and report to Nuha Badjie that these people had gone in. He said in every operation, everybody had their own responsibility.

The Deputy Chair asked if after participating in an operation in which they took a life, bury the person in an unmarked hidden grave, they could sleep and the witness responded that they had sleepless nights at that time.

Commissioner Imam Jallow highlighted that none of the Junglers who appeared before the Commission, including the witness, ever attempted to dissuade the group from those heinous acts they were involved in and asked him to explain why. The witness said there was none because they were under orders and no-one was brave enough to question orders.

Going back to the corpses they found at the State House on 30th December 2014, he was asked what they had done to them and he explained that they were taken to the mortuary.

Commissioner Samba told the witness he kept saying he was directed to do things and that the orders came from the top and she said she thought the orders were made by Yahya Jammeh. The witness said yes because they were operating under his authority and applied the chain of command. The Commissioner asked if Yahya Jammeh were to stand here and say to them, he never ordered General Saul Badjie, how they would react to such. The witness said that it would surprise them. The Commissioner asked him if he did not think that was possible and they would have just been deceived. He said it could have been, but in the army, they operated based on orders.

The Chairman commented that he seemed to have some pride on his face when he previously said he completed the Quran after admitting before the Gambian people and the world that he murdered five people. The Chairman told him may Allah save his soul on the day of judgment.

For his concluding remarks, the witness said all he wanted to ask for is forgiveness from each and every Gambian. He said they (the Junglers) are their children and they are not perfect. He added that they had come to protect the country but security aside, they came to realise that these heinous jobs were also
part of their assignment. He told the Commission it had never been their intention and they begged forgiveness from people, those that lost their loved ones, they asked them to forgive them and he prayed that the souls of the deceased be granted eternal rest.

**Persons Mentioned By Witness During Testimony:**

**Extrajudicial killing (November 1994)**
Sanna Sabally, Sadibou Hydara, Edward Singhateh, Peter Singhateh, Yankuba Touray and their orderlies

**Complicit of Extrajudicial killing (of Ebou. M Ceesay and Basirou Camara in November 1994)**
Buba Jammeh, Alhagie (Bambo) Kanyi

**Torture (November 1994)**
Papu Gomez

**Arbitrary arrest (of Ndure Cham)**
Nuha Badjie, Modou Jarju alias Rambo, Mustapha Sanneh, Michael Jatta, Nfansu Nyabally, Malik Manga, Sulayman Sambou, Amadou Badjie, Saikouba Jarju, Pa Ousman Sanneh, Musa Johnson.

**Arbitrary detention (of Ndure Cham)**
Saul Badjie, Yankuba Badjie, Lamin Badjie, Sulayman Sambou, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Malik Manga, “Chairman” Amadou Badjie, Lamin Sambou, Pa Ousman Sanneh

**Torture (of Ndure Cham)**
Sulayman Sambou

**Extrajudicial killing (of Ndure Cham)**
Saul Badjie, Yankuba Badjie, Sheikh Omar Jeng, Nuha Badjie, Michael Jatta, Modou Jarju alias Rambo, Michael Jatta, Sulayman Sambou, Malik Manga, Nfansu Nyabally

**Extrajudicial killing (of Baba Jobe)**
Yahya Jammeh, Saul Badjie, Nuha Badjie, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Malick Manga, Michael Jatta, Modou Jarju, Pa Ousman Sanneh

**Arbitrary arrest (of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe)**
Nuha Badjie, Modou Jarju alias Rambo, Mustapha Sanneh, Michael Jatta, Michael Correa, Nfansu Nyabally, Malik Manga, Sulayman Sambou, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Amadou Badjie, Sergeant Saikouba Jarju, Pa Ousman Sanneh, Alhagie Marr

**Extrajudicial killing (of Mamut Ceesay and Ebou Jobe)**

**Extrajudicial killing (of Toumani Jallow and Abdoulie Gaye)**

**Torture (of Captain Abdoulie Jobe and Lieutenant Colonel Sarjo Jarju)**
WITNESS NAME: Lamin SAMBOU

TRRC HEARING DATE (S): 7th August 2019

EVENT (S) DISCUSSED: Execution of the nine Mile 2 Prison inmates (Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Aliu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe) (2012)

POSITION BEFORE THE EVENT (S): Police Officer (Sergeant)

POSITION DURING THE EVENT (S): Soldier in the GNA and member of the Junglers/Patrol Team

POSITION AT THE TIME OF TESTIMONY: Police Officer (rank not mentioned)

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

Lamin Sambou said he was born in Sintet village, Foni Jarrol District, West Coast Region where he also attended his primary school. He later proceeded to Brikama Technical Senior Secondary School where he graduated from in 1995.

The witness said from 1995 to 2004, he was at home helping his father and that he joined the Gambia Police Force because he wanted to serve his country and after his training, was posted to Kanifing Police Intervention Unit, PIU as a sentry man. He remained in this position for about two years.

From Kanifing, the witness said he was posted to Fatoto and then to Yoro Berewuleng Kunda, YBK on guard duties (he could not recall the dates). The witness further testified that he was selected for a three-week long VIP protection training where they were trained for the upcoming African Union summit that was supposed to be held in The Gambia36. He was among those posted to the airport during the summit after which he returned to Kanifing PIU.

He said he later became an orderly at the Inspector General of Police’s office, IGP for IGP Musa Mboob but was redeployed back to Kanifing when the IGP Mboob was relieved of his position. He said he returned to the IGP’s office again to serve IGP Ben Jammeh (he did not mention his last name and he could not recall what year)37. He explained to the Commission that as an orderly, he did some office work for the IGP and was also responsible for protecting him from his home to the office and from the office to his home. He remained as an orderly for a long time. When IGP Ben Jammeh was terminated, he continued with IGP Ensa Badjie (aka Jesus) before being redeployed back to Kanifing PIU when Ensa Badjie was removed from IGP office.

The witness said his job description later changed, when three of those that were part of the VIP protection training were selected in either 2010 or 2012 by the then Commissioner of PIU, Biram Mbye to report to the then Minister of Interior, Ousman Sonko. He said that Momodou I. Busso and Lamin Badjie were also part of those called. He said that when he got to the Minister’s office, he briefed them that they were to become soldiers and were being transferred to State House to perform sentry duties. He said that he held the rank of Sergeant in the Gambia Police Force at the time of his transfer.

After his transfer to the military, he explained that he was selected to attend a support weapons training

36In 2006.
37Benedict Jammeh who was IGP from April 2007-June 2008. Ensa “Jesus” Badjie took over Benedict Jammeh and was IGP from June 2008 to March 2010.
conducted at Kanilai under General Ansumana Tamba with many others from the State House (he could not recall their names). He said Lamin Sanneh was the commander at the time and he was reporting directly to him. He further explained that Momodou I. Busso was on the driving side while Lamin Badjie was transferred to the military police.

The witness said he attended another training on guns used for sentry work at the State House between 2011 and 2012 as well as another training in Kanilai on VIP protection in 2013 conducted by the Americans. He said that last training; the trainees were up to platoon and that Lamin Badjie and Momodou I. Busso were there too.

Witness Lamin Sambou recalled that Momodou I. Busso, Major “Rambo” Jarju, Sulayman Sambou, Nfansu Nyabally, Amadou Badjie, Pa Ousman Sanneh were also part of the men at the training but could not recall the names of the others.

When asked by Counsel if their group was known by any particular names, the witness said he heard them being referred to as the Patrol Team and he also heard others call them Junglers. He explained they were transferred to State House, on the orders of General Badjie, who told them to report to the then commander Lamin Sanneh. When further probed, Lamin Sambou admitted that he was asked to join the Patrol Team and not the State Guards. When explaining why he had mentioned State Guards rather than the Patrol Team, he said that General Badjie had told them that

the then President brought them in to be members of the Patrol Team but that due to the tainted name of the team, they should be on the ground and mingle with the State Guard personnel.

The witness went on to explain that Lamin Badjie and himself were called by Momodou I. Busso to go and meet Major Nuha Badjie (also called Ba Nuha Badjie) who was the Patrol Team commander at a restaurant in Kololi. Nuha Badjie told them that they would not be joining the Patrol Team directly but were going to be used as intelligence officers in town, going along the highways to observe for the safety of the VIP to pass.

With regards to the kind of work done by the Patrol Team and what they were accused of, the witness admitted he had heard that they conducted border patrols and arrests and that they killed people but he had never seen that. He went to explain that at the time they (Momodou I. Busso, Lamin Badjie and himself) met Major Nuha Badjie, he felt that they were being kept at a distance, treated differently by the rest of the team because they were from the police but he took this to be the best for them.

When asked about his salary at the time he joined the Patrol Team, the witness said he was paid about 3,000 dalasi, the same he was earning as a Sergeant with the police with the exception of his allowances which were adjusted up a little bit.

With regards to the nature of his job as an intelligence office in the Patrol Team, the witness explained that his job entailed reporting patrolling the highways, looking for enemies that might stop Yahya Jammeh’s convoy, listening in on conversations and reporting anything that was said against the then President or anything they deemed would retard the progress of the country. He never reported anything because he never heard anything. When further probed, the witness admitted that when they met Major Nuha Badjie, he had asked them to spy on people. He added that he never filed any report because he never heard or saw anything to report.

When asked to explain what happened when they were called for a mission in Banjul by Major Momodou
Jarju “Rambo” in 2013\textsuperscript{39}, the witness explained that at the time they were not told what the mission was about. The team in that mission were Momodou I. Busso, Lamin Badjie, Major Momodou Jarju “Rambo”, Nfansu Nyabally, Amadou Badjie, the witness and others he could not recall. He said they were dressed in civilian clothes, did not carry a weapon and was in Sulayman Sambou’s jeep with Nfansu Nyabally and Sulayman Sambou.

When asked to explain what happened on their journey to the mission, the witness said that on the way, they stopped at Hamza Barracks waiting for Omar A. Jallow “Oya” to join them. He said they came in a jeep but at Hamza Barracks, they changed vehicles and he joined Michael Jatta’s vehicle, a pick-up truck, which carried him, Nfansu Nyabally, Momodou I. Busso and the driver Michael Jatta.

While waiting for Omar A. Jallow “Oya” in the car, he heard “Rambo” communicating, saying the “big man, the President said that the execution must take place today”.

He heard him say that General Sulayman Badjie wanted to cancel it but Yahya Jammeh insisted that the execution must be carried out that day. He added that that was the moment he came to know what was happening. When asked whether he knew who “Rambo” was communicating with, the witness said in that communication he said he believed it was General Sulayman Badjie.

The witness added that Solo Bojang later briefed them that this was a state mission, that the execution of the death row inmates was to take place and that Yahya Jammeh gave those instructions. When asked how he felt about going to execute people, the witness said he was shocked.

He was then asked to confirm that Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Momodou I. Busso, Lamin Badjie, Nfansu Nyabally, Sulayman Sambou were also present and he did. He also confirmed that others joined them but he did not see them and they all went to Mile 2 Prison.

When they arrived at Mile 2 Prison, they found many people there. He said it was at dark and he could not make out most of the people but he could recognise the then Interior Minister Ousman Sonko and Director of Prisons\textsuperscript{40}. When asked if the Minister of Justice was there as well, he replied that he heard he was there but did not see him.

The witness said he saw many people by the gate of the main wing holding papers. Prisoners were being escorted out, their hands handcuffed and their feet shackled. When asked if they were shown any legal document to state that those people were to be executed, the witness responded that they did not show them any paper but the authorities there may be in a better position to tell if there were papers.

Lamin Sambou went on to explain that the inmates were brought out and boarded into the waiting vehicles. He said Nfansu Nyabally escorted one of them to their vehicle and the inmate was made to sit in between Momodou I. Busso and himself to ensure he or she does not try to escape. He said Nfansu Nyabally was sitting in the front and Michael Jatta was driving the pick-up. Asked if the inmate in the car he was in was male or female, the witness said it was dark and their hands and feet were tied so he could not make out their gender.

The witness admitted that he had never received any prior training on the execution of inmates and had never done it before. He also admitted that they were not issued with a plan of how the execution was to be carried out but he knew the authorities had a plan.

Witness Sambou continued on to talk about their journey from Mile 2 Prison to the range. He explained that when they got to Airport Junction, he saw all the vehicles stopped, including theirs and saw Nfansu

\textsuperscript{39}The execution of the nine death row inmates happened in August 2012 in fact. 
\textsuperscript{40}According to our researches this must have been David Colley.
Nyabally get up from his seat, turn towards the inmate put a plastic bag over the victim’s head and *strangle* him.

The inmate could not make a lot of movement when he was being *strangled by Nfansu Nyabally* because he was restrained on both side by Momodou I. *Busso and himself* as well as his/her hands and feet.

The Counsel then put it to the witness that given their proximity to the inmate, he should have been able to tell if the inmate was male or female, Lamin Sambou maintained that he could not tell because at that time, he was traumatised by the concept he had that they were going to *kill* a human being.

At this point, Lamin Sambou was asked by Counsel to review the portion of his previously signed statement. After reading, the witness changed his testimony that there were two inmates in the back seat with himself and Momodou I. Busso but maintained that the inmate could not make a lot of movement because the inmate’s hands were cuffed behind and the legs too were shackled when he/she was being *strangled*. He further explained that after strangling the inmate, Nfansu Nyabally also turned the victim’s neck and snapped it.

The witness said he was watching Nfansu Nyabally when he was strangling the inmate after which Nfansu Nyabally asked him to keep the inmate from falling. He had to keep the inmate (who was dead at this point) on his shoulder to keep him/her from falling until they got to the range.

After Counsel read an excerpt from the witness’ written statement and put it to the witness that it would have been impossible for Nfansu Nyabally to lean over and strangle the inmate in a moving vehicle without help, Lamin Sambou maintained that the convoy of vehicles did stop at Yundum traffic light when the inmate was being strangled. Despite being told that other witnesses testified to the contrary, Lamin Sambou insisted that his testimony regarding this was not an afterthought. He said if this was not included in his statement probably it was an oversight.

The witness also maintained that he did not see the victim struggle or resist while the plastic bag was being put over his head by Nfansu Nyabally or while being strangled apart from struggling for breath while under the plastic bag. When probed further by the Counsel about his role in the killings, the witness again maintained that he did not participate in the killings, he only held the victim after he/she was killed by Nfansu Nyabally and swore that he was not trying to minimise his participation in the killing of the inmate. He did however change part of his testimony and said that the inmates’ heads were covered in plastic bag from the time they were being put in the vehicle at Mile 2 Prison.

When they got to the range, he said Nfansu Nyabally reached out again and pressed the plastic bag over the inmate sitting beside Momodou I. Busso and strangled the victim to death.

The Counsel went on to probe further into the witness’ participation in the *killings* and Lamin Sambou subsequently *admitted* to having *assisted Nfansu Nyabally* in the *killing of the two inmates* that were in their car.

He admitted that Momodou I. Busso also assisted.

He told the Commission that when they got to the range, he saw other people come out of their vehicle with the victims that were in their cars and were *strangling* them to death. He said he could not tell who was who as it was dark. The witness added.
that he opened the door of the pick-up but he did not get down until after the executions. He said he later saw other people including General Badjie and others in civilian clothes but could not recognised them. The witness continued on that he saw a tall man whom he could not recognise in civilian clothes carrying papers come and was touching the inmates to confirm if they were dead.

The witness recalled Solo Bojang briefing the men, telling them not to panic, that this was a state execution, a state sanction activity. Continuing his testimony, Lamin Bojang told the Commission that they all returned the corpses to the vehicles and led by Solo Bojang, they went deep into the bush making multiple turns. He added that he could not tell where they were; that it was late in the night, about 1am.

When asked by the Counsel if he knew about Lamin Badjie’s testimony that Solo Bojang was going around the corpses chanting incantations over the dead bodies, he said he knew nothing about that.

The witness continued on his testimony and told the Commission at one point, Solo Bojang stopped and spoke with an old man before going to stand further in the bush. After a while, he said Solo Bojang asked them to bring the corpse down and took them to where he (Solo Bojang) was standing. He said he believed there was an old well where Solo Bojang was standing but it seemed like he did not want them to know that. He said that on the way back to the car, he could not take it anymore and went behind the vehicle and vomited. He explained that he felt shocked.

He said they left Solo Bojang there with the corpses and some soldiers and added that he believed the corpses were dumped in that old well.

When asked if he knew where they were led to by Solo Bojang, the witness responded that he had never been in such bush. He recalled that they went through the Foni but did not know the place.

When asked how he believed that the executions were legal and state sanctioned given that they were taken out of the prison in the middle of the night, given masks to wear when they were at the prison and the victims killed in a horrific manner, he said he was surprised because he heard the then Minister of Justice was there and he saw the then Minister of Interior, the Director General of Prisons and General Badjie. He said he was only finding out today that the executions were in fact not legal. He added that two to three days after the execution, he heard on the national television GRTS that the inmates were killed, which made him uncomfortable.

When asked if they were compensated after the mission, the witness recalled a time after the execution when Lieutenant Mustapha Sanneh said the Big Man (Yahya Jammeh) had dashed them 5,000 dalasi. He added that he did not know why that money was given to them. He said Mustapha Sanneh told them the Big Man said he was going to give them 5,000 dalasi every month, which happened twice and the third time General Sulayman Badjie said Yahya Jammeh had given him the money but it disappeared in his car. He said he did not believe the story.

