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General Major Munyakazi Laurent Yitabye Gacaca ya Rugenge

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Kuri uyu wa gatandatu, tariki 7 Gicurasi, ni bwo General Major Laurent Munyakazi yitabye urukiko Gacaca rw'umurenge wa Rugenge. Yatangiye ubuhamya kuri sitade iri mu kigo cya gisirikare cya Kigali, imbere y'abaturage benshi b'umugi wa Kigali, n'abasirikaren b'ingabo bakuru hafi ya bose, barimo n'Umuyobozi mukuru w'ingabo, General James Kabarebe.



**General Major
Munyakazi Laurent
muri Gacaca ya
Rugenge - Photo: L. U**

Intandaro y'ihamagazwa rya General Major Munyakazi ni uko hari abatanze ubuhamya bamushinja ko yagiye aboneka ahantu hiciwe abantu, nko kuri St. Paul hiciwe abantu bazwi bagera ku 186 tariki ya 17 z'ukwa gatandatu muri 1994. Uwo munsu General Munyakazi, wari Lieutenant Colonel icyo gihe, ngo yahageze mu gitondo na nimugoroba nk'uko babimushinja.

Ibyo General Munyakazi yabihakanye yivuye inyuma. Yemera ko ubwo yatabazwaga yasabye Capitaine Ntirugiribambe gutabara abagandarume boherezweyo, bakaba ari bo bishe abantu. Avuga ko atari na we wari ushinzwe kuharinda. Ahubwo ngo yabikoze mu rwego rwo gutabara kuko mugenzi we waharindaga yari yagotewe Kacyiru.

General Munyakazi asobanura ko aho yari ashinzwe kurinda, harimo na Kiliziya ya Mutagatifu Mikayire, ngo nta muntu wahaguye. Yatanze n'urugero rw'abo yarokoye bari bagiye kwicwa kuri Mille Collines, barimo n'umuryango w'uwahoze ari minisitiri, Mulindangabo Ambroise. Ibyo ngo ni byo byatumye yimurira ibirindiro bye kuri Mille Collines kugira ngo arinde abantu.

N'ubwo General Munyakazi avuga ko hari abo yakijije, abamushinja bakomeje kumushinja bivuye inyuma. Uwitwa Hamidu Safari yavuze ko yamwiboneye n'amaso ye atanga grenade, ngo amaze kubaza ngo kuki nta mwanda wari uhari. Aha Safari yasobanuye ko ngo yashakaga kuvuga ngo kuki nta mirambo y'Abatutsi yari ihari.

Mu buhamya General Major Munyakazi yatanze yavuze yigarukiye ahanini ku mateka ya genocide, ntiyagira icyo atangaza k'uruhare we yaba yarayigizemo kuko mu buhamya bwe General Munyakazi yemeza ko nta cyaha cya genocide yakozwe.

Ku bijyanye n'amateka ya genocide General Munyakazi yavuze ko genocide yakozwe mu gihe cy'imyaka 35, kuva muri 1959. Ashinja ubutegetsu bwose bwashimburanye mu Rwanda kuva icyo gihe kugeza muri 1994, ubwo hicwaga miliyoni y'abantu.

General Munyakazi avuga ko genocide yateguwe kandi hagafatwa n'ingamba zo kuyishyira mu bikorwa, hakicwa abantu benshi mu gihe gito. Mu byo atangaza byafashweho ingamba harimo no gutoza urubyiruko rwa CDR n'urwa MRND - amashyamba aregwa kugira uruhare muri genocide yo muri 1994, MRND ikaba ari yo yari ku butegetsu - kuvanaho kirazira yo kwicira abantu mu nsengeru.

CASE NO. 19-18-2005
EXHIBIT NO. DNT 157A
DATE ADMITTED 19-18-2005
TENDERED BY D. S. F. G. M. S. J.
NAME OF WITNESS R. A. S. J.

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Ibyo ngo byakozwe nyuma y'ubushakashatsi bwasanze impamvu genocide yari yarakunze kunanirana mu bwicanyi bwari bwarabaye mbere, nko muri 1959, 1963 na 1973, ngo ari uko abantu bahungiraga muri za kiliziya, bakaharokokera.

