

Witness Statement of [REDACTED]

**INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT  
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR**

**WITNESS STATEMENT**

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**WITNESS INFORMATION:**

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Last Name: [REDACTED]

Gender: Male

First Name: [REDACTED]

Father's Name: [REDACTED]

Other names used: [REDACTED]

Mother's Name: [REDACTED]

Place of Birth: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Marital Status: Not married

Children: None

Date of Birth/Age: nearly 18 years old

Place of Residence: [REDACTED] Uganda.

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Ethnic Origin/Tribe: Acholi

Religion: Catholic

Language(s) Spoken: Acholi

Language(s) Written: Acholi

Language(s) Used in Interview: Acholi and English

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Current Occupation: [REDACTED]

Former Occupations: N/A

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Place of Interview: [REDACTED] Gulu town, Gulu district, Uganda (1 July 2006);  
[REDACTED] Gulu Town, Gulu district, Uganda (2 July 2006)

Dates and Times of Interview:

1 July 2006 (5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

2 July 2006 (9.30 a.m. to 1.30pm)

Interviewers: [REDACTED] (1 July 2006), Christine Chung (1 July 2006), Dianne Luping  
(2 July 2006), Anneliek Hendriks (2 July 2006)

Interpreter: [REDACTED] (1 and 2 July 2006)

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Witness Statement of [REDACTED]

Names of all persons present during Interview: [REDACTED] Christine Chung, Dianne Luping, Anneliek Hendriks, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Signature(s):

[REDACTED] 2/07/2006  
[REDACTED] 2/7/2006  
Anneliek Hendriks 2/7/06 [Signature]



## WITNESS STATEMENT

### Procedure

1. On the first day of the interview, I was introduced to Christine Chung and [REDACTED] and told that Christine Chung is a trial lawyer and [REDACTED] is an investigator with the Office of the Prosecutor ("OTP") of the International Criminal Court ("ICC"). On the second day of the interview, I was re-introduced to Dianne Luping, also an investigator in that Office. I was introduced to Anneliek Hendriks and told that she is a lawyer in the same Office.
2. The investigators explained what the ICC is and described its mandate. They also explained the role and authority of the OTP within the ICC.
3. I was told that this interview is voluntary and that I may end the interview at any time. I confirm that I agreed to answer the investigators' questions of my own free will.
4. [REDACTED] my brother, was asked by my father to come to this interview with me. My father is ill and could not come himself. [REDACTED] uses the name [REDACTED] because at his school there is someone else named [REDACTED]. My brother, who is 20 years of age, gave his consent for me to participate in the present interview.
5. I was asked if I had concerns regarding my protection and security. The security measures which are available to me have been explained.
6. I was informed of the existence of the Victims' Participation and Reparation Unit and its function and told that individuals who qualify as victims, in the judgment of the judges, will be entitled to participate in future court proceedings and potentially to receive reparations.
7. I was told that at the conclusion of the interview, I would be asked to sign a written statement after having had the opportunity to review it and add any corrections or additional information.
8. When only one name is written in this statement, that name is the only name I know for that person unless I have indicated the other name previously in this statement.

### Abduction

9. I was abducted when I was walking from [REDACTED] where I live, to Gulu town. I was in P-5 at the time, and I was 14 years old. It was about 7:00 a.m. and I was going to buy a school uniform. While I was walking, I carried some dried cassava, which I was going to sell to get money for my school uniform.




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[REDACTED]

Witness Statement of [REDACTED]

10. The LRA rebels were abducting people at the road side. When I came, they had already some people. There were four soldiers in the group that arrested me, and all of them had guns.
11. The rebels told me to carry the same cassava that I had been walking with. The rebels and the group of abductees they had collected moved to the position where we were supposed to stay. There, on the day after my abduction, the leader of the group of four that had abducted me [REDACTED]. This leader was [REDACTED]
12. I remember the name of one of the other rebels who abducted me. His name is KENNETH. I know him only as KENNETH.
13. Also on the day after I was abducted, I was beaten. The rebels tell you that the method of recruitment is beating. I was told to lie down and they gave me 75 lashes. Everybody who was abducted with me was also given 75 lashes. ODHIAMBO was the one who ordered that.
14. This was not the only time I was beaten. There were other days, when they told you to get food, and when you came back without food, you were beaten.
15. The date which is listed in my Amnesty Commission application as the date of my abduction, [REDACTED] is correct. This information was provided when I remembered it better. I was in the bush for more than a year.
16. I was not happy when I was abducted. I intended right from the beginning to escape. The biggest obstacle to escaping was being taken to Sudan. Also, being [REDACTED], my situation was different from others because I was always close to the big man. By the big man, I mean [REDACTED]
17. Many people were abducted with me when I was abducted, and I saw a number killed when they tried to escape. I was chosen by an officer under ODHIAMBO, called KENNETH, to be one of five abductees to kill one of the abductees who had tried to escape. They caught him, then KENNETH ordered us to pick sticks and to beat the boy to death. I saw the boy, who was about 12 years old, was dead as his head was completely smashed. This happened somewhere between Paicho and Awach. I was selected after that to be [REDACTED]s [REDACTED], and saw killings like this happen again. Things of that nature happened many times in the bush. I remember a time we found a woman's dead body along the road and were ordered to jump over it.