Apart from the unlawful killing of the inmates, the witness testified that he was called by Nfansu Nyabally one day and told they were going on a mission in Tanji the next day. The next day, he went on duties with one Sang (he is now late and could not recall the last name) and in the evening, Nuha Badjie came and asked him to pack his luggage as he was going on a mission. He packed his things, went to State House and got his briefing from the Commander who told him the then President was going to perform umrah in Saudi Arabia but they did not want anyone to know where he was going. He added that other people joined them and they drove to Senegal and from where they went to Saudi Arabia.

Taking on the floor, the Chairman of the Commission stated that The Gambia was going through hell with the revelations and admission that were beyond
shocking for any society. He equated agents of the state (of The Gambia) coming out to tell the truth about gruesome murders by the state, with senior officers of the state, ministers and other senior people being present at the execution of prisons to the Nazi high command getting to the gas chambers and to the death camps to watch the prisoners being gassed, burnt to death, their bodies being cremated. He also equated the Junglers going around, going around prisons, getting people out at night and slaughtering them to the Einsatzgruppe of the Nazis and the Janjaweed militias in Darfur. He added that with more Junglers expected to testify, more murders to be told to the Gambian people, Gambia is going through hell.

The witness, in his closing statement, started by thanking God for enabling him to testify to the heinous acts that were committed based on orders he was given. He added that he did not wish for nor did he intent for the things that happened to happen. He added that people were perplexed as he had never been known to have problems with anyone or as being a bad person.

He said that he believed the incidents he was involved in at that time to be legal because of the calibre of people he saw there. The witness said he did not know the activities were illegal until the TRRC started.

He thanked the family of the victims for their patience and asked for their forgiveness, adding that this was something he would always regret in his life. The witness told the Commission that at one point he had told Momodou I. Busso that he wanted to resign but he warned him that if he did, his life would be at risk. He further said that he never would have believed that things that he became a part of, adding it was destiny he could not get out of. He urged people to forgive as he himself had condemned the things that were done by the State.

The witness told the Commission that both his parents became victims of Yahya Jammeh’s witch hunt and his father went into a coma for 48 hours after having been given a concoction to drink. He said when he asked Solo Bojang why this was happening, Solo Bojang told him it was an order, there was nothing he could do about it. The witness went on to say that they were used for nothing by the system they found themselves in without any benefit to them before ending by thanking God and the Commission for exposing the terrible things that happened to victims.

**Persons Mentioned by Witness During Testimony:**

*Extrajudicial killing and Enforced disappearance (of Malang Sonko, Tabara Samba (Senegalese), Buba Yarboe, Gebe/Gibril Bah (Senegalese), Lamin Jarju, Alieu Bah, Lamin Jammeh, Dawda Bojang, Lamin Darboe)*

Yahya Jammeh, Sulayman Badjie, Ousman Sonko, David Colley, Solo Bojang, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Modou Jarju “Rambo”, Nfansu Nyabally, Momodou I. Busso, Michael Jatta, Sulayman Sambou, Lamin Badjie, Lamin Sambou, the then Minister of Justice

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41 According to our research, this must have been Lamin Jobarteh.
WITNESS NAME: Alieu JENG

TRRC HEARING DATE (S): 8th August 2019


POSITION BEFORE THE EVENT (S): Soldier with the GNG

POSITION DURING THE EVENT (S): Soldier with the GNG

POSITION AT THE TIME OF TESTIMONY: Soldier with the GNG, in custody of the Military Police

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

Alieu Jeng told the Commission that he was born and raised in Banjul where he also completed his primary and secondary education before joining the National Youth Service Scheme, NYSS in 1996 doing construction, carpentry and joinery. He said that after completion, he ventured into machinery and construction but decided to join the army in 2001 because the venture was not going well for him.

Alieu Jeng said he did his training at the Gambia Armed Forces Training School, at Fajara Barracks and was deployed to Fajara Barracks upon completion. The witness said that after 10 to 11 months at Fajara Barracks, he was selected to attend a commando course at the Police Training school in Yundum organised by the State Guard. He added that over 40 people from different security units and from different battalions were invited to participate.

He recalled Abdoulie Baldeh, Adama Baldeh, Lamin Sanneh (alias Sololo), Sutukung Barry, Yusupha Sanneh, Aliu Jammeh, Modou Lamin Badjie, Nfansu Nyabally and Alhagie Corr among participated. He added that according what he heard from other participants, the course started in Libya where some Gambia Armed Force personnel were trained before it was decided to bring the Libyan trainers to train those in The Gambia also.

When asked from a list of names by the Lead Counsel, the witness went on to confirm that Captain Mustapha Faal, Malick Jatta, Sanna Manjang, Faring Sanyang participated as instructors while Bai Lowe, Momodou Sanneh (from the navy), Captain Saihou Jallow, Jola Morro, Captain Sangjally Sallah, Mawlud Colley, Sheriff Gisseh, Sheikh Omar Joof, Biram Nget, Jerreh Sisahho, Alhagie Corr Alieu Ceesay and one Sillah from Signal whose first name he could not recall as having been part of the first batch that trained in Libya. He said that Michael Correa and General Saul Badjie was not part of the training which lasted almost five months in 2002.

The witness explained that after the training, he was expecting to go back to his unit at the Gambia National Guard, GNG at Fajara Barracks, but the entire team were asked to stay at the State House. He said he later read from the notice board that they (the entire team) were now part of the State Guards (Delta Company) under platoon commander Alieu Ceesay.

Alieu Jeng told the Commission that he was at the Delta Company until 2003 where his responsibility by that time was that sometimes, they performed guard duties at the Denton Bridge, the Airport, State
House and sometimes the Quick Response Force, QRF of the State House. He said that later they got information that all Delta Company members were to be deployed to Kanilai where they manned the Kangfenda check point and Yahya Jammeh’s residence in Kanilai.

While the witness admitted having been part of the Patrol Team, he said it he did not join the Patrol Team until after his second mission even after the Counsel told him that Malick Jatta testified to the Commission that they (including the witness) were asked by Major Bajinka and Tumbul Tamba in Kanilai to join the Patrol Team and to work with Sanna Manjang and Malick Jatta and at time they were based in State House in Banjul. Alieu Jeng maintained his testimony that the Patrol Team was formed, after their second mission.

He said that he came to join the Patrol Team when he had a problem with Tumbul Tamba. He was called to a meeting by Tumbul Tamba one day at which Malick Jatta, Sanna Manjang, Nuha Badjie, Mustapha Sanneh, Nfansu Nyabally and Michael Jatta were also present. Tumbul Tamba told him that he could not understand him and that he was going to be joining the men at the meeting and his main role was going to be patrolling around the border.

Though Alieu Jeng went on to admit that that was not the first or second time he had worked with Sanna Manjang, Tumbul Tamba and Malick Jatta, he did not consider them a team because after every mission, he went back to his normal responsibilities.

Asked by the Counsel to describe what happened at the first mission he participated in, Alieu Jeng said that he was called by Tumbul Tamba and asked to go and prepare to go on a mission. When asked if he carried a weapon, the witness responded in the negative.

When the Lead Counsel asked the witness if the members of the Patrol Team were also called Junglers, he responded that some people call them Junglers because when the team was formed some of the members participated in the Jungler course but he did not. He, however, did not deny that the team he joined were called the Junglers.

He said that when he went back to Tumbul Tamba’s house, Malick Jatta and Sanna Manjang were already there but were not armed either. They boarded a vehicle and headed to Kombo, somewhere around Serrekunda near the garage area. He said Tumbul Tamba was communicating on the phone, but he could not understand what he was saying as he was speaking his native language, Jola. As Tumbul Tamba was still on the phone, the car stopped and he went into the darkness for some time before coming back with someone. The witness had never met this person and did not recognise him.

Alieu Jeng explained that Tumbul Tamba and this person talked for some time before Tamba came to him and asked him to get in the back of the pick-up. Tumbul Tamba then drove towards the airport with Sanna Manjang, Malick Jatta, the witness and the man inside the car. Alieu Jeng said that though it was night time, he believed they were within the airport premises. He said when they reached at a point, the vehicle stopped and the passengers got down, expect for him. He said Tumbul Tamba talked to the man for some time in Jola and before moving away with him, asked the witness to remain in the parked vehicle.

He said that after about an hour or more, they came back without the man and proceeded to Kanilai. When asked if he heard anything, the witness responded that he did not hear or see anything, nor did he ask any questions at that time.

He added that he tried to find out later but was told “look, this is military. Stop at where you are asked to stop. What you did not see, you did not see it. What you did not witness, you did not witness. Do not ask too much questions.”
The Counsel then asked the witness to go back to try to deal with this issue and purported that the witness was in fact deployed to Kanilai purposely to be a member of the Patrol Team, which the witness denied. The Lead Counsel then proceeded to read out part of Malick Jatta’s testimony “Alieu Jeng and I were warned by Bajinka that we should report to Tumbul Tamba in Kanilai to join the Patrol Team, which is a subunit of the battalion. I found it published that we were part of the Patrol Team and the vehicle arrived to take us to Kanilai.”

Alieu Jeng went on to deny that he went to Kanilai with Malick Jatta even though he could not explain why Malick Jatta mentioned him specifically in his statement. He said Malick Jatta was lying. He also denied having been given a tour in Kanilai to know the routes in and out and being given an orientation of the place; being taken to the border with Casamance and informed as to how to patrol that particular area and been told that Tumbul Tamba and Sanna Manjang were his commanders.

Alicen Jeng was then asked by the Lead Counsel if he knew a person call Dawda Nyassi. He responded that he did not know Dawda Nyassi but had heard during this investigation that the person they had picked up in Serrekunda was Dawda Nyassi, the same person Tumbul Tamba was communicating with. When asked what happened to Dawda Nyassi, the witness said he did not know, that they went with him.

Counsel then put it to the witness that he had killed Dawda Nyassi, which he denied. He proceeded to ask for Malick Jatta’s testimony on the killing of Dawda Nyassi to be played on video:

“Malick Jatta: When we went down, he (Tumbul Tamba) grabbed this gentleman by the collar of his shirt, pulled him out and then as he was pushing him we were standing behind the vehicle, all three of us....There was myself, Sanna Manjang and Alieu Jeng...So he pushed this man past us and he pushed him forward pulling out a pistol before he shot before he shot in fact he said: “gentlemen this is one of the idiots” That means one of the rebels. He would describe them as the idiots...Then he pushed him and released a shot...at the man that he pushed. He looked back and saw us. We were not there to shoot but had mentioned before this that do as I do so when he looked back there was no respond, he shouted what are you people waiting for? At this point, all the three of us as I mentioned Manjang, myself and Jeng pulled out our pistols. So, I pulled out my pistol before I shoot...we were all reluctant anyway and you will feel [pause]. I pulled the pistol and there was something I said that in the interest of my country we are ordered to gun you down. So, while I was saying that, these two people have already shot. That’s why I believe my shot was the last. I didn’t even pick up and aimed, I just pulled out the pistol and said in the interest of our country we are ordered to gun you down.

Lead Counsel: And you gunned him down.

Malick Jatta: So, I pointed the weapon in the direction of the target and squeezed the trigger. It fired...All four of us. He fired the victim and the victim fell down. Then the three of us when he shouted on us that what where we waiting for, we all squeezed shots in the direction of this..."

The witness however insisted that Malick Jatta was lying though, that he did not hear any gunshots nor did he know where the victim disappeared to. He could not give reason why Jatta would lie to implicate himself either. He maintained that his order was to watch the vehicles and denied that he was conjuring up a story to deny his responsibility, to extricate himself from the killing.

Moving on to the next topic, the Counsel asked the witness to tell the Commission about another operation he participated in. He explained the time Tumbul Tamba sent his orderly to call him. He said he was at Sanyang Kunda Sanga (guard post) at that time. He said Tumbul Tamba did not brief him about what was going to happen. When asked why
he was expecting to be briefed about missions if he had never been briefed prior to this one, the witness said that he felt that he expected to be told something if one called him. He added that he had wanted to ask at their first operation but he was stopped and told he asked too many questions. When the witness was reminded by the Counsel that he had said that he did not ask any questions because this was the army, one should not ask question, the witness said he could not remember saying that.

The witness was then asked if he had any discussions on the way in the car about idiots that have to be killed while in the car, he responded that he could not recall any such discussion taking place inside that cabin.

The Lead Counsel proceeded to read out an excerpt from Malick Jatta ‘s statement which read “on our return journey back to Kanilai, I asked who the man was and Tumbul said that he was Dawda Nyassi, a member of the rebels from Liberia. ’Alieu Jeng continued to insist that he never heard any information about Dawda Nyassi and that he did not know why Malick Jatta gave that testimony.

The Lead Counsel left it at that and proceeded to ask about his next mission. The witness narrated that when Tumbul Tamba called him to tell him they were going on a mission, Sanna Manjang and Malick Jatta were there already. He said Tumbul Tamba told the witness that his role was the same as the last time, he was to guard the vehicles adding “when this thing happened, I could not say no as a soldier because it came as an order”. When probed further, the witness maintained that his role during those missions was to guard the vehicles used for the operations. He also maintained that he was not armed during any of these missions despite the fact he had an AK47 as standard issue and that the others were armed. The witness also said he could not recall saying that the others in the team did not carry weapons during these operations.

Continuing on his testimony, Alieu Jeng explained that they boarded the vehicle at Kanilai and departed towards Kombo, within the greater Banjul area. He said he could not recall the place because it was at night.

The Lead Counsel asked the witness to talk about the killing of Ndogo Mboob, the witness told the Commission that he did not know Ndogo Mboob and was not present at his killing. He said he heard people talk about him and had made it clear during the investigation that he did not know who Ndogo Mboob was.

The Lead Counsel proceeded to read another excerpt from Malick Jatta’s testimony which read “another instance, Tumbul said we are going on patrol as usual. The team consisted of I, Alieu Jeng, Solo Bojang, Sanna Manjang and Tumbul Tamba.” The witness maintained that he was not present, adding that he never went on patrol with Solo Bojang, that as far as he knew, Solo Bojang was part of the Kanilai farm management. He denied the evidence presented to him that they went to a farm, stopped the vehicle, Sanna Manjang brought Ndogo Mboob out quickly shot him, jumped into the vehicle and they left. He, however, admitted that it would be correct to say that Solo Bojang might have been present during the execution of Ndogo Mboob since he was not there to verify.

Alieu Jeng was asked about a statement he gave to the police on 25th March 2017, which he said he recalled giving. Witness Jeng was handed the statement, which he confirmed as having been his. The Lead Counsel then read and excerpt from it: ‘I was called upon by the late Tumbul Tamba through his orderly. He informed me that he had a mission to be carried out, but the time he never disclosed the type of mission. In the evening around 19:00 hours, he picked myself, Malick Jatta and Tumbul himself drove us to Serrekunda. Reaching Serrekunda Brikama garage, Tumbul took his phone and was communicating with someone I do not know. While we were still in the car waiting for him, after some minutes, he drove
towards Serrekunda Primary School. Still continued communicating, all of a sudden, I saw a man coming. Upon his arrival, Tumbul greeted the man and asked him to enter the car. He then drove the car via Churchill’s town and finally to a place behind the airport where he stopped and asked the man to get down from the vehicle. He asked the man to stand in front of him and he gunshot him down and equally ordered Malick Jatta to shoot in the same direction. And then Malick Jatta said, “in the interest of the state” then he opened fire.”

The witness confirmed this statement to be true and admitted that his earlier testimony was a complete lie, that he lied to the Commission under oath.

He agreed that the man was executed by him and his colleagues in cold blood.

The Lead Counsel thanked the witness and asked if he was prepared to speak the truth going forward, which the witness confirmed. He then said that he was going to skip Ndogo Mboob and go on to the killing of Deyda Hydara. He reminded the witness that he had already accepted that he had committed perjury and cautioned him that if he lied again, he would be caught and the Commissioners would be asked to send him to jail.

The witness testified to the Commission that on the day of Deyda Hydara’s killing, he was told that they were going for a mission but not given details. He said that Tumbul Tamba asked him to go with him in a taxi.

The Counsel at this point highlighted that in his earlier testimony, he (the witness) told the Commission that he did not go to the mission at all. Alieu Jeng admitted to having lied, adding that since Counsel had told him not to incriminate himself, he had lied to safeguard himself. He also added that he thought Malick Jatta would deny everything so if he denied everything as well, he would go scot free. Counsel clarified that he told him he had the right not to incriminate himself but not to conjure up a story to escape responsibility.

Returning to the killing of Deyda Hydara, Alieu Jeng told the Commission that he, Malick Jatta, Sanna Manjang and Tumbul Tamba went in the taxi, a Mercedes Benz dressed in Mufti. He said they were not armed at that point. He explained that Tumbul was driving and he was sitting behind him, with Malick Jatta on his right and Sanna Manjang sitting in the front. He said that Tumbul Tamba was communicating, but he did not know with whom. He said he could not recall what he was saying but he knew he was talking to someone he knew very well. When asked if he recalled hearing Tumbul Tamba say, “your Excellency” at any point in time during that mission, he replied in the negative.

Alieu Jeng said that they parked there for some hours before moving. He added that it seemed like Tumbul Tamba got the information he was trying to get. Witness Jeng said they moved from Westfield towards St. Theresa’s school and that was when Tumbul Tamba said “this is the vehicle” and they started pursuing it. At Westfield junction, he said the traffic was congested and they lost it but they later saw it around Mobile Traffic Office on the other side of the road. He explained that they turned around and got behind the vehicle at which point Tumbul Tamba speed up and before reaching the vehicle, Tumbul put his hand under his seat and removed pistols which he gave to Sanna Manjang, Malick Jatta and himself. Before reaching the vehicle, he said Tumbul turned and told Sanna Manjang and Malick Jatta that this was the target. He said Tumbul told him, “for you, Jeng, you can stand down”.