Ubundi buryo bwagombaga gukoreshwa ngo ni ubwo gushyiraho bariyeri ahantu henshi mu rwego rwo kwica abantu benshi mu gihe gito. Hari kandi ngo no gukangurira Abahutu ko Abatutsi ari ibyitso by'Inkotanyi, ko bagombaga gufatwa nk'umwanzi, urutonde rwabo rugakorwa, hagashyirwaho n'amategeko y'Abahutu.

M'ukurangiza ubuhamya bwe, General Munyakazi yasabye Abanyarwanda imbabazi ngo kuko yakoreye Leta y'abicanyi. Yanashimiye FPR yamusubije mu gisirikare, ikanamugirira ikizere mu kazi.

Twababwira ko General Munyakazi ari umwe mu bagize komisiyo ikusanya amakuru k'uruhare ingabo z'Ubufaransa zagize mu gihe cya genocide, yagize n'uruhare runini m'ugutanga ubuhamya m'Urukiko Mpuzamahanga ku Rwanda rukorera Arusha muri Tanzania.



Voice of America Radio Report.

Major-General Laurent Munyakazi Appears before the Rugenge Gacaca.

By: Lucie Umukundwa
Kigali
10/05/2005

Today, Saturday 7 May, Major-General Munyakazi appeared before the Gacaca court of Rugenge secteur. He gave his testimony at the Kigali Military Barracks stadium, in the presence of many Kigali residents and nearly all senior army officers, who included the joint Chief of staff, Gen. James Kabarebe.

Major-General Munyakazi was summoned following allegations by some witnesses that he was seen at different scenes of massacre such as Saint Paul, where on 17 June 1994 at least 186 people are known to have been killed. On that date General Munyakazi, who was then a Lieutenant-Colonel, passed there in the morning and in the evening, according to witnesses' allegations.

General Munyakazi denied that categorically. He admits that when he was contacted for assistance he asked Captain Ntirugiribambe to send reinforcements to the gendarmes deployed there, who, as it turned out, later carried out the killings. He added that he was not responsible for the security of that area. He did it as a humanitarian act, after his colleague who was in charge of that area was held up under siege in Kacyiru.

General Munyakazi explained that the area under his control included Saint Michel church, where no one was killed. To illustrate the point further, he cited cases of people rescued at Mille Collines Hotel who included former Minister Ambroise Mulindangabo. It was that need for assistance that made him move his quarters to Mille Collines Hotel in order to protect people.

Although General Munyakazi says he rescued some people, there are witnesses who continue to testify emphatically against him. One Hamidu Safari said he saw him personally distributing grenades and heard him ask why there was no dirt around. Safari explained that this was an allusion to the absence of Tutsi dead bodies.

Major-General Munyakazi's testimony centered mainly on the history of genocide, without any mention of the role he may have had in it, for he claims never to have had a hand in any acts of genocide.

With regard to the history of genocide, General Munyakazi said that it had taken place over a 35-year period starting from 1959. He blamed this on the regimes that ruled from that year to 1994, when one million people were killed. General Munyakazi said that genocide had been planned and strategies had been devised to implement the plan, leading to the death of so many people in such a short time. The strategies he mentioned included the training of the youth wingers of CDR and MRND (the two parties accused

of having played a major part in genocide in 1994, the latter as the ruling party), teaching them that there was no taboo to massacre people in churches.

This followed some research findings pointing to the failure of genocide attempts in previous waves of massacres, such as those of 1959, 1967 and 1973, as a result of the fact that people fled to churches where they managed to survive.

Another strategy that was adopted was the setting up of road blocks in order to kill very many people in a short time. There was also the propaganda telling Hutus that Tutsis were accomplices of the Inkotanyi. Accordingly, the Tutsis had to be taken as enemies. Lists were drawn identifying people who were Tutsis. There was also the publication of the Ten Hutu Commandments .

While concluding his testimony, General Munyakazi apologized to the Rwandan people for having worked for a government of killers. He also thanked the RPF for having taken him back into the army and shown him trust at work.

We may recall here that General Munyakazi is a member of the Commission of inquiry on the role played by French troops during the genocide. He has also played a major role in providing evidence to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda based in Arusha, Tanzania.