### Sudan

18. I was in Uganda for about two months and travelled in Gulu district. I was near Koc Goma. Then I went to Sudan. At this time, I was still the [REDACTED]

  
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Witness Statement of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. As [REDACTED], my job was to carry his gun and prepare his sleeping place. I also rolled up his sleeping mat in the mornings.

19. After we arrived in Sudan, ODHIAMBO was chosen on stand-by to return to Uganda. I do not know why he returned to Uganda. The first time I met OTTI Vincent was at the border when we went to Sudan and OTTI was coming towards us into UGANDA. At this place on the border, on the Sudan side, is where OTTI and ODHIAMBO met, and both went back into Uganda from there. When ODHIAMBO met OTTI, they selected people to come back to Uganda. KONY came with OTTI but stayed in Sudan.
20. I continued into the Sudan. We moved to a place called Katire, where KONY was staying.
21. [REDACTED] was my commander in the Sudan. When we reached the Sudan, [REDACTED] was promoted in rank to Second Lieutenant, and I went to work for him. He took me and I was staying with him. I do not know his other names. He was an Acholi. He is from Patiko in Gulu district. He is still in the bush.
22. At Katire, we received training, but it was not formal training. This training included learning to march, to salute the commanders, and to assemble and disassemble a gun. When I was trained, I was trained for only some days. Some were only trained for a day.
23. At the time I was trained, there were many trainers and over a hundred other abductees being trained with me. The trainers told us that once you knew how to disassemble a gun you knew how to shoot it. I was given a Yugoz after I completed my training. I shot with this gun I was given by the LRA many times. When we were in Uganda fighting I cannot say if there were any civilians hit by bullets I fired. In Sudan, we were sent to attack civilians and I do not know if civilians were hit by bullets during the fighting.
24. There was no cultivating in Katire. We stayed there because there were many bananas. The main activity was to fight with the Dinkas to get some food. When you go to get food against the Dinka, the big people do not go, it is the new people who have to go. I went myself to these fights. There is also a boy, who comes from here at Tegot Atto, who was my friend. On one food raid, he was shot by the Dinka and died.
25. I was in Sudan for about six months. I proved to the commanders that I was a hard-working boy, and they selected me to go back to Uganda. It was KONY who selected the stand-by to return to Uganda. In the Sudan, you were considered hard-working if when you were sent on stand-by to fight you would do what would please them. For example, when in Sudan you were thought hard working if you went to fight the Dinkas and came back with guns. Hard working means to fight well.

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Witness Statement of [REDACTED]

**Movement back to Uganda**

26. The group moving back to Uganda was more than 200 people, including women and children. The fighters were supposed to transport and protect these women and children.
27. By the time I came back to Uganda, [REDACTED] was no longer my commander. I was no longer [REDACTED] because I had my own gun. There is a certain commander who was in charge of us when we moved back to Uganda, but I do not remember his name. He is out of the bush.
28. I used to know the names of all of the LRA groups, but that is a long time ago, and now I have forgotten them. The groups that I remember now are Trinkle, Stockree and Sinia. When I was first abducted, I was in Trinkle, and when I returned to Uganda, I returned to Trinkle. I do not know which group I was with when I was in the Sudan. There, it is difficult to tell because there were many fighters.
29. When we crossed the border into Uganda, that is when the group that returned from the Sudan was distributed to other groups. It was in this distribution that I returned to Trinkle. My commander was Captain OWINO, he is a Lango. He remained my commander until I returned from the bush.
30. We came back from the Sudan on the Palabek side. It was when we were returning to Uganda, when we were at Palabek, that we received the news that ODHAMBO had been transferred to Stockree.
31. Most of the time with OWINO, we were in Pader district. When I returned to Trinkle, I started working as a soldier.

**Operations in Uganda and Escape**

32. In Pader, there was no way to get food except by going to the camps. We went to a camp called Acholibur. We even came here to Lacekocot. Also, we went to Pajule. I went to Pajule twice and the second time I escaped.
33. After we left Sudan and entered Uganda, it was less than one week before we went to Acholibur to get food. About two weeks after that, we went to Lacekocot to get food. About one week later we went to Pajule for the first time to raid for food.
34. Between the two times I went to Pajule, there was quite some time as we were travelling to other places. It is difficult to estimate exactly how long it was. The biggest operation of the ones I have named was when we went the second time to Pajule. At Acholibur and Lacekocot there was not fighting like at the big operation at Pajule.