At this point, the Lead Counsel put it to the witness that his story was a fabrication to extricate himself from responsibility and they did not believe that he would be brought from Kanilai, dropped off, picked up again to go on this operation, and then at the operation, in that heat of the moment told to stand down. The witness explained that the reason he was asked to stand down was because should he have taken aim, Malick Jatta might be a casualty.
The Lead Counsel warned the witness that continuing to lie could land him jail after which he asked for an excerpt of Malick Jatta’s testimony to be played:

“Malick Jatta: At this point he drove fast, you know passing by a vehicle... a small vehicle. When he was just opposite to the vehicle, as he was trying to pass... he shouted: “gentlemen, the driver is the idiot”...the same rebel that he was telling us about he used to call idiots... as he was calling these rebels idiots, we would take it to be the rebellion we were supposed to be taking on in order to protect our territory and our people. So, when he gave the order initially none of us fired. He also most passed the vehicle, I can say adjacent to the driver but he never stopped. He was shouting “shoot, shoot. You better shoot!”. When we shot, he never stopped. He drove through the streets...

Lead Counsel: Who shot?

Malick Jatta: Myself, Jeng and Manjang. From the left-hand side of the vehicle, I came to join Jeng, we all released shots to be honest.”

Despite Malick Jatta’s contradicting testimony, Alieu Jeng maintained that he was not trying to absolve himself from his responsibility and that he did not shoot because Tumbul Tamba ordered him to stand down for the safety of Malick Jatta. He added that Malick Jatta lied about where he was sitting during the shooting to try to implicate him (Jeng).

After a long back and forth with the Counsel where witness Jeng kept contradicting himself, he came back after the break and admitted to have wasted the Commission’s time by not telling the truth. He apologised to the Commission, the Counsel the entire Gambian people and the entire world as well as to those that lost their family members, adding that it was not easy to speak. He went on to appeal to the Counsel to grant him a chance to clear the parts he contradicted himself.

The Lead Counsel accepted the apology on behalf of the Commission and reminded him that the objective of the TRRC was to get to the truth about what happened before giving him another chance to speak the “whole truth, not half-truth, not fabrications, and not lie”. The witness accepted to speak the truth.

**Alieu Jeng went on to admit he fired his weapon during the killing of Deyda Hydara.**

When asked what he had to say to the family of Mr. Deyda Hydara, he said if it were possible to stand in front of the family of them, he would go on his knees to apologise. He added that he knew what happened to Deyda Hydara was painful to his family, and him denying everything, would have hurt them. He said his denial was as result of shame. The witness went on to admit that he also participated in the execution of Dawda Nyassi and that he fired his weapon at him. He apologised to the family of Dawda Nyassi as well.

When Counsel told the witness that they received information that the orders for the execution of Dawda Nyassi, Ndogo Mboob and Deyda Hydara came from Yahya Jammeh, Alieu Jeng said that though he never heard when Yahya Jammeh gave Tumbul Tamba a direct order, he knew that Tumbul Tamba would not take soldiers and target them if he did not take the order from Yahya Jammeh.

When the Lead Counsel told Alieu Jeng that they received information that after the execution of Deyda Hydara, they were each given money claimed to have come from Yahya Jammeh, the witness responded that he did not receive anything from Tumbul Tamba.

Counsel then revisited the killing of Ndogo Mboob stating they received that the witness was part of the group that went with Ndogo Mboob into the forest where he was executed by Sanna Manjang. Alieu Jeng denied having ever set eyes on Ndogo Mboob.

When asked about the killing of Haruna Jammeh, a brother or cousin to Yahya Jammeh, the witness told the Commission that he did not know how Haruna
Jammeh was killed. At this point Alieu Jeng asked to be allowed to explain how he tried to get out of the team. He stated that after killing Deyda Hydara, he fasted for three days because he never thought he would experience the things he experienced in his life. After that, he said he told Malick Jatta he wanted want to get out of the things they were doing and continue his work.

He said that Malick Jatta must have told Tumbul Tamba because Tamba called him to his room and told him he heard that he wanted to quit the job. He said Tumbul Tamba added that he did not assign himself to the team and that in the military, they operated by order. He said Tumbul Tamba warned him to be careful and after that, Tamba never had confidence in him.

When asked if he did not participate in any other operation after that, Alieu Jeng admitted he was involved dealing with the coup of Ndure Cham after that but denied being involved in the killing of the Ghanaians before that.

The Counsel moved on and asked the witness if he knew Omar A. Jallow “Oya” as a Jungler and if he thought Omar A. Jallow “Oya” knew him (Jeng) well. Alieu Jeng said they used to live together so they knew each other and confirmed that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” was part of the Junglers. When further asked if he had a problem with Omar A. Jallow “Oya” or if Jallow would mistake him for someone else, the witness replied in the negative.

Counsel then put it to Alieu Jeng that Omar A. Jallow “Oya” had said that Alieu Jeng, Sanna Manjang and himself killed Haruna Jammeh. The witness denied this allegation though he could not explain why Omar A. Jallow “Oya” would testify to implicate himself.

Counsel them asked for an excerpt of Omar A. Jallow’s testimony be played:

“Omar Jallow: Sanna Manjang came down, bring out a rope, give it to, me and Jeng, that we should tie it at the neck of Haruna and fall him down and we tied the rope at the neck but at that time, I was not informed that this was the mission, that we are getting Haruna killed. He didn’t tell us. So, we take the rope, we round it Haruna’s neck…I thought maybe they were threatening him so I took the one side of the rope, Jeng took one side of the rope...and Sanna Manjang told just to fall him down and we did. He asked us to pull the rope and we did. Then he (Sanna Manjang) was just sitting on top of the car. He jumped from that place and stamped at the neck of Haruna.

Lead Counsel: All three of you killed him?

Omar Jallow: Yes Counsel”

When asked what he had to say about this statement, Alieu Jeng said at that time, Omar A. Jallow “Oya” was not part of the team, that he could not recall when he and Omar A. Jallow “Oya” went to get Haruna. He said he had heard “Oya’s” testimony over the radio but could not recall anything that happened like that. Despite an extended probing into this matter and from different angles, Alieu Jeng maintained that he did not recall taking part in the killing of Haruna Jammeh.

Moving on the Ghanaians, the witness said that the first thing that he heard was that the Ghanaians were killed in Brufut. He went on to explain that he was in Banjul when it happened. He said he could remember a day where about seven people were escorted but he could not recall who they were and who brought them. He also said he did not know if they are Ghanaians or not.

After a similar exercise where the witness went back and forth with his testimony regarding the execution of the Ghanaians, he finally admitted that they were picked on the highway, taken to the bush and killed one by one.

Alieu Jeng explained that he and Omar A. Jallow “Oya” were responsible for taking the victims to Sanna Manjang and Malick Jatta who shot them dead.
At this point, Counsel pointed out to the witness that he had not admitted to have worked with Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, which he acknowledged.

He, however, maintained that he could not recall the number of victims but said that if Omar A. Jallow “Oya” they were up to 30 individuals and he was there with him, then he agreed to the number. When Counsel asked him if he was accepting having killed up to 30 individuals at one incident in the forest together with Malick Jatta, Sanna Manjang and Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Alieu Jeng responded in the affirmative but said he was not aware of an additional 15 people to the 30 people that Oya talked about that were killed.

When asked who was in charge of this particular operation, the witness recalled that it was Solo Bojang, accepting at this point that he had worked with Solo Bojang before contrary to his previous denials. He further explained that Solo Bojang was under Tumbul Tamba, and Tumbul was receiving his orders from Yahya Jammeh. When asked if he believed the West African migrants could have been killed without Yahya Jammeh’s approval, the witness responded that he did not think so. Solo Bojang and the others would have the audacity to do such without authorisation from Yahya Jammeh; that all the orders came from the ex-president, Yahya Jammeh. He further dismissed the suggestion that the West African migrants were killed by rogue elements from the Gambia Armed Forces, again insisting that the team never operated on anything that is on their own orders and that all the orders come from the top.

He added that from what he had seen and what he knew, the migrant’s death came from the government.

Counsel at this point brought back the killing of Ndogo Mboob. He told the witness that the allegation was that that Ndogo Mboob was picked up by the witness and his team mates who were Malick Jatta and Sanna Manjang, taken to the forest where he was killed. Witness Jeng again denied knowledge of Ndogo Mboob, maintaining that he could not remember his name being mentioned in any operation.

Alieu Jeng was then asked to talk about what happened to Haruna Jammeh. He testified that on the day Haruna was killed, Sanna Manjang, Omar A. Jallow “Oya” and himself left Kanilai and went to the National Intelligence Agency, NIA where he was supposed to be picked up from and escorted to his house but on the way, the command changed and the vehicle left the road and went into the bush. The witness said he did not know how the command changed.

The witness continued to explain different version of the story before finally admitting his participation in the killing of Haruna Jammeh.

He said that when they got into the bush, Sanna Manjang alighted and asked them to bring Haruna Jammeh down, helped tie a rope around his neck and subduing him to the ground before Sanna Manjang jumped from the vehicle, sat on top of Haruna Jammeh and squeezed him to death.

Alieu Jeng was then asked to tell the Commission about the incident leading to the arrest and execution of Manlafi Corr, Daba Marenah and five others. He said his team mates he could recall for that operation were Tumbul Tamba, Malick Jatta, Sanna Manjang, Michael Jatta, Mustapha Sanneh, Ismaila Jammeh and Nfansu Nyabally. He explained that they moved in a convoy of about 4 to 5 vehicles to Mile 2 Prison where Tumbul Tamba who was in charge, went into the prison and escorted the victims from the prison to the vehicles. He said the victims had plastic bag over their heads and each of them was but in a vehicle. He admitted that he knew that they were going to be killed.

He further explained that they went to the forest. He stated that the last reference he could recall there was a school by the highway, in Foni, in a village call Kili, where they branched off towards the right towards Jarra Soma, Jeng added that the vehicle lights were
him to speak the truth about what happened in the killing of Daba Marenah, Manlafi Corr, Alieu Ceesay, Ebou Lowe, Alpha Bah, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and Julia, witness Alieu Jeng stuck to his testimony that his role was limited to escorting to prevent the victims from escaping, that he was not present nor did he hear gunshots during the execution in the forest.

Alieu Jeng continued to maintain his testimony even after Malick Jatta’s version of the story was presented to him which read “my second to last operation to the well was the case of Daba Marenah, former NIA Director, Ebou Lowe, Alpha Bah, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr together with Julia and Masireh Jammeh. Lieutenant Yusupha Sanyang, Sergeant Sainey Jammeh, Bora Colley, Lieutenant Sahr Jallow, Corporal Omar Jallow. On the ground, the found us with Ismaila Jammeh, Michael Correa, Michael Jatta, Sanna Manjang, Alieu Jeng and others. We met in Foni and entered the garden where the well was.”

The witness also denied seeing Sainey Jammeh, Bora Colley and Michael Correa from the other team and denied that they were brought in to reinforce the operation.

Moving on to the operation in which detainees were taken from Mile 2 Prison to the NIA, the witness explained that Tumbul Tamba and Musa Jammeh left State House to join the panel with other officers (he could not recall their names) to make sure that the investigation panel was made the way they wanted it. He clarified that there was an investigating panel, an arresting team and a team responsible for torturing that worked side by side and further admitted to have participated in the torture activities.

The witness said he could not recall the number of tortures he participated in and added that when it came to the tortures, they (Nfansu Nyabally and himself) were told who they needed and they would bring the individual to them. He said they would be asked to fetch sticks and they would go around the NIA, premises and find sticks. He further stated that Nyabally and himself were junior men so they were never allowed to beat the victims.

turned off and he believed the presence of the entourage in that particular location was being kept a secret.

When they got to the execution site, he said Nfansu Nyabally and himself were asked to sit and watch the vehicles though he could not recall who gave the order. Counsel reminded the witness that in all the episode or incidents of murder he was alleged to have been involved in, he always started by disassociating himself from physical involvement in the murders by claiming he stood watch, was far away from events or that he was not present. Alieu Jeng was warned again that if he got caught lying again, he may go to jail. Alieu Jeng acknowledged the Counsel’s statement but maintained that he remained in the vehicle throughout the process.

He admitted to seeing Manlafi Corr, Alpha Bah and Alieu Ceesay being taken away to be executed and having knowledge that they were going to be executed but denied seeing Masireh/Masi Jammeh and Ebou Lowe and also denied having knowledge of the victims being killed by gunshots. Witness Jeng stated that when they left him and Nfansu Nyabally at the vehicles, they went for about 1h30 into the forest before returning without the people they took along. He added that on the way back, he and Nfansu Nyabally discussed how strange it was that they went with the victims and did not come with them and Nfansu Nyabally said to him, “I know they have finished them.”

Alieu Jeng said that the following day, as they were back in Kombo, he heard over the news that the vehicles the victims were in had summersaulted and they escaped.

He said he became confused because there was a huge difference in what happened in the forest and was explained over the radio. The victims did not escape, they were executed.

Though Counsel reminded the witness that he had changed his story about the killing of Dawda Nyassi, Haruna Jammeh, and the West African migrants and urged him to speak the truth about what happened in the killing of Daba Marenah, Manlafi Corr, Alieu Ceesay, Ebou Lowe, Alpha Bah, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and Julia, witness Alieu Jeng stuck to his testimony that his role was limited to escorting to prevent the victims from escaping, that he was not present nor did he hear gunshots during the execution in the forest.
When Counsel put it to the witness that those who duly obliged to bringing the victims to the NIA, collected the sticks knowing they were going to torture the individuals and those who tortured them all participated in the crime, the witness concurred.

**Alieu Jeng** admitted to have brought more than five victims to be tortured at the NIA as well as fetching the instruments used to torture them and that he would hear their screams when they were being tortured.

He however denied having participated in the torture of Imam Baba Leigh, Imam Bakawsu Fofanna and General Savage. He claimed that he did not know the names of the officers whose tortures he participated in but recalled his participation in the torture of Faring Sanyang even though according to the Counsel, the torture of Faring Sanyang was not mentioned in his statement.

When Counsel informed the witness that he was mentioned by Lamin Badjie as somebody who participated in the execution of the prisoners who were sentenced to death, the witness stated that at that time, he was no longer in the team. He said he was with the then Vice-President as an orderly from May 2011. He added that after he left the Patrol Team and started working for the former Vice-President, he was not involved in anything again.

The Counsel concluded the questioning by having Witness Alieu Jeng confirm his participation in the execution of at least 40 people including Dawda Nyassi, Deyda Hydara, Haruna Jammeh, at least 30 West African migrants, Manlafi Corr and six others. He also confirmed his participation in at least five incidents of torture.

**Persons Mentioned by Witness During Testimony:**

**Extradjudicial Killing and Enforced disappearance (of Dawda Nyassi)**
Yahya Jammeh, Tumbul Tamba, Malick Jatta, Sanna Manjang, Alieu Jeng

**Extradjudicial Killing (of Deyda Hydara)**
Yahya Jammeh, Tumbul Tamba, Malick Jatta, Sanna Manjang, Alieu Jeng

**Extradjudicial Killing and Enforced disappearance (of Haruna Jammeh)**
Sanna Manjang, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Alieu Jeng

**Extradjudicial Killing and Enforced disappearance (of West African migrants)**
Yahya Jammeh, Tumbul Tamba, Solo Bojang, Sanna Manjang, Malick Jatta, Omar A. Jallow “Oya”, Alieu Jeng

**Extradjudicial Killing and Enforced disappearance (of Daba Marenah, Alpha Bah, Ebou Lowe, Alieu Ceesay, Manlafi Corr, Masireh/Masi Jammeh and a woman called Julia)**
Tumbul Tamba, Malick Jatta, Sanna Manjang, Michael Jatta, Mustapha Sanneh, Ismaila Jammeh, Nfansu Nyabally, Alieu Jeng

**Torture (of at least 5 persons who were accused to be implicated in the 2006 attempted coup d’état, notably of Faring Sanyang)**
Tumbul Tamba, Musa Jammeh, Alieu Jeng

**Complicit of torture (of persons who were accused to be implicated in the 2006 attempted coup d’état)**
Nfansu Nyabally, Alieu Jeng

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42 He admitted participating by virtue of escorting to the execution ground knowing they were to be executed.
In April 2000, Sainey Senghore joined the students’ demonstrations in response to the death of Ebrima Barry and the rape of Binta Manneh. He was shot in the leg by soldiers and sustained lifelong injuries. He holds Yahya Jammeh and Isatou Njie-Saidy, the former Vice-President of The Gambia responsible for the brutal crackdown.
**WITNESS NAME:** Lamin JOBE alias Jobe Kebba or Lamin Kebba

**TRRC HEARING DATE(S):** 19th August 2019

**EVENT (S) DISCUSSED:** Death of Ebrima Barry and April 2000 Student Protests

**POSITION BEFORE THE EVENT (S):** Member of the Gambia College Sub Union as Information Minister

**ROLE DURING THE EVENT (S):** Organised the first demonstration in March 2000 and arrested following the April Student Protests

**POSITION AT THE TIME OF TESTIMONY:** Admin Officer at the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education

**SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:**

Lamin Jobe explained the hierarchy and positions within the main Gambia Students Union, GAMSU and the sub-unions, which were created to promote students' welfare and unity amongst them. He explained that GAMSU and the sub-unions were organised like a government and were very independent from the authorities. The relationship was however cordial with them and the witness gave an example when in 1999, students voluntarily went to Kanilai to work on the then President's garden. The relationship with the security forces was also cordial “and normal” according to Lamin Jobe.

The witness then talked about the death of Ebrima Barry on Thursday 9th March 2000, who was killed by Fire Officers of Brikama’s Fire Station Service. Alieu Khan, the President of a Sub-Union and other executives conveyed an emergency meeting where they discussed the different accounts regarding the cause of death of Ebrima Barry.

There were lots of stories as to what led to his death, one being that he had been forced to eat cement by the officers.

Lamin Jobe said that at the meeting, it was decided to first address the students and then to investigate to understand what had happened.

Lamin Jobe stated that on Monday 13th March 2000, a five men delegation comprised of himself as the leader of the group, as well as Alagie S. Darboe (Vice President of GAMSU), Saja Camara (Information Minister of the GAMSU), Boubacarr Ceesay (from the Sub-Union) and Molo Baldeh (executive of GAMSU) went to the Foster Senior Secondary School where Ebrima Barry had been a grade 10 student. On their way to the school, they first stopped at the Brikama Police Station where they registered their concern regarding the incident and a CID Officer was assigned to them.

When asked, Lamin Jobe said that he did not know if the police had already begun investigating the matter before their visit on Monday. Once at the Foster Senior Secondary School of Brikama, the delegation met with the Senior Master, Mr. Ajawo and it was agreed that they would start by addressing the students. They then made a lengthy speech regarding the importance of discipline and respect towards teachers.

After that general meeting, the delegation interviewed Mr. Ajawo as well as Miss Camara the class teacher of Ebrima Barry, Alhagie Giana a close friend of Ebrima Barry and Alieu Barry, Ebrima’s father.

Mr. Ajawo said that Ebrima Barry had had a problem with his Commerce Teacher Mr. Paul and was

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*Most probably meaning Crime Investigation Department.*
subsequently sent home. The following day, Ebrima Barry came back to school and Mr. Ajawo reported the matter to the Fire Service, which was 300 meters away from the school and asked for their assistance to hand over a suspension letter to Barry and escort him out of the class. When asked why the Fire Service was involved in an internal disciplinary matter, Lamin Jobe said he assumed that it was because Mr. Ajawo, being a foreigner, had troubles dealing with this kind of situations.

Mr. Ajawo explained to the delegation that Ebrima Barry’s father came with an old man to plead for his son to return to school after Tobaski, which Mr. Ajawo accepted because Ebrima Barry had not been a troublesome student. However, Ebrima Barry died that same day. The witness remembered that Mr. Ajawo burst into tears when recounting the events.

Miss Camara corroborated what Mr. Ajawo had said, adding that Ebrima Barry had been an average student participating well in the class and did not highlight any disciplinary issues.

Lamin Jobe recalled that Ebrima Barry’s friend Alhagie Giana said that on the 7th March they had been sitting at the back of the classroom, when the teacher, Mr. Paul entered and asked them to come in front. Because the sun was shining on the seat, Alhagie Giana was allowed to go back to his initial seat, while Ebrima Barry was told to stay, which he complained about. A verbal fight between the teacher and Ebrima Barry broke out and the student eventually hit his teacher. He was sent home. When he came back to school on 8th March, Mr. Ajawo called the Fire Service officers to escort him out. Later in the day, Alhagie Giana went to his friend’s house and saw his friend crying out of pain.

Ebrima Barry told him that he had been beaten mercilessly by Fire Service officers, that water had been poured on him repeatedly and his hair forcefully shaved.

He also told his friend that after having been released, he went to the health centre, but the nurse told him that he could only be treated if he reported the matter to the Brikama Police Station, which he did. Ebrima Barry kept saying that he was about to die. According to the witness, Alhagie Giana went home late that evening and the next day Ebrima Barry passed away.

The witness said that Ebrima Barry’s father, Alieu Barry told the delegation that when Ebrima came back from the Fire Station he was in serious pain and confirmed what Alhagie Giana had said. The next day, the family brought Ebrima to the health centre, but it was too late as he had already passed away.

When asked if any of the witnesses had mentioned the names of the Fire Service officers, Lamin Jobe said that they did not but mentioned that later Forayaa newspaper revealed their identity, but the witness did not remember who they were.

Having conducted the interviews, the delegation reported back to GAMSU and to the students through the notice board, which at the time was an effective way of information sharing. The witness stated that students were frustrated about this incident, which school matters had been handled by external people and resulted in the death of the student. They were worried and everyone was wondering “who next?”. They were also frustrated about an incorrect article by the Independent Newspaper claiming that Ebrima Barry had been caught stealing.

Further testifying, Lamin Jobe explained that a meeting was convened on 20th March 2000 by the executives of the Students Union at which it was decided to hold a peaceful demonstration from the gates of the College, to the (Police) Commissioner’s office Kebba Ceesay and ending at Ebrima Barry’s house, as a wakeup call to the authorities who had not taken any action in that matter. It was also agreed that funds would be collected and given to the family of Ebrima Barry.
On Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} March 2000, the students gathered and proceeded with the demonstration without informing the authorities because it was only intended to be a way to share their frustration with the Commissioner and to express their condolences to the family.

The students gathered at the gates of the College and students carried placards saying: “Who killed Ebrima Barry?” “Justice delay is justice denied” “Who raped Binta Manneh?”.

Lamin Jobe explained that GAMSU was also investigating the rape of the student Binta Manneh, by an unknown paramilitary officer during an athletic competition.

Lamin Jobe said that when the demonstration reached the Commissioner’s office, the crowd had grown bigger and “it felt uncomfortable” as it was difficult to control. Several officials and police officers including the commanding officer from Brikama Division and the Brikama Police Station officer, had gathered at the Commissioner’s office. Alieu Khan, the President of the Sub-Union delivered a short speech expressing frustration and concerns over the lack of investigation into the death of Ebrima Barry. The authorities’ reaction was cordial, and the students’ representatives were assured that justice would be done. When asked Lamin Jobe said that at the time he got the impression that steps would be taken in this case, even if nothing had been done so far.

He added that from the Police Station, the demonstrators went to Ebrima Barry’s house to pay their respect to the family and the atmosphere was very emotional. People were crying and other citizens joined the students. The crowd was almost three times bigger than at the beginning.

On their way back to the College, they felt that things could become “problematic” because they would have to pass the Fire Service Station. When asked, Lamin Jobe said that they addressed the crowd to make sure that the demonstration stayed peaceful and warned the participants and therefore the organizers hoped that things would be fine.

Lamin Jobe explained that the leaders of the demonstrations tried to take a way avoiding the Fire Service Station, however only few followed them, and the rest of the crowd went straight to the Fire Service Station – so the leaders decided to follow the crowd. Once they reached there, the crowd attacked the Fire Service Station with stones and entered the compound and the Service men fled. The leaders of the demonstration tried to control the crowd but without success. At some point a Land Rover with 10-15 paramilitary officers arrived but did not intervene as the crowd was too big. When asked about the size of it, Lamin Jobe estimated it to be around 5,000, notably because the area was close to the marketplace. He stated that the crowd only left the premises after all the windscreens of the fire ambulances were broken. He added that apart from the vehicles nothing else was damaged and no one was injured.

When the leaders of the demonstration got back to the College, they were summoned to the Principal’s office for a meeting. In the meantime, security officers had arrived at the school. Landing Badjie alias Thirteen Badjie, Manager of the Crime Management Unit, the Commissioner of Birkama Police Station Kebba Ceesay, the Commissioner of Police West Coast (the witness could not remember his name), the Chief of Kombo Central, Dembo Santan Bojang, the Permanent Secretary of the Department for Education Dr. Sait Jallow as well as representative from Immigration, State House, and the National Intelligence Agency, NIA were at the meeting. Lamin Jobe added that he was not sure that the Inspector General of Police, IGP was present. In the meeting they all expressed their concerns about the fact that the students had demonstrated without a permit,
which led to the damage of the fire ambulances but the students’ leaders were also given the opportunity to explain how they felt.

He said Landing Badjie alias Thirteen Badjie then told Lamin Jobe and his colleagues that they were not to blame and that they should have been kept informed regarding the investigation of the death of Ebrima Barry. Landing Badjie gave them the impression that the police were investigating the death of Ebrima Barry. The witness said he was then given the post-mortem report by Landing Badjie, which he used to complete the investigation based on the interviews the Students’ Union had done, and the final report was published by the newspaper Forayaa.

The witness read an excerpt from the post-mortem report authored by Dr. Raphael Riso from the Royal Victoria Hospital, RVH: “Cause of death: (…) severe haemorrhage, necrosis, severe oedema of both lungs, acute respiratory insufficiency, hepatic asteatosis”.

When asked, Lamin Jobe said that he concluded that Ebrima Barry’s death was not due to a natural cause.

Witness Jobe went on to testify that on the 24th March, representatives of the Students’ Sub-Union went to all the schools in Brikama to reassure the students that steps were being taken, condemning violent acts by protestors and call-upon the students not to demonstrate again.

Lamin Jobe said that on the following day very early in the morning, the then Interior Minister, Ousman Badjie and the Inspector General of Police, IGP Rex King, came to meet them at the school. There was a notable change of tone in their voices, it was very harsh. They warned them that whosoever would demonstrate again would face serious “things”. The witness said that he could not keep quiet and told them that students were not afraid, would not back out and would continue to call for justice.

The witness then spoke about the demonstration of the 9th April. On that day, he said he received a call from a friend telling him that a demonstration was happening and was turning violent. While he had been aware that there was a plan to do another demonstration, due to his own schoolwork, he had not been involved in the planning.

He said he went outside around 11am or 12noon and saw smoke and flames all over Brikama Police Station. The students were facing the security forces. Lamin Jobe explained that while he was talking to the students, suddenly, he heard a command saying “fire”. A young man standing next to the witness fell down, struggled for air and was bleeding. When asked, Lamin Jobe said that he believed that the young man died. The soldiers were shooting live bullets, students ran for their lives and “the chasing started”.

The witness explained that he heard a voice saying: “grab him, he is the informer” and around four of five soldiers hit him with gun butts and kicked him. Modou Jarju who was a driver and who knew the witness well told the men to stop, which they did and Lamin Jobe was taken into the van. The soldiers then started picking people up from the streets and from specific houses. The witness said he did not know any of those who were arrested with him.

Lamin Jobe explained that the soldiers were from Yundum Barracks and that is where they took everyone. There, the witness said he was taken to a cell while the others were taken to a hall where they were beaten by the soldiers until the next day. He was later brought to the hall himself and saw the lacerations on their bodies. He recounted that one man was being asked to dance for the soldiers and if he did not do as told, they would hit him. He recognised only one soldier, as he was a neighbour Dawda Colley, but he was just standing there. Lamin Jobe said that
the soldiers were threatening the detainees saying things like: “Oga (meaning President Jammeh) is not here, if he will come back, we will all kill you, you are the opposition children”.

The witness also recognised another soldier, Solo Bojang⁴⁴, who according to him still lives in Brikama. He insulted the witness and the others the day they were arrested. The witness said that he himself had never been tortured.

On 14th April, the witness was called out by the military police (red berets) and was driven to Police Headquarters together with other detainees. A woman who received him, secretly allowed him to call his family. He was given a good lunch and then interviewed by the IGP the deputy IGP, Public Relation Officer, PRO Abdoulie Sanyang, Commissioner Admin Baboucarr Sowe and other police commissioners. The entire session, which was recorded, took about two hours and he was asked to explain how the demonstrations came about.

The same evening, Lamin Jobe said that he was escorted by Tijan Bah to the NIA. At the NIA he saw a Sierra Leonian detained in connection with the demonstration in the first cell and in the second one Naakulan Ceesay, the Advisor of the Sub-Union and Pa Alasan Ceesay, the Treasurer of GAMSU. He also remembered that Buba Samure, a National Assembly Member was detained there. He (Buba Samureh) who was also arrested in connection to the demonstration was pale and exhausted as he was kept in a very dark cell and would be beaten during night time. Lamin Jobe said that he was interviewed by Sheikh Tijan Hydara while at the NIA. The witness further stated that he did not suffer any torture at the NIA.

After six days at the NIA, the witness was transferred back to the Police Headquarters where Alieu Khan, Sainabou Gaye and Baboucarr Khan were detained as well. Their lawyers, led by Ousman Sillah and the Bar Association as well as Alieu Darboe the Student Union President and others within and outside The Gambia did a lot for their release, which happened three days later.

Overall, the witness said he was detained for 16 days without being charged and the findings of the investigation was that the students had been used by the opposition.

When asked, Lamin Jobe said that he had read in the newspapers that another post-mortem examination was done on Ebrima Barry and he understood that this report contained findings that were favourable to the authorities.

Lamin Jobe said those who lost their lives during the April 10 and 11 incidents were: Ousman Sabally (15 years old), Omar Barrow (Red Cross volunteer), Momodou Lamin Njie (GTTI student), Claesco Pierre, Modou Lamin Chune (student at Latrikunda Junior Secondary School), Reginald Carroll, Karamo Barrow (ICE Senior Secondary School), Lamin A. Bojang (Nusrat Senior Secondary School), Bamba Jobarteh, Abdoulie Sanyang (3 years old), Burama Badjie (10 years old), and Wuyea Mansareh (Tallinding Islamic Institute). The witness explained that he believed that the 13th victim was the one who fell next to him, whose body they could not identify. Reading through the Forayaa Newspaper later, the witness said he learnt that Sainey Nyabally was also killed in Brikamaba. When asked about the circumstances of the death of the 3-year old, Lamin Jobe said he read that it was as a result of stampede. The Legal Counsel mentioned that the witness had provided the TRRC with a stack of newspapers that the team would analyse.

The witness concluded that the April 2000 incident paralysed unionism in the country, particularly GAMSU and saw the rise of a fake union called Napsa⁴⁵. He explained that it was fake because many of its members were not students and it was controlled by President Jammeh. Lamin Jobe mentioned Seedy Njie as being one individual controlling Napsa, he later was nominated to be part of the National Assembly.

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⁴⁴Not to be confused with Solo Bojang, the former member of the death squad, the Junglers.
⁴⁵National Patriotic Students Association.
Lamin Jobe explained that after the end of the work of the “Commission of Inquiry into the April 10/11 Public Disturbances”, which published a report, he and his colleagues were summoned by then President Jammeh who told them that he would leave no stone unturned to ensure that justice is being served but no measures were ever taken.

In ensuing questions/statements from the Commissioners, TRRC Chairman Lamin Sise recalled that he was part of the UN delegation along with Yahya Jammeh in Cuba when the April event unfolded.

Commissioner Jones asked the witness about the widespread allegations that Ebrima Barry was fed cement. Lamin Jobe responded that there is a version that says that Ebrima Barry was asked to carry cement but that both Ebrima’s friend and his father who saw him after his release, denied this aspect but did say that Ebrima had told them that he had been mercilessly beaten.

Commissioner Bah asked about disciplinary policies. Lamin Jobe said that he was aware of such policies at school levels but not at the ministry level. After the April 2000 incident, the then Ministry of Education was hypocritical and encouraged principals, teachers and parents to ban students to be part of GAMSU. The Ministry even applauded the government during a press briefing for the way it handled the demonstration. When asked about threats, Lamin Jobe explained that he and Alieu Khan wanted to write a book about this event but understood that they were being monitored and explained that the NIA had infiltrated all institutions, including GAMSU.

Lamin Jobe concluded his testimony by thanking Gambians who showed that they are really peace loving and worked hard so that the students’ leaders would be released. He stated that truth is a problem in Gambia as it is not well-perceived. He recommended that public service regulations must be respected and looked at seriously. He gave the example of the schools who open without having been scrutinised and blamed the National Assembly for not doing its part to improve the situation of schools and education.

Persons Mentioned by Witness During Testimony:

 Arbitrary detention
 Rex King, Abdoulie Sanyang, Baboucarr Sowe

Lamin Jobe said that he believed that the young man died. The soldiers were shooting live bullets, students ran for their lives and “the chasing started”.

Lamin Jobe
Binta Manneh recounted that the man “assaulted” her. When asked what she meant by “assault” she responded that he imposed himself on her forcefully.

When asked about the whereabouts of the other man, she said he ran away after she was pushed down.

Binta Manneh explained that as she was laying on the floor, the man had pulled up her skirt, cut off her underwear, and he pressed his elbow against her chest without uttering a word to her. She could not give any description of the man’s clothes. She highlighted that she felt heartbroken, sad and felt pain on her private part, which was injured and blood was oozing out of it. When he released her, she was still crying and bleeding. She found her way back by following the same route she had taken with the two men and that was when she met her teacher Mr. Bah, who told her that they were looking for her. Binta Manneh told Mr. Bah about what had happened and he suggested that they go to a police station.

Mr. Bah narrated the story to the police, including that the perpetrators wore uniforms. The police informed them that those on duties around that end were paramilitary. The police officer took her statement. Binta Manneh explained that as she was still bleeding and crying, the police advised she should be taken to the hospital. The witness did not remember which police station she went to because she had never been to the Kombos before.

When they got to the Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital, RVTH in Banjul, she was checked by a doctor and he told Mr. Bah that she had already been “destroyed” and that she needed to be admitted. The Deputy Lead Counsel asked her what she had understood when the doctor said she was “destroyed” and Binta Manneh replied he meant she was “disvirgined”.