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[REDACTED]

Witness Statement of 

35. When I returned from Uganda, it was in my head that, if there is any chance to escape, I should go and escape. I thought I might get a chance if I was put at the OP position (an observer's position), a bit far from the others. If that happened, I planned to lay down my gun and leave the LRA.
36. The second time I went to Pajule, the objective was to go and get food. One group was selected to go and take food from the homes in the camp and to abduct the civilians there. A second group was selected to go and get things from the shops. Other people were selected to go and attack the barracks. I was selected to go and attack the barracks.
37. When we attacked the barracks, we were defeated. After we were defeated, we entered the camp. We entered the barracks at about 6:00 a.m. At about 7:00 a.m., the helicopter came, and that is when people started to run. I started to run and escape.
38. The helicopter could not shoot because there were very many people abducted.
39. I ran and hid near the camp until mid-day. I met a woman and a man who were digging, and I told them that I had run away from the rebels. I asked if I would be killed. They told me that they would not kill me and would take me to the LC. When I was approaching these people, I left my gun close to the anthill.
40. The LC took me to the barracks. At the barracks, I saw about 13 bodies of the LRA soldiers killed during the attack at Pajule. I identified one dead sergeant. After I viewed the bodies, they took me to Caritas. There, other LRA people were returning to the bush. Seventeen arrived and I was number 18. I do not know any of the other 17. I was the only one from Gulu.
41. After my return, I was first in Caritas in Pajule. Then I transferred to Caritas in Gulu.
42. The day when they took my picture for my application for amnesty, I met somebody from my home. I told him to tell people at my home that I had returned. That day, my father came and brought me home.
43. I had fear when I was reunited with my family. I thought that if I would get home, the rebels would come there and abduct me again. When my father came to collect me he told me that if you are fearful to go back home better to stay with your auntie in Gulu town, but I said I wanted to go home. My fear has now gone.

#### **More Information About The Big Pajule Fight**

44. A commander called BOGI chose me and the others who went on stand-by for the big fight at Pajule. BOGI was in Trinkle and I was moving with him when the big Pajule fight happened. We had met him at the side of Lake Aswa, not long before the attack at Pajule. It was when ODHIAMBO was transferred to Stockree that BOGI was brought to Trinkle. At Lake Aswa, BOGI was with a smaller group of people. His



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Witness Statement of [REDACTED]

group joined our larger group that had travelled from Sudan. We then moved around Aswa towards the Pajule-side.

45. BOGI was also the one who briefed us. He was the only one who really briefed us. All of us there, and all the fighters who went to Pajule camp, were from Trinkle. BOGI started by saying you are going to fight at Pajule. He said people were being divided into three different groups. He said the first group was going to collect food and abduct children; the second group would fight at the barracks; and the third group would loot things from the shops. He stated that and then people started moving. He said he was going to be the overall commander, of these three groups. We went with BOGI to the barracks.
46. The selection for stand-by and the briefing happened the morning of the day before the day of the fight. This was Independence Day. The fight happened on 10 October 2003, at dawn. It was at the briefing that we first learned that we were going to fight at Pajule camp.
47. KONY was in Sudan at the time. I believe that OTTI was in Uganda, in the Kilak hills. I never saw OTTI at Pajule and I think that he was in the Kilak hills because some people were sent from him to Kilak hills when I was in Sudan. I did not see him when he was in Kilak, I only heard about it. I had met OTTI in Sudan, when we were moving with ODHIAMBO in Sudan; just after I had been abducted from Uganda and had gone to Sudan and we had been given our guns.
48. The distance between the place where the selection of the standby happened and Pajule camp was far. It was around the distance from here in Gulu town to my home in [REDACTED]
49. After the selection, we walked during the day until the sun was starting to set. We stopped at a place, which was a short distance from Pajule camp, even less than the distance between the house I was interviewed in on the first day and GUSCO. We could hear noise from the camp, because it was Independence Day and people were making noise. I do not know if there were people from other groups or the exact number of people because we were selected at night. However, I believe there were more than 200 people selected for stand-by for all three groups sent to attack Pajule.
50. We did not meet any other group on the walk or after we stopped. We spent the night at this place near the camp. When we positioned ourselves that night, I was together with BOGI in the same place. I would not always be with him as we moved, but that night I saw him sleeping at the same place as me. He was the one who selected the people for stand-by and distributed the people in the different groups. They selected the number of people but did not divide them in groups immediately. I think there were more than 300 people with us when we travelled to the place where people were selected. BOGI selected people with guns. There were some people without guns who were selected later to help collect food. I did not get to learn if there were any other commanders around.