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**WITNESS NAME:** Binta MANNEH

**TRRC HEARING DATE(S):** 20th August 2019

**EVENT(S) DISCUSSED:** Rape of the witness by a security officer in 2000 and the impact on her life

**ROLE DURING THE EVENT(S):** Grade 7 Student

**POSITION AT THE TIME OF TESTIMONY:** Not mentioned

**SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:**

Before Binta Manneh started giving her testimony, the Deputy Lead Counsel explained that per her request her identity would be known, her voice would be heard, but her face would be hidden from the public.

Binta Manneh told the Commission that she represented her school in running competitions. In 2000, she was in Grade 7 and was 15 years old at the time. That year, her school took part in the inter-school sports competition and it was the first time she visited the Kombos.

She said they arrived at Bakau stadium around 6pm, and at around 8pm she went to buy some biscuits alone. Just when she was about to cross the road, she came across two men, wearing uniforms and one of them grabbed her hand. She tried to free herself from his grip, but he told her in Mandinka, “Don’t you know that I am a serviceman?” He went with her to the back of the stadium, where it was dark. The witness explained that the man held on tighter to her hand, unzipped his trousers, pushed her and she fell on her belly.

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46 Usually refers to the outskirts of Banjul or Greater Banjul area.
She said that she bled for four days and stayed in the hospital for a week. She explained how weak, devastated and traumatised she felt. Describing her predicament, the witness broke into tears.

Binta Manneh explained that when she was discharged from the hospital, Mr. Bah came for her and she went back to her village. She continued her schooling but dropped out the same year because she became the main topic of discussion. Everywhere she passed, she heard people including students talking about it. When asked if there were any investigations done with regards to the issue, she said that there were people who came to her school and her father told her that she had to respond to their questions. She could not remember the names of these persons as they introduced themselves to her father.

Binta Manneh explained that she had to go all the way to Banjul to talk about the incident, but said that she did not know where exactly she was taken. Her mother and her aunt accompanied her there. Binta Manneh explained that every time she went, she had to narrate the incident to the same man. According to her, the number of times she had to go to meet this man might be up to four and each time she had to repeat herself. After that last time, he told her that he concluded that she lied and was ordered to go home. At this point, Binta Manneh said that she had spoken the truth. Describing the man who asked her questions about the issue, she said they always found him in an office; he did not wear a uniform, but wore long sleeved shirts.

When asked, how it made her feel that she had to repeat herself over and over again, Binta Manneh explained how confused she felt at the time because the man used to shout at her, but she repeated the same story and at some point, she did not even know what to say. The witness said that this experience made her feel sad, unhappy and seriously traumatised but she always kept faith that God would give her “her justice”. She told the Commission that nothing else was done about the issue and that she was never informed if someone had been arrested, as the police never reached out to her after she filed a report on the day of the incident.

When asked to describe the impact the rape had on her life, she explained that she had to drop out of school and soon after her father forcefully married her off to a man that she “did not appreciate”. Later, her brother helped her to get out of that marriage by bringing her to the Kombos and enrolled her in a training school. Upon completion, she went back to the village and was married off again. When asked how she was treated by people, she explained that in her village, when such happens to a girl before she is married “you will always live in shame”. She said the whole incident affected her mental state; “it nearly made me mad. Sometimes when I am sitting alone the shock comes to me and I feel very very bad and it nearly made me become a mental person.” She said that today she has moved on because she left that environment in the provinces and is living in an urban area. She however admitted that it hurts to talk about it because it is shameful. The Deputy Lead Counsel reassured her that she had nothing to be ashamed of and the person who should be ashamed is the one who did this to her. The Chairman of the TRRC praised the witness for her courage, thanked her for her testimony and reiterated that the perpetrator is the one who should feel shameful.

Persons Mentioned By Witness During Testimony:
Forceful Marriage
Mr. Manneh
**WITNESS NAME:** Sainey SENGHORE

**TRRC HEARING DATE (S):** 20th August 2019

**EVENT (S) DISCUSSED:** 10th/11th April 2000 Student Protests, victimisation of the witness

**POSITION BEFORE THE EVENT (S):** Student

**ROLE DURING THE EVENT (S):** Student protester

**POSITION HELD AT TIME OF TESTIMONY:** Unemployed

**SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:**

Sainey Senghore testified before the Commission that on Tuesday, 11th April 2000, he was supposed to write a biology exam, which he had studied very hard for as his teacher, an American Peace Corps volunteer had promised to provide a scholarship for the best three students. Giving some more background information on his family, the witness explained that he came from an extended family with most of his siblings dropping out of school because of financial difficulties experienced by his parents. He highlighted that he was the only one who was lucky to go up to grade 10. He therefore felt it was necessary to study hard so the money spent on him could have been spent on another family member who could have access to education as well.

Continuing with his testimony, the witness stated that when he arrived at his school, Essau Senior Secondary school, he found students and teachers standing outside. He was told there would be no school because there was a demonstration that had taken place in the Kombos the day before and claimed the lives of most of the students. The students at his school were therefore going to follow suit because their colleagues had been killed.

Elaborating on what had happened the previous day, Sainey Senghore explained that he was told a student from Foster Senior Secondary School, Ebrima Barry had been beaten to death by the Fire and Rescue Services and a girl called Binta from Brikamaba had been raped at the Independence Stadium by security officers thus triggering a demonstration by students to seek justice for them.

The witness highlighted that during the demonstrations in the Kombos on 10th April 2000, students were shot resulting in 14 casualties including a Red Cross volunteer and a three-year-old boy.

Asked how students came to the decision to demonstrate, he said the Gambia Students Union, GAMSU tried to engage the government through the Ministry of Education and other institutions to no avail, they therefore decided to proceed with a protest, which was their right to do so.

Going back to 11th April 2000, the witness stated that when they were told there was no school, together with Momodou Jobe, Habib Jeng (his uncle) and his friend Adama Choi, they decided to go home. On their way, he saw the demonstrators who were just a few meters behind, calling for justice and using stones to break the glass windows of buildings of Gambia Ports Authority, GPA. The witness noted that aside from breaking glasses, the demonstrators were not violent though they were angry for good reason as their colleagues had been victimised.

Sainey Senghore said he initially was not part of the group of demonstrators but it appeared like he was as they were close in proximity and had to use the same highway to get to Barra from Essau. However, upon reflection, he resonated with the demonstrators and decided to join them.
He explained that Ebrima Barry would have done the same for him and that he had sisters and would not have liked for them to be raped.

The witness narrated that they later saw a police checkpoint and about 100-200 meters away there were police officers lined up with AK47 guns. He estimated the number of police officers to be about ten, which he noted was not normal. He said when they saw them standing, they all halted, then the police started shooting, not directly at them but slightly above their heads. As he turned to run away, after two or three shots, he felt something hit his right leg. He said when he touched it, his hand was stained with blood. His brother Momodou Jobe wanted to help him, but he told him to run or he might get shot too. He further narrated that his legs felt numb, he could not move and fell to the ground.

He recalled that after some time, the landlord of a compound nearby came to help him along with other students who had ran inside to hide from the security officers. One of the students, Modou Marong took off his uniform and tied it around the witness’s leg because he was losing a lot of blood. He specified that none of the security officers offered assistance to him. He said once inside the compound, he started feeling dizzy and losing consciousness. Using the back door of the compound to escape the security officers who were still shooting, the witness was rushed to Essau Health Centre, which was 100 meters away from the compound and members of his family were immediately contacted because he needed a blood transfusion. Once there, he was given about five injections to reduce the severe pain he was feeling.

Further testifying, the witness said he eventually fell unconscious and when he regained consciousness, after two days, found himself at the Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital, RVTH presently known as the Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital. He said when he woke up, he recognised his mother and other family members and friends surrounding him. He could not talk as he was in severe pain.

Sainey Senghore was told that during those two days, the bullet was removed from his leg and one Dr. Nawa, an Egyptian informed him that four to five of his blood vessels had been cut but he was able to repair them. The witness said he was told that a piece of metal was inserted in his leg, just below the knee and small bags of sand to stretch his leg as he had suffered multiple bone fractures as a result of the gun shot from the security officers.

On how he felt, the witness stated that he had to take injections so that he could sleep as he was in severe pain. He said he would be given up to ten injections a day because blood was not flowing through his leg as it should due to the vascular trauma suffered. He explained that he later developed gangrene in his foot.

Describing the gangrene, the witness said his foot was completely black and dead; and he could not feel it.

As a result, the number of injections was increased up to 15. He said despite the numerous treatments and injections, he did not feel better, but he kept being reassured that he was going to get well.

The witness stated that his ward at RVTH had over 20 patients with 95 percent of them being student victims from the 10th April demonstrations. Recalling some of the student victims, he named Lamin Touray who was a student of Gambia High School and whose right leg was amputated as a result of the injury he suffered, Bakary Njie who was shot in the leg, Abdoukarim Jammeh whose kneecap was injured and had to use a walking stick to support him and Omar Ceesay, a student of Saint Augustine’s High School who also was shot in his leg.

Upon being asked how he knew the students had been injured during the 10th April demonstrations, the witness replied that information had been circulating around the country and the victims narrated their stories to one another.
The witness remembered that about a month after he was admitted, he was one day told that Yahya Jammeh would pay the victims a visit at the hospital. None of the victims were willing to talk to him and they had told one another they would not talk to him. Sainey Senghore stated that when he (Yahya Jammeh) entered his ward, he covered his face and pretended to be asleep. He said in Wolof, that Yahya Jammeh visiting them was the equivalent of a witch offering its condolences after killing you.

He affirmed that Yahya Jammeh had ordered the killing of innocent youths, so it made no sense for him to pay them a visit.

When asked how he knew those orders came from Yahya Jammeh, he said it was obvious because he was the Head of State, even though he was out of the country and was being represented by the Vice-President Isatou Njie Saidy. On being asked what Isatou Njie-Saidy had to do with the issue, he responded that the most unfortunate part was she, being a woman and a mother announced on national television and radio that the students had started the shooting, which he concluded only meant she knew and was aware of what had happened to the students and was also responsible for it. He specified that though he had not heard it himself, her statement was a fact. The witness also confirmed that none of the students in Essau or the Kombos had weapons and that none of the security officers were injured during that incident.

Proceeding with his testimony, he said he pretended to be asleep but recalled that a doctor lifted his leg to show it to Yahya Jammeh and reassured him that all the victims were going to be fine and would be soon discharged, which he said was not an accurate statement but said so to please the former President. He added that he could not tell if Yahya Jammeh came with other government officials but knew there were many security officers and guards all over, which he said did not intimidate him, as he already knew how it felt to be shot and did not mind if they even killed him. The witness further stated that his condition continued to deteriorate together with Assan Suwareh and Yusupha Mbye who had been at the intensive care unit for over two weeks.

Upon being asked if Yahya Jammeh had done anything for the victims, the witness recalled that Fatoumatta Jahumpa Ceessay took some provisions to the hospital; he could not tell what position she held but knew she was from the Office of the President. He explained that she brought biscuits, juice and corn flakes, but he told his mother to give it to the other patients who were not victims of the demonstration. He said he refused it because he understood it was coming from Yahya Jammeh and stated “to protect our lives was more important than provisions”.

The witness told the Commission that during his visit, Yahya Jammeh went from bed to bed asking about the victims’ conditions but did not say anything about giving the victims justice or prosecuting the perpetrators. He added that no arrests were made before or after his visit though a Commission of Inquiry was set up in 2000 to look into the issue of the students’ demonstration when the witness was already in Egypt. Further discussing the Commission of Inquiry, he said it was not fruitful as a bill called the Indemnity Bill was passed and it gave indemnity to all those involved in the killings and they could not be prosecuted in court for the crimes committed.

Sainey Senghore then recounted what happened to Yusupha Mbye and Assan Suwareh during the demonstrations. He explained that on 10th April, Yusupha Mbye, who is like a brother to the witness, was worried when he did not see Aliyu Senghore, the witness’ biological brother. He therefore went looking for him and was shot in the neck, injuring his spinal cord and resulting in his paralysis from his neck downwards. He said that at some point Yusupha Mbye had to be evacuated to Egypt as his condition was getting worse. Before his evacuation, the bullet was removed from his neck and an opening had to be made so that soft food could be pumped in. He added that Yusupha Mbye had been in a wheelchair for 19 years and could not do anything for himself.
Aliou Senghore had to sacrifice his education to take care of Yusupha Mbye.

With regards to Assan Suwareh, the witness told the Commission that he was shot in the stomach, which caused him to lose one of his kidneys, and could only eat light food as a result. Assan Suwareh was also operated and the bullet as well as the affected kidney were removed. He added that in fact Assan Suwareh was thought to be dead initially as he was lying among the corpses at the Accident and Emergency ward when his cousin who was a Red Cross member came to the hospital to donate blood. When he took the bodies of the deceased victims out, he realised that Assan Suwareh was still breathing.

The witness further testified that a Medical Board was set up, which comprised of doctors from Nigeria and Egypt who later recommended that he, Yusupha Mbye and Assan Suwareh be taken to either America or Europe for further treatment. He said later they changed their minds and said they would be taken to Egypt instead. The witness said when he asked why, he was told there were Gambians in the Diaspora who had built interest on their case and were talking about it at the international level. In order to avoid the diaspora having anything to say against the Gambia government to the international community and what the witness believed to be an attempt to conceal what had truly happened, it was instead decided to evacuate them to Egypt. The witness particularly mentioned a group called Concerned Gambians who really helped them a lot, including one Sigga Jagne and reported their case to the international community. The group also raised funds for them and even sent them money when they were in Egypt.

He recalled that there was first a medical board set up who said they did not need any overseas treatment. However, the witness needed a vascular doctor to repair his cut vessels and an X-ray needed to be done too but because there were no competent medical services in The Gambia, he had to seek treatment overseas.

Sainey Senghore stated that Yusupha Mbye’s condition was very serious so he was evacuated first with Dr. Nawa as his escort. Two weeks later, in June 2000, the witness together with Assan Suwareh were evacuated to Egypt by one nurse called Jula and a doctor. He added that he did not get to talk to his family until after two weeks after his arrival, which was when he already had the operation done. Explaining his operation, which lasted for eight hours, he stated that he went through three procedures at once where five of his toes were amputated, his blood vessels were repaired and his multiple fractures were treated. After the operation, he was completely drained.

The witness highlighted that though they were minors at the time, their family's consent was not sought prior to the operations nor were they told anything about the kind of treatment they were going to receive in Egypt.

He added that the nurse Jula left a week after their arrival.

On the treatment Yusupha Mbye and Assan Suwareh received, the witness explained that Yusupha Mbye had his first operation before he and Assan Suwareh arrived. He added that because Yusupha Mbye could not move, he developed infected bedsores, which were removed. After that, he could not get any other operation done because the government of The Gambia had not paid for the entire expenses that would cover their stay in the hospital. He narrated that one day, one of the authorities in the hospital called the doctor in charge of them and told him they were going to discharge the patients because the government had only paid for one month of their treatment.

The witness said Assan Suwareh did not undergo any operation in Egypt because he was taking medications to heal the injuries he sustained in his stomach before he got operated on, but unfortunately the one month elapsed. He added that the Egyptian doctor who was in charge of them negotiated with both the authorities in Egypt and The Gambia, but nothing fruitful came out of it. Later the doctor decided to
pay for their medical expenses out of pocket (which were expensive) and as a result they spent an additional two months in the hospital. The doctor told them he was helping them because he also had two kids and saw them as his children. The witness said they became friends with his seventeen-year old son who frequently went to the hospital. He said if the doctor had not helped them, then a different story would have been told. The witness said thanks to the Egyptian doctor he could at least use crutches to support himself to walk.

He further highlighted Yusupha Mbye’s predicament. He said the nurses did not care much and attended to him late. Sometimes, even though Assan Suwareh would be limping and holding on to his stomach, he would help him to turn over and lay on his other side. Going back to his own treatment, the witness explained that his fractures were treated and he underwent a procedure called external fixation, that is the metal was placed outside the body instead of inside. He added that he also got an infection during the first operation because a skin grafting was done to cover his wounded toes.

According to the witness, the Egyptian doctor could no longer cover their expenses and therefore reluctantly requested that the government send them their air tickets.

He said the government of The Gambia responded quickly to that but highlighted that they sadly ignored the doctor when he asked them to send funds for their treatment.

The group called Concerned Gambians tried to negotiate with the doctor to see if he could keep them longer whilst they explored the possibility of taking them to another country, but since it was a matter between two governments, the doctor did not want to risk it.

On their departure, the witness narrated that after the doctor saw them off at the airport, they were asked to pay 100 US Dollars each by the immigration officers or they would not board the plane. He said they were lucky Sigga Jagne had sent them 400 US Dollars and that was the money they used even though at first they refused but they eventually paid when the airplane was about to take off. He noted that they were given no receipts and their passports were handed back to them.

Further explaining their journey, Sainey Senghore said they had a stopover in Belgium that lasted for eleven hours. He said when they got there, they were told they had no visa so they slept at the terminal. He added that together with Assan Suwareh they were able to cope but Yusupha Mbye had to sit in a wheelchair for long, which was challenging. They contacted the ambassador in Belgium and when he eventually came to the airport, they had dinner with him at the restaurant. He promised them he would come see them the following morning before they depart; which he did. The witness could not remember his name.

Witness Senghore admitted that he had not fully recovered however Yusupha Mbye’s condition was worse. He recounted how Assan Suwareh would push his wheelchair at the airport until he got assistance when they boarded the plane.

Once they arrived in The Gambia, an ambulance was already waiting for them at the airport. He stated that their passports were taken as well as their medical reports. They were told they were going to be taken back to the hospital but together with Assan Suwareh, they refused and went home. He highlighted that Yusupha Mbye had to go back to the hospital and spent more than three years in the hospital.

Sainey Senghore said that he went to physiotherapy at the hospital twice a week because he could not bend his knee but later stopped going as he felt that there was not much improvement. However, after five months he started using crutches and had to go to the hospital to practice how to use them. He realised that the physiotherapy had not been completely useless because it did help with his knees, at least in the end.

He told the Commission there was a point he had to be readmitted because the external fixation procedure he underwent had to be removed as his bone had
healed. He was asked if he got compensated for all he went through. He said explained that he did not although the Commission of Inquiry had made recommendations that the victims be compensated.

He added that they also recommended that those like him get treatment overseas and that the perpetrators be brought to justice but nothing came out of it.

On their medical reports, he explained that they could not lay their hands on it once they disembarked from the plane. They were instead told it was a political matter and it was in the Office of the President. They were eventually able to get it from Egypt through Sigga Jagne. He stated that they were later taken to Senegal where they spent three years. There it was also recommended that they get overseas treatment. He added Sigga Jagne and her team tried to raise funds, paid for their food and accommodation in Senegal, but they did not get enough funds for their treatments overseas.

The witness highlighted that he was not aware of any help from the government even after the change of regime. He recounted how they were able to get in contact with the Turkish Embassy and they were assured they would be able to get them free treatment in Turkey provided the government paid for their air tickets. They made several follow ups, but nothing came out of it and the government was not interested.

When asked about his plight, the witness discussed Yusupha Mbye’s instead, which the Counsel remarked. He said someone who was supposed to protect him instead harmed him, which he thought was crazy.

On the impact of the injustice he suffered, the witness explained that he did not have the opportunity to complete his education because of financial constraints, was neither employed nor married and did not have any children. He stated that he was grateful to his family and friends for standing by him and expressed the wish to go back to school, have a job and take care of his mother and family.

Witness Senghore confirmed that none of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry were implemented. In closing, the witness stated “What we did in April 2000 was morally right and I will go out and do the same thing today if I were a student and if the same circumstances were repeated. Why were we out protesting? A female student was raped by our men in uniform. A male student was badly beaten resulted in his death by our men in uniform. I will register my protest against brutality.”

The witness further expressed his disappointment in the government for their failure to assist in paying their air tickets to get treatment in Turkey in 2017.

He also said, the victims of April 2000 had submitted a petition to the Attorney General but were yet to receive an official response and said he wanted to give a copy of that to the Commission.

He recommended that civil education be taught in schools, be talked about on radios and television. He ended by naming the victims of the 10th /11th student massacre and expressed how happy he was to have been associated with them. He stressed he was robbed off his sense of security, better future and adolescent life, but they could not rob him off his determination.

Persons Mentioned By Witness During Testimony:

**Extrajudicial killing**

Yahya Jammeh

**Complicit of extrajudicial killing**

Isatou Njie-Saidy
During the April 2000 Student Protests, Abdoukarim Jammeh was shot in the leg by soldiers, which resulted in lifelong injuries.
Abdoukarim Jammeh told the Commission that on Friday 7th April 2000, he was informed by Mohammed Camara, the head boy of his school that there would be a demonstration on Monday. He added that he had had prior knowledge of two students being victimised by the paramilitary, Ebrima Barry and Binta Manneh and these demonstrations were in response to the incidents in order to call for justice for them. The witness told him he was supportive of the protest as this could have happened to anyone of them and they left at that.

On the morning of Monday 10th April 2000, the witness headed to Churchill’s town to catch a bus to school. However, as no bus came - which was unusual – he decided to walk to Westfield in the hope to find one there. Once at Westfield, he saw students in different uniforms running and shouting. The witness stated that he stood for a time, puzzled as to what was going on as he had completely forgotten about the strike.

Abdoukarim Jammeh told the Commission that the students were fleeing from security forces, who he remarked were in dark blue uniforms. He added that he estimated the security forces to be over 10 in number and they were carrying batons and AK47 guns.

They were shooting at the students and beating them but the witness did not see anyone wounded at that point in time.

The witness further stated that he decided to take a small road to try to head to school and met more students who were running towards him. They were being chased after by Gambia National Army soldiers (in camouflage uniform) who were firing at them using their AK47s. He therefore immediately retreated back to Westfield where he met up with the students who were fleeing from the paramilitary. The group increased in size as more students fled the soldiers and they were eventually sandwiched between the paramilitary and the soldiers.

In an attempt to escape, the witness together with some students ran, heading towards Kanifing South. Soldiers were still chasing them and they took several
turns and finally reached a junction around Iceman. He explained that they found other paramilitaries waiting for them as they had not realised they had run to their base. They turned again and ran until they arrived at the Chinese or Japanese Embassy. He stated, “we were running for our lives, we were trying to “save our skin” and the paramilitary were running after them. They eventually reached the Post Office and found students there who were angry and destroying things.

The witness explained that when they arrived at the Post Office, he asked students what was happening. The students responded that they were angry as they had tried to demonstrate peacefully against the victimisation of two fellow students but the paramilitaries were instead sent to beat and kill them.

The witness reiterated at this point that they were **unarmed**, only carried their books and bags; and **were wearing their uniforms**.

Going back to the angry mob of students, the witness narrated that they were destroying doors and windows of the Post Office and the equipment inside was being moved out. The witness told them this was not the solution as they were destroying their own property. Then soldiers and paramilitaries arrived at the Post Office. They started **shooting** and the students scattered. He could not tell if the security officers were aiming at them or shooting in the air as it was complete chaos.

The witness testified that they started running towards Bakau and then when they reached the junction where the Africell is presently, they took a turn and started running towards Dippa Kunda which they eventually reached, still being chased after by soldiers. Abdoukarim Jammeh said he did not recognise any of the security officers.

Going back to what happened once they reached Dippa Kunda, the witness explained that once they arrived, they found many other students there. Halipha Sallah, the now MP for Serrekunda then arrived and asked what they were doing. The student explained that they wanted to hold a demonstration and Halipha Sallah told them this was not how a demonstration should be held and that they were the future leaders of the country. He asked them to disperse and go home, which they agreed to do.

On being asked if at that point they had heard of any students being **killed**, the witness stated that after Halipha Sallah had arrived, someone in the crowd shouted that a student had been **shot** and **killed** in Westfield. Halipha Sallah responded that they should still go ahead and disperse. The student who made the announcement later told them that Chief of Defence Staff, CDS Baboucarr Jatta had arrived. When they students saw him, they rushed towards him screaming he was the one who had given the orders to **kill** the students. The witness recalled that together with some students, they locked arms to restrain the other students from attacking Baboucarr Jatta. They then asked Baboucarr Jatta if he had given the orders and he told them he had not. At that point, someone in the crowd shouted that the soldiers were not the ones who had **shot** and **killed** the student but a paramilitary. They thus decided to go to the Police Intervention Unit, PIU Headquarters to get answers.

The witness recounted that they went with Baboucarr Jatta up to Westfield and before reaching the paramilitary camp, near the GAMCELL building, a student picked up a long branch from a Moringa tree and started hitting a billboard with it. Students rushed to him, asked him what he was doing as they were trying to calm things down and he was stirring things up, and started beating him. The witness recognised the student who was being beaten as his own relative, one Yankuba Bojang and along with others rushed to his aid. The witness added that he took the branch away from him and threw it in a gutter as they proceeded to the paramilitary camp.

When they reached near the paramilitary camp, they saw the paramilitaries standing with their guns. The
witness recalled that he heard a gunshot being fired and told his relative they should run away.

As he tried to run away, a bullet struck him and he fell into the gutter. At this point, the witness stopped his testimony and started crying.

Continuing on, he explained that the bullet, which had entered from the back had struck his left leg, around his knee. The Counsel thus asked that if it was fair to assume that he was running away from the firing and the witness confirmed that it was the case. He explained that once he fell inside the gutter, which he described as filthy, he lost consciousness.

When he regained consciousness, he looked at his left leg, which was stiff and saw that his trousers were punctured with a hole. He remembered that as he laid there, he could hear gunshots and people shouting. He eventually saw someone pass and he called the person for help. The person pulled him out of the gutter, one Mr. Nyang, made him sit down on the ground, then four paramilitary officers suddenly arrived and chased after Mr. Nyang. They started beating him and despite Mr. Nyang letting them know he was a Red Cross volunteer; they did not stop. He added that Mr. Nyang was wearing a shirt with the Red Cross emblem.

He also explained that he would go in and out of consciousness after he was pulled out of the gutter. At some point, he was looking around and noticed four students who were wearing white shirts and black trousers and who were lying down, struggling to breathe until they stopped moving. Abdoukarim Jammeh explained that when he saw then he forgot about his own condition. He said he realised then that these four students had died.

He added that their white shirts were stained with blood and he realised that they had been shot by the paramilitaries.

Going back to the man who assisted him, the witness explained that he opened the back door of his vehicle and tried to carry him inside. He added that when he looked inside the vehicle, he saw a lot of blood, which he enquired about. The good samaritan explained that he had taken many students to the hospital and though it was possible a number had died, he was not going to relent until he had helped as many as possible.

Abdoukarim Jammeh then added that Mr. Nyang came back to help as well but paramilitaries told them to leave the witness there. There was a standoff between the paramilitaries who threatened to kill the driver of the vehicle and the latter who told them to go ahead as he had no intention to leave the witness there. At some point, one of them wanted to shoot but an ambulance passed by and he did not. The witness explained that he was then placed inside the vehicle and they headed off to the hospital.

On his journey to the hospital, the witness explained that as he would go in and out of consciousness, he was not fully aware of what had happened and was only told after. He stated that he was told that Mr. Nyang had removed his shirt and raised it in the air to indicate that there was a dead body so that they would be allowed to pass through when soldiers would stop their vehicle at gunpoint.
The witness told the Commission that when eventually arrived at the Royal Victoria Hospital, RVH, he was taken to the theatre first as they thought the bullet was still lodged in his leg. Nevertheless, upon realising that the bullet was not there, he was taken to the Accident and Emergency ward. He stated that he saw other students there and specifically recalled one Sainabou Camara from Bakoteh High School.

Regarding her victimisation, the witness recounted that Sainabou Camara had told him she was chased for a while by the security officers and when she finally reached a fence, she was grabbed by the leg as she tried to jump over and dragged away. She further narrated that she had a Walkman in her bag, which they grabbed.

They “put the Walkman on her ears and they danced over her” until she lost consciousness.

She said that she regained consciousness, she found herself in the hospital.

Continuing his testimony, the witness stated that from where he was at the RVH, he could see that all the beds were occupied and it got to a stage where some of the patients that were admitted earlier were forcefully discharged so more space could be created for incoming patients and others were made to lie on the floor. He specified that they were injured by the security officers. On that day, the blood of the students of The Gambia had been spilled.

Abdoukarim Jammeh explained that the nurses, including one Fatou Faye, had written down the name of those injured and those who had died and had made several copies. They wanted to give one to the witness for safekeeping in order to avoid the list being tampered by the government. However, before they could, soldiers came in from the State House and asked the nurses to share the list. The nurses tried to stall them by saying they were not yet ready but the soldiers insisted. The nurses frightened, eventually handed off the handwritten list, the soldiers left and after a while came back with a typed one.

The witness then stated that whilst he was admitted at RVH, Yahya Jammeh came. He had had prior knowledge of his scheduled visit, so together with Sainabou Camara, they had agreed that they would insult him and his mother because he had destroyed their youth and their future. He added that when Yahya Jammeh arrived, he first went to Sainabou Camara and when he got to him, he (Yahya Jammeh) put his hand on him and the witness could no longer insult him. On what was said, he stated that Yahya Jammeh asked for his name, where he was shot and then left. Sainabou Camara came to him and told him that he was not man enough and he explained that Yahya Jammeh had done some juju on him.

The witness stated that after Yahya Jammeh’s visit, the then Press Secretary Fatoumatta Jahumpa Ceesay came with provisions but the witness and his peers handed them over to other patients. On their refusal to keep the provisions, he explained that they had victimised them then pretending to care. He added that he held Yahya Jammeh responsible as he was the one who had passed the order to Isatou Njie-Saidy who had then given the order to Baboucarr Jatta to have the students shot at.

He added that at time, whatever Yahya Jammeh ordered, they would execute. He said if he had told nobody to fire, nobody would have fired.

When asked how he got this information, the witness responded that he had heard it from others at the hospital and believed it because he knew what type of person Yahya Jammeh was. Counsel asked again if this information was circulating around or if he had heard that from members of the security forces and the witness confirmed that it was information that was circulating around. He added that Isatou Njie-Saidy had gone on TV and made a statement about students breaking into the armoury and shooting around.

47Then Vice-President.
Upon further probing by the Counsel, he admitted that he could not know if the information regarding Yahya Jammeh and Isatou Njie-Saidy giving the orders was true or not but he reiterated that he believed it was true.

Going back to what Isatou Njie-Saidy said, the witness stated that she claimed students had broken into the armoury, taken guns and were shooting one another, which was categorically false.

He said when he heard that she was essentially blaming the students, he was very hurt because it was a lie. If they had guns that day, they would have fired back when the security officers were firing and there would not have been only student casualties.

The Counsel then read out a list of documents and handed over to the witness for him to confirm these were documents he had provided, which he did. Counsel then stated that based on those documents, the witness had been seeking treatment from 2000 to 2019 and the cause of his injury had been identified, which was a bullet wound and although preliminary treatment was provided, the recommendation that seemed to be repeated was that he required further treatment, including the recommendation from 2019.

On the kind of treatment, he received in Germany, the witness explained that when he went there in 2010, he was informed that he had to undergo two operations. The first one was performed and he was told to return to Gambia to then return to Germany three months later but the witness never did due to financial constraints. He added that up to date, the treatment had not taken place.

On the impact on his health, the witness said that he had suffered health complications for the past 19 years. He has been using crutches to assist him and if he does not when he walks, after a while he is in excruciating pain.

As a result of his injury, he was unable to complete school and it might have been a different story if the former government had assisted them. The witness said that he had wanted to become a doctor and if given the chance today he would want to become a doctor but because of this tragedy, his dreams were shattered.

In his concluding remarks, the witness highlighted that 14 victims were in the grave, leaving behind their loved ones with a bitter memory in their mind and a scorched heart, which needed healing. He said countless number of victims who were subjected to torture were still unknown and dozens more were in crutches or wheelchair like himself because of the injury of bullets fired indiscriminately on students.

Abdoukarim Jammeh stated that under the previous regime, they had cried for justice but to no avail. He stressed the need for education, treatment and social and economic support so they could be independent enough rather than being charity receivers. He went on to state the need for security reforms whereby the security officers would be law-abiding citizens and would no longer wear a leader’s t-shirt and campaign for him.

He emphasized for the need for tribalism to be no more and called for a professional media that would be independent enough to publish verified information.

Abdoukarim Jammeh ended by stating that victims needed justice and they needed it now.

Persons Mentioned By Witness During Testimony:

Wilful misrepresentation
Isatou Njie-Saidy
WITNESS NAME: Assan SUWAREH

TRRC HEARING DATE (S): 21st August 2019

EVENT (S) DISCUSSED: 10th April 2000 Student Protests, victimisation of the witness

POSITION BEFORE THE EVENT (S): Student

ROLE DURING THE EVENT (S): Student at Banjul Academy High School

POSITION HELD AT TIME OF TESTIMONY: Industrial technician

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:
Assan Suwareh testified before the Commission that on the morning of 10th April 2000, he was on his way to school, when his school bus was stopped at the Gambia Technical Training Institute, GTTI bus stop by a group of about 30-50 students. He stated that the students asked them to join the group explaining that they were about to conduct a peaceful protest against the killing of Ebrima Barry and the rape of Binta Manneh, allegedly by a security officer.

The witness narrated that they joined the group and waited for other school buses so that they could gather more students before starting the peaceful protest, with numbers eventually swelling up to 500. Describing how the students were organised, the witness said they would stand on the road, stop school buses and ask students to join the rest of the group waiting on the side.

He said that when they finally gathered enough students, the group started marching towards Westfield. The witness specified that the unarmed students were chanting for justice for the two victims and carrying banners, which read “Justice for Ebrima Barry”, “Justice for Binta Manneh” and “Justice delayed is justice denied”.

At this point, the witness recalled that when he arrived at the GTTI bus stop, he saw a few paramilitary officers with helmets and batons, but without shields, trying to ensure there was no obstruction of traffic heading to Banjul. On being asked if the paramilitary tried to engage the students, the witness explained that he saw one who he assumed was the commander talk with the student leaders of the protest and they seemed to have reached an understanding.

Going back to the march, the witness testified that as they moved closer to Westfield, he saw about 30 security officers in full riot gear with helmets, batons and shields. He added that from where he was in the crowd, he could see the security officers had formed about three lines long enough to block the road. When the students got closer, the security officers tried to stop them and a push and pull ensued as the students were determined to continue with the protest despite the security presence and the security officers were determined to stop them. Describing the push and pull between the paramilitary and the students, the witness said he saw the paramilitary use their shields to push back students.