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51. OWINO did not go to the big fight at Pajule. When you go for a fight, some people stay behind with the women and children; the larger group located at a distance from the place you attack. This was the same when we raided Acholibur, Lacekocot and Pajule the first time for food. In those other places not many went and a smaller group was selected as you do not want soldiers to follow you. Many people travelled with us from Sudan, including mothers and children. During the big fight at Pajule, OWINO stayed at the place where BOGI had selected people and addressed us; with the women and children. We went back to where he and the others were after the attack.
52. At Acholibur and Lacekocot, OWINO gave the orders but did not go to collect food because he is a big person. When we raided Pajule the first time for food, different commanders more junior to Bogi staying nearby were selected to send soldiers to help. OWINO stayed with BOGI.
53. When the attack began, we went to the barracks together with BOGI. There were many sergeants in this group as well, but I cannot remember their names.
54. At the time of the Pajule fight, the superior to whom BOGI reported was Captain OWINO. During the fight I was not near BOGI so I did not see if he had a means of communicating. I know that OWINO had a walkie talkie.
55. The group who went to the camp and abducted people was commanded by Sergeant OKOT. He was the one who got shot; I identified his body later in the barracks. I do not know the commander of the group who went to the shops. OKOT was from Trinkle.
56. I do not know if any other group joined us during the fight. When you ask me if "Control Altar" means anything to me, I can say that I have heard the name Control Altar, but I do not know what it means.
57. ODHIAMBO was not there during this fight or when they were selecting people during the day.
58. I know LUKWIYA Raska. I met him once when we were just passing one another. That was before this fight in Pajule. He was not there during the fight.
59. I have heard ODOMI's name, but I never saw him. I do not know him, and so I cannot say whether he was at this fight at Pajule or not.
60. I can describe the fighting in which I participated. The group which went to the barracks started first and the other groups came behind. When we started shooting, it was 6 am. The people behind us started shouting and ran to the camp.




Witness Statement of [REDACTED]

61. At the barracks, the army men were very powerful, so BOGI told us to run away. We got defeated at the barracks and had already moved into the camp to take things when the helicopter came.
62. I saw LRA being injured during the fight at the barracks. Many people were injured and I even saw them being carried away. I did not know their names.
63. I have heard of Francis OCAYA Ladiro. I do not know his rank, but he was also in Trinkle. We did not go together on any operations. Trinkle was in different groups. I did not see him at the attack on Pajule or at the meeting where people were selected for the attack on Pajule. I was shown a photograph of a man by the investigators and confirmed that the person in that photograph was OCAYA Ladiro that I had known in Trinkle.
64. I have heard of ONGWEN Dominic, but have not met him. I do not know him by any other name.

Willingness to Testify

65. I was informed that I might be called to testify before the Court and that, if called as a witness, my identity may have to be disclosed to the Court, the accused, and to defence counsel of the accused. I am currently willing to appear as a witness in Court, if called to testify.

Closing Procedure

66. I have nothing to add to the above statement nor do I have anything to clarify.
67. I have given the answers to the questions of my own free will.
68. There has been no threat, promise or inducement which has influenced my answers.
69. I have no complaints about the way I was treated during this interview.
70. I was informed of the procedures available to the Court of ensuring the protection of confidential information provided to the Court, as well as for my own protection and security.
71. It has been explained to me that if a case commences, and a nation asks the Court for a copy of my witness statement, the Court may decide to transmit my statement to the requesting nation. I was informed that protective measures may be available in such an event. I agree that my statement may be transmitted to law enforcement authorities of nations who might request it, including the Government of Uganda.

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**WITNESS ACKNOWLEDGMENT**



*AKH*



*DL*



Witness Statement of [REDACTED]

1. This Statement has been read over to me in the English and Acholi languages and is true to the best of my knowledge and recollection. I have given this Statement voluntarily and I am aware that it may be used in legal proceedings before the International Criminal Court and that I may be called to give evidence in public before the International Criminal Court.

Signed: [REDACTED]

Dated: 02/07/2006

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### INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION

1. I, [REDACTED] certify that:
2. I am duly qualified to interpret from the Acholi language into the English language and from the English language into the Acholi language.
3. I have been informed by [REDACTED] that he speaks and understands the Acholi language.
4. I have orally translated the above statement from the English language to the Acholi language in the presence of [REDACTED] who appeared to have heard and understood my translation of this Statement.
5. [REDACTED] has acknowledged that the facts and matters set out in his Statement, as translated by me, are true to the best of his knowledge and recollection and has accordingly signed his signature where indicated.

Signed: [REDACTED]

Dated: 2/7/06



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