Assan Suwareh recounted how not long after the push and pull, the security officers assaulted the students by beating them with their batons especially those at the front of the march. The students retreated and when they eventually tried to continue with their peaceful march, the security officers fired tear gas at them. He further stated that some students, including the witness retaliated by throwing stones they found lying on the side of the road back at the security officers. He added that at that point in time, he did not see any students injured from the beatings.
meted onto them and further stated that when they started firing the teargas, some distance was created between the security officers and the students.

The witness said that after a few minutes, he heard that a minister was present. Though he did not know who it was at that time, he later realised it was then Minister of Interior, Ousman Badjie, whom he had seen before on TV and in person. Ousman Badjie spoke to what the witness assumed to be the student leaders and the group of protesters retreated back to the GTTI campus.

On being asked if Ousman Badjie succeeded in diffusing the situation, the witness responded in the negative. He added that on the contrary, the situation escalated and explained that though he moved closer to the group, he could not hear what was being said but he could see and sense the frustration in the body language and the demeanour that the negotiations between the Minister and the students were not going well.

The witness commented that it seemed like the same security formation they had encountered had followed them and now stood behind Ousman Badjie on standby. The witness added that he also identified the then Chief of Defence Staff, CDS Baboucarr (Vincent) Jatta and two other senior military officials, whom he did not know. The witness said he decided to retreat because he realised it was just a matter of time before the group of students was assaulted again. As he was retreating, he looked back at least three times to see how things were unfolding.

The last time he looked back, he clearly saw Ousman Badjie gesture for the security officers to attack the unarmed students on campus.

Assan Suwareh testified that Ousman Badjie then found his way out of the entrance of the GTTI campus and then the security officers started moving into the school. This caused a stampede, and since he was close to the fence his body was rocked and his head hit the side of the wall. He said that he was able to find refuge in a classroom, from where he saw a group of students going upstairs and followed them. From that viewpoint he could see the paramilitary beat the students without mercy using their batons and could hear the cries.

He mentioned a girl being beaten mercilessly with a baton and kicked by a paramilitary official.

According to the witness, there were eight in the classroom he had entered and they barricaded the door with the tables. Describing how they felt, he said they were terrified. He said the classroom directly below them was initially quiet, but suddenly they started hearing screams as the security forces were going from class to class assaulting students and arresting them.

The witness said that after about 25-30 minutes, the commotion and cries calmed down and some of the students in the classroom suggested they flee. He recalled that they cautiously moved the tables from the door and looked carefully if the security officers were still around. He said they did not see any students as they were escaping, but highlighted that they were not being very observant of that at that point as they were avoiding being seen by the security officers.

When they eventually left the campus through the back, he said they saw students on the street, shocked and terrified also trying to flee from the danger. He added that some students were seeking shelter in compounds around the GTTI campus but he personally thought it was best for him to get as far as possible from the campus. The witness noted that it felt as if they were under siege and in a war zone. He had never witnessed anything like that before. Prior to this experience, he had heard of the extreme brutality of the security officers and was thus fearful of them.

The witness together with a few other students eventually arrived in front of the Police Mobile Unit,
in Kanifing where they met with other students who were also protesting peacefully. Though the witness did not know why they were protesting, he felt it was safer to join the group at that point in time. Almost immediately after he joined the group, teargas canisters started being fired from around the Police Mobile Unit and the students retaliated by throwing stones back. He specified that he believed it to be paramilitary personnel that threw the teargas.

As the commotion grew and more teargas were being fired, he decided to head to the Red Cross Headquarters, which was not far from where he was. As he was heading there, he said he saw students fleeing from that direction, coming towards him. They warned him not to go there, shouting “paras are there, paras are there”. He therefore went back to where he came from; where the group of students stood at the Police Mobile Unit. However, before he was able to pass the group of students and make his way to the back, for the first time he heard gunshots and students started running. He said unlike everyone else, he naively thought those were only rubber bullets to scare the students away, so he was just jogging and occasionally looked behind to see what was happening. At one point, he looked back and saw a student who had been shot.

He said the student’s hand was dangling and it seemed if he did not support it with the other hand that was not shot, his hand was going to fall off.

Assan Suwareh stated that when he realised the security officers had fired live rounds, he started running for his life and just after a few steps, he felt something penetrate his stomach. He felt very weak and had difficulty breathing and almost fell. He added that he was wearing a white uniform, but could not see any blood. He also tried to touch his stomach but he could not feel any blood and therefore concluded that he had not been shot. However, when he tried to run, he could not and almost collapsed. He leaned against a wall and took a few steps before falling. He could see students fleeing trying to save their lives and thought “wow, I cannot believe, actually, these guys they would actually shoot us, try to kill us”.

He told the Commission that in fact that is exactly what the paramilitary was doing, killing unarmed schoolchildren.

After lying down for about ten minutes, he said crawled to an area where he would be more visible and laid there hoping he would be rescued. As he started to feel unconscious, he saw two men carrying an injured student. Then a man stood beside him, yelled for help and waived at a Red Cross ambulance passing but one of the Red Cross members gestured back to him that the ambulance was full and the witness said he thought in dismay that it was the end for him. He also affirmed that he saw what appeared to be lifeless bodies at the back of the ambulance, with one body on top one another.

He said another man joined the man who stood beside him and together they carried him to a private vehicle which they boarded along with two other young students. While they were all shirtless, he said he knew they were students, because of their pants and their age. The witness explained that one of the passengers was in pain and crying while the one in the middle said nothing and made no sound or moved. He said when he took a look, he saw his abdomen was riddled with exit wounds from bullets and forgot his own plight. The witness said he then set eyes on the wound on his own belly and for the first time saw the bullet that struck him and that he was bleeding. He placed his hand on the wound to minimise the bleeding.

When they finally arrived in Banjul, he said he started losing consciousness. He added that though he could not see anything, he assumed they were going to the Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital, RVTH. There, he said he felt being carried, moved and then laid down on a cold floor.

Assan Suwareh explained he could not tell what time he was transported to Banjul or what part of the hospital he was taken to. He was only able to feel and reason. He also told the Commission that at
some point he felt surgery being performed on him and recalled the overhead lamp. He said he was not aware of anything else until after a few days when he woke up in the Intensive Care Unit, ICU.

Speaking of the other students at the ICU, witness Suwareh specifically remembered seeing Yusupha Mbye who was shot in the neck and a three-year-old who was shot in the head. With a heavy heart, he narrated the toddler’s predicament and the pain he had to endure. He stressed that words could not explain the pain the three-year-old had to experience and did not know if he made it but heard he was taken to Senegal because there was no neurosurgeon in The Gambia to operate on him. He added that it broke his heart to talk about the toddler and asked to move on. He also stated that Yusupha Mbye had to constantly gasp for air.

When asked if his family was aware, he confirmed they were and narrated a story he was told when he regained consciousness. He said his uncle, who was working for the Medical Research Council, MRC had gone to Banjul because he had heard they needed blood donors and he also gave the staff at the hospital a hand. There, he was told that his nephew, Assan Suwareh was amongst the dead bodies and it was his uncle who was able to tell he was still alive because he (Assan Suwareh) made a motion and was rushed to the theatre. His uncle then informed his parents.

He explained that at the hospital his and Yusupha Mbye’s condition improved and they were moved from the ICU to another ward where probably half of the patients were student victims of the protest, he estimated about 15. Due to his condition, he said he could only see the person whose bed was next to his, one Lamin, who had been shot in the stomach and was bleeding. He said he doubted if he made it.

Going back to his operation, he said that unfortunately he caught an infection, which caused him tremendous pain. He explained that he was shot from the back; the bullet passed through and found its way to his right kidney which got destroyed, went through his liver and then ruptured his duodenum and gall bladder. His right kidney, his gall bladder and half of his liver were removed during the surgery, but he said he was told that because of his age, the later would grow again. His duodenum was also removed, which caused the infection. A tube was attached to a plastic container and it was inserted in his stomach to extract the fluid that was leaking into his stomach causing him terrible pain. He said whenever the container got full, it would be replaced which was almost daily and described the smell of the fluid as foul.

The witness remembered Yahya Jammeh came for a visit whilst he was in the ICU, during the first two weeks. He shook the witness’ hand and said something to him, which the witness could not recall and then moved to the next bed. He added that he was being moved from ward to ward and when he was in ward 8 & 7, Fatoumatta Jahumpa Ceesay came to the hospital as well as other government officials.

Going back to his infection, the witness explained that it was causing him excruciating pain. He said he would feel better for two days and get sick the next and this dragged on for a month. His doctor decided to perform a second operation on him but because the operating theatre was occupied the doctor had to operate on him on his hospital bed.

Witness Suwareh said that he believed the doctor sealed his duodenum to stop the leaking and then stitched up his stomach. Though the pain was minimised after that, his condition did not significantly improve and he could barely walk. He added that when he was at the ICU, he found out he had also been shot in the arm as well. He said he used to see the nurses dressing his arm, but did not understand why at first, but he was told no major complications were caused as a result.

When asked where the other students were, the witness told the Commission that most of them including Sainey (he did not give the last name), Abdoukarim Jammeh and Lamin Touray were downstairs in ward 3 & 4. He also stated that before his second operation, a doctor tried to prematurely discharge him as the hospital to make room for some Gambian and Guinea Bissau soldiers who suffered serious injuries during a training. He explained that

49At the time Press Secretary.
he came to know because it was announced on television and his family told him. He also added that two of the Guinea Bissau soldiers were admitted in the ward he was in.

He said he then concluded that the **lives of soldiers were more important than that of the students**.

The witness further explained that he spent about two months at RVTH and then was later evacuated to Egypt for treatment along with Sainey Senghore and Yusupha Mbye. He said they went with one escort, a nurse called Jula and she left them after a week. When asked why only they were chosen to go to Egypt, he replied it was the government’s decision.

Once in Egypt, his condition improved very quickly after he started the treatment. His infection got better and he did not need to be operated on again. He said that one day, their Egyptian doctor told them he could not get in contact with the Government of The Gambia and they had paid for only one month of their treatment. Fortunately, the hospital did not release them while the doctor was trying to sort everything it out. He said it was challenging but being the most mobile of the three of them, he tried to help around, especially Yusupha Mbye who was paralysed as the nurses were not always there for him.

On being asked if they received support elsewhere apart from the government, the witness stated that with all due respect, he would not call what the government did for them as it was their obligation. He said Gambians, especially those in the diaspora were very helpful. He said they called them and also made donations. The only Gambian who visited them in Egypt and also gave them money was Omar Sey, an official of the Gambia Armed Forces, who told them that he was there to attend a meeting.

After about three months, he said they tried to leave Egypt but it was a nightmare. Their troubles started at Cairo airport as they were told to pay 100 US Dollars for Yusupha Mbye’s wheelchair. He said they tried to negotiate but to no avail and had to use all the money they had. They transited through Brussels, where they were told they had no visas. They spent about 10 or 11 hours at the airport, with no money nor place to sleep. He said they explained their plight to the authorities and told them they needed food before and after taking their medications. They eventually agreed to allow them to sleep at the Brussels airline lounge and then they were given vouchers. He said they could not get any real food with the vouchers at the restaurant only drinks and candies.

The witness further stated that they were desperate and later called the Gambian embassy in Belgium. They finally spoke to the then Deputy Ambassador, Omar Touray who seemed very genuine. He eventually managed to get beds and food for them at the airport and the next day they returned to Gambia.

On being asked who provided their air tickets, the witness replied it was the government. Upon their arrival airport in The Gambia, he said they saw two government officials; the then Chief Medical Officer of RVTH, Marie Lowe and her assistant. He said he was not happy with them because it seemed they were pretending to care but they were more interested in the medical report they got from Egypt, which they confiscated. After several attempts in trying to get it back, they failed. Nevertheless, they managed to get another copy through Dr. Baha, their doctor in Egypt.

On the impact of what took place on 10th April on his life, the witness stated that he still has to live with chronic ulcer and has digestive complications. He highlighted that overall, he was fine if compared to his colleagues which makes him feel guilty. He added that he was able to leave the country and further his education which allowed him to gain some skill set he can live off and given those circumstances, he considered he was ok.

**Assan Suwareh** told the Commission that the ‘so called’ Government of The Gambia was responsible for what had happened.
He explained his dismay and questioned why they would cause such harm on innocent school children and also politicize the issue just to make themselves look good. He said to make matters worse, 10\textsuperscript{th} April was not the end of it, on 11\textsuperscript{th} April as well, students were shot, including Sainey Senghore, which was unjustifiable.

In his closing remarks, the witness urged the current government of Adama Barrow to help the victims of the 10\textsuperscript{th}/11\textsuperscript{th} April Student protests. He called on the government to right the wrongs on behalf of the victims and not wait for the end of the TRRC. He stated that he hoped the tragedy would not be repeated in the history of the country and to prevent that from happening, the government had to invest in the respect of the rule of law. He said the country should by now have had a police academy with adequate resources to train potential policemen on how to appropriately police citizens, especially children. He added that Yahya Jammeh was a monster and a problem for the country but he was not the only problem. In order to completely get rid of the cancer, the rule of law must be taken seriously. He also suggested to have the police under the Ministry of Justice instead of the Ministry of Interior or what he would call “professional politicians”. He also stressed on the importance of education for the development of the country.

He added that when the TRRC was done with their report, the government should set up an independent oversight body that would implement their recommendations so that it would not suffer the fate of recommendations of other commissions.

\textbf{Persons Mentioned By Witness During Testimony:}

None

...the government should set up an independent oversight body that would implement their recommendations so that it would not suffer the fate of recommendations of other commissions.
WITNESS NAME: Njie MANNEH

TRRC HEARING DATE (S): 22nd August 2019

EVENT (S) DISCUSSED: 10th/11th April 2000 Student Protests, victimisation of the witness

POSITION BEFORE THE EVENT (S): Student

ROLE DURING THE EVENT (S): Student protestor, brother of Binta Manneh (who testified in the same session about her rape)

POSITION HELD AT TIME OF TESTIMONY: Unemployed

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

Njie Manneh started his testimony by sharing his educational background. He explained that following the April 2000 students’ demonstrations and upon completion of grade 9, he tried to join Armitage Senior Secondary School. However, the principal Mr. Hafna denied him admission because he had been told that the witness had attended the students’ demonstrations. He then called one Mr. Mendy to escort the witness out and write a referral paper for him to try and attend any other school but Armitage.

When asked who Mr. Mendy was, the witness explained that he had never seen him before but described him as short, dark in complexion and corpulent. He added that he later found out he was one of the senior teachers at Armitage. The witness said he was very sad and angry at being denied admission. The school exam results had not been very good that year because of the student demonstrations but the witness had obtained higher marks than some of the students who had been admitted at Armitage Senior Secondary School. He added that he had misplaced a copy of his grade marks but would try and get a copy from the school and supply it to the TRRC.

Njie Manneh then narrated his ordeal in trying to find another school. He explained that he tried several other high schools but they all turned him away as they were at full capacity. He searched for the entire first term with no luck until his father told him he had another son by the name of Bamba Manneh who worked at the Nasir Senior Secondary School in Basse Manjai Kunda and the witness should go see him, which he did. He was admitted there but left at the beginning of the third term.

On his reasons for leaving the school, the witness told the Commission that although he had no problems at the school itself, he was constantly harassed by the security personnel around the school. He recalled one particular time in 2001 when the United Democratic Party, UDP held a political rally in Basse which he attended. Following the meeting, as he was heading to school, he was stopped by one Manlafi Sanyang who told him that he had been informed the witness had attended a UDP rally. He added that in this country, if one wanted to survive, one had to be a member of the Alliance for Patriotic Reorientation and Construction, APRC. The witness added that Manlafi Sanyang threatened him more than three times and he decided to transfer to the Pipeline Comprehensive School but they could not admit him because they were just about to start the third term and asked him to come back when the next academic year began.

The witness specified that he did not know which security force Manlafi Sanyang was attached to as he would sometimes wear a police uniform and other times a paramilitary uniform. He added that he would see him at meetings organised by Yahya Jammeh and his party.

Discussing the events leading to the 10th/11th April students’ demonstrations, the witness said he had heard news that one of their fellow students, Ebrima...
The next day, on 11th April when he got to school, he could not enter the compound as armed soldiers had secured the premises. The witness added that he enquired with the leader of the soldiers (whose name he did not know) what was going on and the man told him that the principal had called them to “maintain peace and stability” at the school. The leader of the soldiers then suddenly insulted them.

On being asked if students had been arrested on 10th April, the witness explained that when they arrived, he did not see the Head Boy or the Assistant Head Boy though he admitted that he did not mingle with everyone at school. However, Ousman Sabally had told him that more than 50 students (including organisers of the demonstrations and students not involved in the demonstrations) had been arrested the previous night (10th April) so he assumed those two were part of those arrested. Going back to what happened at the school on 11th April, the witness recalled that when the soldier insulted them, Ousman Sabally asked the group to move towards the school.

Going back to the demonstration, the witness explained that when they eventually started to move towards the school unarmed and holding banners that said “We want justice for Ebrima Barry and Binta Manneh”, the armed soldiers also started moving towards the students. The witness said he was in the front line with other students including himself (the witness), Adama Njie, Bukhari Jabulah, Burama Fatty, Ousman Sabally and one Buba (he could not remember the surname).

Continuing with his testimony, Njie Manneh recounted that within 30 minutes of the start of the demonstration, soldiers from Basse arrived. They tried to forcefully disperse the group by beating them with their batons and shooting tear gas canisters. The witness told his comrades at the front line to smear cow dung on their nose, which he had brought, if they did not want to feel the effects of the tear gas.

Barry had been brutalised by Fire Service officers, which resulted in his death. He explained that when the Gambia Student Union, GAMSU heard the news, they sought to have meetings with the government so justice could take place. However, the government was not willing to compromise with GAMSU.

The witness added that during that same period, his sister, Binta Manneh was raped at the Bakau stadium when she was in grade 7 and about 14/15 years old.

Njie Manneh testified that following her rape, Binta Manneh was called to the Kombos on a regular basis for interrogation and every single time she was called, the family would have to cover the cost of her transportation out of pocket. He further stated that at school, students would talk about, stared and pointed fingers at his sister, which made her so ashamed she decided to leave. The witness blamed the principal of her school, one Merican Mendy as he said he was very silent about the matter and had failed in his responsibilities. He also stated that Binta Manneh was a top-class student and the principal could have encouraged her to stay rather than leave.

Going back to the 10th April 2000, the witness said that when he went to school, he was told there would be no school on that day. He went home and later on met with his friend Ousman Sabally, who told him that the police officer who had raped Binta Manneh was from the Brikamaba Police station. He had been sexually harassing Binta Manneh for a while and when he had heard she would be taking part in the athletics competition in the Kombos, he followed her there. The witness pleaded with Ousman Sabally for the person’s name and he insisted he would reveal the name after the students’ demonstrations.

The witness stated that he then went home and at around 8:30pm, one of his teachers, one Mr. Njie called him and told him not to sleep in his home tonight as soldiers had arrived at the school and had been instructed to arrest students. Upon being given this piece of information, the witness “prepared himself spiritually” and decided to spend the night at another location in Brikamaba.
When the soldiers started firing rubber bullets, Ousman Sabally told the students to retaliate and they started throwing stones at them.

The witness testified that when the students started throwing stones back, superiors from Kudang and Basse detachments called for reinforcement from Farafenni. Within an hour, Farafenni soldiers arrived and they started shooting.

He stated that within five minutes of the shooting, Ousman Sabally fell and said “Njie, I have been shot”.

He added that Ousman Sabally kept moving his lips, trying to say something to the witness. An ambulance arrived and together with Adama Njie, they carried Ousman Sabally inside but he had already died.

On being asked how he knew the soldiers from Kudang and Basse had fired rubber bullets, the witness explained that Ousman Sabally had alerted them and this was the reason the students had had the confidence to proceed with the demonstration. The witness explained that when the soldiers from Farafenni arrived, the bullets that were being fired from all the soldiers were a mixture of rubber bullets and live bullets.

Njie Manneh told the Commission that about 30 minutes after Ousman Sabally’s corpse was taken away, he saw Sainey Nyabally on the ground screaming. He kept mentioning one lady’s name and the witness was told that it was Sainey Nyabally’s mother who had passed away earlier on. On being asked where Sainey Nyabally had been shot, the witness said there was blood on his shirt from his neck down to his stomach but he could not specify where exactly the shot had hit him. An ambulance came and took him away but he died on the way to the hospital. The witness also remembered that Ousman Sabally had been shot twice, one right above his eye and the other one on his chest.

The witness then claimed that a shot was fired at one Musa Kanaji, also a student but he (the witness) “stood between the bullet and Musa”. As the witness had some powerful spiritual weapons, the bullet did not touch him.

It instead landed on the concrete, exploded with fire hitting the witness’ leg. He said upon feeling pain on his foot, he looked down and saw that his black nylon trousers were melting. He rolled up his trousers and saw where he was hit. He affirmed that the bullet had not penetrated his leg but the heat caused a bruise. Other shots were fired and Musa Kanaji fell. He said he saw blood dripping from his leg up to his neck. Musa Kanaji rushed to the hospital but the witness could not tell if he had survived or not.

On the injuries the witness suffered, he said back, chest, stomach and knees were swollen, and he developed blood clots, which his father healed. The Counsel asked how he sustained those injuries seeing only a fragment of a bullet hit his leg and the witness responded that wherever he was shot at his body with live bullets. The Counsel then asked again to clarify she understood well and he insisted that was the case. On being asked why other students had been killed by the live bullets but not the witness, Njie Manneh explained that he was protected. The Counsel then asked to move on and focus on other fatalities and injuries Njie Manneh witnessed.

The witness went on to say that Ebrima Saidy was shot just below his abdomen very shortly after Musa Kanaji.

They put him in an ambulance and he was taken to the hospital where he spent a long time there, recovering. The witness also recalled another student being shot but he could not remember the name, and one police officer who was seriously wounded. He recalled that he (the officer) had a pistol and was firing. He said the shots from that police officer touched either Musa Kanaji or another student, perhaps Ebrima Saidy. Adama Njie rushed to him, asked him if he had seen the police officer and suggested they devised a plan to kill him as self-defence but the witness refused. Adama Njie stoned him instead injuring his hand.

Further testifying, the witness stated that he ran away after the demonstrations and he did not return.
until school reopened two weeks later. At that point, the witness had not completely healed. He explained that on the day he returned to school, he was arrested together with Burama Fatty by soldiers from the Kudang military barracks (which he recognised) and they were placed in a truck where he found one Faye Sanneh, a UDP leader in Welingara. On the reason for Faye Sanneh’s arrest, the witness explained that after the student demonstrations, the UDP was accused of using the students to start the disturbances so many of their leaders in that area were arrested. On being asked if the UDP militants in Brikamaba were linked to the students’ demonstrations, the witness said that the demonstrations had nothing to do with politics. The Counsel further asked if the authorities had actually linked the UDP militants in their area with the demonstrators and the witness said that some of the demonstrators supported UDP.

The witness was then taken to MacCarthy/Janjanbureh Prison and detained for 2/3 weeks in handcuffs before being released. The witness went back to school and took his exams upon release but he was not able to prepare well as he had been detained during that period. He said he did not get a very good grade but still achieved the government pass mark. The witness said he was later arrested again when he was in grade 12 and was thus not able to complete secondary education.

On the impact on his life, the witness said it affected his “humanity” and his future. He said at school he was usually among the first 10.

He added that he used to constantly have visions of Ousman Sabally, crying or telling him to greet his mother for him.

However, his father helped the witness with his juju and he was able to heal. He said that if it had not been for this, he would have gone mad.

Upon being asked by the Commissioners, the witness clarified the following:

- Faye Sanneh was tortured in prison, which led to his eventual death.
- Mr. Njie, his teacher was also arrested and tortured by one Yakuba Touray in the cell. He stated that he kicked him until he fell. When the witness was released, he saw Mr. Njie who told him that he had sustained injuries and could no longer urinate. He specified that Yakuba Touray tortured Mr. Njie.
- Ousman Sabally never revealed the name of the individual who had raped Binta Manneh. He added that perhaps when he was shot and his lips were moving, he was trying to share that information.
- The witness admitted that some destruction of property took place in Brikamaba and it extended to Armitage Senior Secondary School, though he could not say what destruction took place there.
- He added that the students who were arrested were seriously tortured at Janjanbureh prison. The witness would peak when the soldiers would drag them out of their cell.

He said they would stamp on their backs then pour cold water before taking them back to their cells.

In his concluding remarks, the witness congratulated the TRRC for its work. He asked Gambians to forgive one another and let bygones be bygones in the name of Islam.

Persons Mentioned By Witness During Testimony:

Torture

Yakuba Touray

\(^{50}\)The witness was not probed further as to the identity of this person (Yakuba Touray).
happen the next day, 11th April 2000 and continued to give a step by step account. In his explanation of the events, the witness said that on his way to school at 8am, he found a group of about 20 students in uniform and went and joined them. He said he also saw three soldiers dressed in green army camouflage and helmets armed with AK47s standing by the school gate and more students started coming from everywhere towards the school.

Musa Kanaji explained that at that time, grade 9 examinations were approaching and revisions were taking place so the students wanted to get into the school. Continuing on his narration of the events of that day, he said when the students moved towards the school, the soldiers fired their guns and the students ran for their lives, sought shelter in different places and the soldiers ran after them. When asked if the soldiers aimed at them when they were firing, the witness replied that nobody looked to determine that.

Musa Kanaji said that some, including himself went on the highway, picked up stones from the side of the road and started throwing them, aiming at the soldiers. He added that the students at that time were angry that their fellow student, Ebrima Barry was maltreated to death by fire service personnel and that Binta Manneh had been raped at the stadium by a paramilitary officer and nothing had come out of it. When asked if he noticed if any of the students were armed, the witness said they had no weapons except their books and their bags.

Asked what the soldiers’ reaction was to the stones being thrown at them by the students, the witness replied that they went after them and were firing. He said when the stone throwing got intense, the soldiers withdrew and students went after them throwing more stones. He said this went for a while before they got information that one of them whom he later found out was Ousman Sabally, was shot.
Asked if he was able to tell if the soldiers were firing live or blanks bullets, the witness replied that he could not differentiate the type of bullets but when they heard about the death, they knew it was live ammunition.

He explained that when they heard Ousman Sabally was shot, the situation of the students changed completely and their anger grew. They dispersed into the village in different directions and continued throwing stones at the soldiers. He further explained that the soldiers then fired their guns again and the crowd dispersed and this went on for about one hour. Later on, while he was standing on the highway with some of his colleagues, they saw three soldiers also standing on the highway and he saw one advancing towards them, looking like someone who was on the verge of firing with his gun raised to shooting position, pointing towards them. He said they were standing in front of the soldier. The other soldiers were retreating back towards the police station end. Asked if he recognised or knew the names of any of the soldiers, the witness replied in the negative.

The witness went on to explain that the next thing he knew, he was lying down. He said he tried to get up, but at that time he could not tell what was happening and a student behind him told him boy: “you have been shot.” The witness said he put his hand behind and touched blood. He was shot between the two ribs and the bullet went through, and the first thing he thought of was how to get to the hospital to be treated. He said he then walked by himself. At that time, he was not feeling any pain because his entire body was numb. The witness said he met his older brothers Ansumana and Kitim Kanaji and their French teacher, Mr. Mbye (who was also a Red Cross Volunteer) who brought some first aid equipment to stop the blood flow. After that Ansumana put him on his shoulder to take him to Brikamaba Health Centre, taking the back way.

The Counsel informed him that the Commission had received information that at that point it was an ambulance that carried him away and the witness replied no ambulance came at that time.

Asked who he believed shot him, the witness replied soldiers from the Kudang Barracks.

Upon his arrival at Brikamaba Health Centre, the witness said there were quite a number of people. He said some were teachers, some were students and some were parents and those who went to check and confirm whether their children were amongst the injured. He said when he got inside, he saw Ousman Sabally lying down, blood oozing out of his chest. He said the doctor was putting bandages on Ousman’s wound but due to the force with which the blood was oozing out, whenever they put the bandage, it came out immediately. At that time, he said he came to realise that this was someone who was on the verge of dying. He said Ousman Sabally was stretching himself and he would raise his head as if he wanted to get up and when he did that, the nurses would hold him.

The witness said when the Brikamaba Health Centre realised they could not give the medical attention they needed (the witness and Ousman Sabally), they wrote a referral for them to be moved to Bansang Hospital. He said when they arrived, he was admitted and his wound was stitched but the bleeding did not stop. He said he was also releasing blood through his urine and the following day, an operation was performed on him to determine what was leading to the loss of blood but the bleeding still did not stop even after the operation. He said he was at the hospital for three days before he was informed that he would be moved to the Royal Victoria Hospital, RVH in Banjul, a place that was more advanced than Bansang.

Counsel asked the witness if he could tell them what happened to Ousman Sabally and he replied on the way coming from Brikamaba Health Centre to Bansang Hospital, he could tell that Ousman Sabally had died because he was not breathing, no part of his body was moving, the blood that was oozing from his body had stopped and his eyes were closed. He

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\[52\] This name of the hospital changed to Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital, RVTH and then again to Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital EFSTH in 2013 to the time of publication.
The witness continued to explain that he was receiving treatment for his medical condition from the 13th April up to the 22nd April 2000 when a file was brought for him to sign to go for an operation, which he signed. The Counsel asked him if there was any adult relative with him at the hospital and he replied that his older brother, Kitim Kanaji who was in his forties was there. He was asked if his brother was consulted prior to that operation and he replied yes, he was given the information but he (Musa) was asked to sign directly.

Musa Kanaji told the Commission that he was operated and when he regained consciousness, he came to realise that the bullet he was shot with had destroyed his left kidney.

His left kidney was closed and the right kidney was raised to carry out the functions of two kidneys. He said his condition improved however and after the major operation the blood coming through his urine stopped.

The witness was asked if he received any information about any specific soldier who played a role during that incident and he replied yes, he knew one amongst them, Sainey Nyabally, a student from Brikamaba Primary School whom he heard was shot and he died. He said he did not get any information about who shot Sainey Nyabally but given the situation at the time, he knew he was shot by the soldiers.

When asked if he had any additional information about the soldiers at Brikamaba, the witness responded that they had information that apart from the soldiers from Kudang, there were also some soldiers from Basse who came to reinforce those at Brikamaba and were beating and torturing people including his older brother Ansumana Kanaji who had carried him on his shoulder to Brikamaba Health Centre. He narrated that when he was at the hospital in Bansang, he did not see his brother but he heard the information that he too was at the hospital.

The witness said he also got information about two other school children (he could not remember their names): one was shot in the head and the other on his side but he did not see them. He said he did not know who shot them but he suspected it was the soldiers.

Moving on to his referral to the RVH in Banjul, the witness recalled that upon him arriving on the 13th April 2000 around 8 am, he found the upper ward filled and individuals whose condition was not that serious, had sponges laid on the ground to create space for them to be admitted. He said he was admitted and given a bed and medication.

His left kidney was closed and the right kidney was raised to carry out the functions of two kidneys. He said his condition improved however and after the major operation the blood coming through his urine stopped.

He went on to explain that while at the hospital, he would need blood transfusion and he could not afford to buy blood at times. He said he would go to the soldiers who used to donate to the hospital or relatives would come and donate blood but it was usually difficult because he was O+, which was not common. The continuous search to find people with his blood type became a difficult thing for them and he was also in a lot of pain from the gunshot, because the wound from the operation from Bansang Hospital had not healed and he still felt pain from the operation performed at RVH. He said his stomach was also paining him. He said he was experiencing all these three pains altogether.

The witness was asked if he received any information about any specific soldier who played a role during that incident and he replied that his brother, Ansumana Kanaji had told him that during the strike,
an individual called Wassa Camara was mentioned several times and that he was the one in charge of the detachment that came from Basse to reinforce.

Musa Kanaji said he was discharged from the RVH on 7th July 2000. Asked if he had any of his medical reports with him, he said he only had one photocopied document. He said that when they were about to discharge him, his brother was making attempts to photocopy the other but was not allowed. After he was discharged, he said they went back to the hospital to enquire about the documents and then were told the documents were nowhere to be found and up to date, they could not get access to any medical report that could give a record of his medical condition.

The witness was asked if he had the document with him, which he produced and shared with the Counsel upon her request. The Counsel confirmed that it was an X-ray report slip from the RVH Banjul dated the 7th June 2000 and it provides the witness’ name as well as his patient number. She further said it was signed by Doctor Roberto who was the consultant radiologist and it provides details about his x-ray including the information he gave regarding his kidney. The document was then accepted and entered into the record as exhibit 0076 as the witness’ only medical record from the incident of April 2000.

Responding to questions from the Commissioners, the witness added that since he completed his grade 12 to date, he has not secured any job and that he has the intention to further his studies but does not have the means to do so.

The witness read a statement to conclude his testimony and said that whether it was in The Gambia or outside of The Gambia, each time human beings come out to exercise their rights, people have to allow them to exercise their rights and they must also give them their rights. He said also they must have justice. At the time, injustice was meted out on to them. He said they should have their justice and give justice to whom justice was due but if something happens to someone, the one that did it easily forgets but to whom it has been done, for the rest of the individual’s life, he will not forget it. He said sometimes his kids, when he undresses and they see his wounds would ask him, “Father what is this?” but he would divert their attention to something else because he does not want them to know what happened to him at that early stage because these are children and whatever you tell them, they are recording it.

He further stated they could be anything in the future. He added that when you do anything to a child’s
He added that for the leadership of the country, when **injustice** is in the country, when people make demands for **justice** to be given; they should respond at an **early time** because otherwise it could create problems. He explained that the reason why the April events took place was because the government did not respond adequately to the demands of Gambia Students Union, GAMSU.

He said if that does not happen, the people who perpetrated those acts would continue doing the same things. He said that GAMSU acted this way because they felt that the people in uniform who were supposed to protect them maltreated them instead. He added that the people who were in uniform, should be those who are educated.

He continued on to say that if people know their rights and are educated, they would first think about the outcome before they act and would be able to assess whether the orders received are good or not but when someone is not educated, his mind does not give him this kind of wisdom.

He added that those that are in need of treatment, be provided treatment soonest adding that for 19 years, the government has not responded or follow up on their cases.

**Persons Mentioned By Witness During Testimony:**

**Beating and torture**

Wassa Camara
About ANEKED
Led by young African human rights activists, the African Network against Extrajudicial Killings and Enforced Disappearances (ANEKED) campaigns against forced disappearances and summary executions. ANEKED combines the power of technology, innovation, traditional media and legal expertise to make issues related to enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings much more visible, advocating for justice for victims and their families.

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About The Point Newspaper
The Point Newspaper is a major independent Gambian newspaper, co-founded by Deyda Hydara, a fierce advocate of press freedom and a fierce critic of the government of then President Yahya Jammeh, who was allegedly killed under the orders of Jammeh in 2004. The current co-publisher is his son, Baba Hydara.

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