- 1 International Criminal Court
- 2 Trial Chamber V
- 3 Situation: Central African Republic II
- 4 In the case of The Prosecutor v. Alfred Rombhot Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard
- 5 Ngaïssona ICC-01/14-01/18
- 6 Presiding Judge Bertram Schmitt, Judge Péter Kovács and
- 7 Judge Chang-ho Chung
- 8 Trial Hearing Courtroom 1
- 9 Friday, 19 March 2021
- 10 (The hearing starts in open session at 9.31 a.m.)
- 11 THE COURT USHER: [9:31:24] All rise.
- 12 The International Criminal Court is now in session.
- 13 Please be seated.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:31:50] Good morning, everyone.
- 15 Could the court officer please call the case.
- 16 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:31:56] Good morning, Mr President, your Honours.
- 17 The situation in the Central African Republic II, in the case of The Prosecutor versus
- Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona, case reference ICC-01/14-01/18.
- 19 And for the record, we are in open session.
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:32:13] Yes.
- 21 And I ask for the appearances of the parties. The Prosecution first, please.
- 22 MR LEDDY: [9:32:19] Good morning, your Honour. I'm Nicholas Leddy, I'm a trial
- 23 lawyer with the Office of the Prosecutor. Today with me is Kweku Vanderpuye and
- 24 Irina Galupa.
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:32:28] Thank you.

- 1 And the Legal Representatives of the Victims, please.
- 2 MS DOUZIMA LAWSON: [9:32:33] (Interpretation) Mr President, your Honours,
- 3 I am Marie-Edith Douzima Lawson, one of the Legal Representatives of Victims of the
- 4 other crimes. Thank you.
- 5 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:32:50] Thank you.
- 6 And the second team, please.
- 7 MR SUPRUN: [9:32:51] Good morning, Mr President. Good morning
- 8 your Honours. Appearing today on behalf of the former child soldiers
- 9 Nadia Galinier, associate legal officer, and myself Dmytro Suprun, counsel at the
- 10 Office of Public Counsel for Victims. Thank you.
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:33:04] Thank you.
- 12 And we turn to the Defence, Ms Dimitri.
- 13 MS DIMITRI: [9:33:09] Good morning, Mr President, your Honours. This morning
- 14 Mr Yekatom is represented by our associate counsel, Mr Thomas Hannis; our
- 15 electronic evidence specialist, Mr Jason Antley; and myself Mylène Dimitri, lead
- 16 counsel.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:33:22] Welcome, Mr Antley, to the courtroom.
- 18 And Mr Knoops.
- 19 MR KNOOPS: [9:33:28] Good morning. The Defence of Mr Patrice Ngaïssona is
- 20 today represented by associate counsel, Ms Marie-Hélène Proulx and case manager,
- 21 Barbara Szmatula. Thank you.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:33:41] Thank you very much.
- 23 Before we invite the witness to take the stand, the Chamber will address a procedural
- 24 matter regarding the scheduling of the witnesses.
- 25 The Chamber notes that there have been exchange of several emails regarding

- the scheduling of the remaining witnesses for the first evidentiary block and we've
- 2 come now to the following, let's say, conclusion in a sense that we at least give it a try
- 3 like that. So we will have today P-2193 and then we will have on 23 and 24 March,
- 4 as envisioned, P-2926, and on 24, 25 March, P-0287.
- 5 And let's say the problem that arose was about P-1847 and if we had added all
- 6 the time that the parties and participants said that they would need for examination,
- 7 we would have come to 15 hours. And the Registry has told us they can serve one or
- 8 two hours more, so we will be at 13.5 or 14 hours. And I simply suggest -- not
- 9 suggest, I have talked with the Chamber, we simply try it and we will do it. I'm
- 10 absolutely optimistic with that.
- 11 Just a second, Mr Vanderpuye.
- 12 And because my experience tells me that there are always ways that you can
- accommodate that, we are talking about one hour.
- 14 The alternative would be very bad, with regard to the expeditiousness and
- 15 effectiveness of the proceedings, because I understand that the Prosecution, and that's
- 16 perfectly clear, it's extremely difficult for the Prosecution to bring, under
- 17 the circumstances, pandemic and also the circumstances in the country, to bring
- 18 witnesses here and I fully understand that. So it would be really a pity, and we
- should avoid, not at all costs but as far as possible, that we simply miss two or three
- 20 days and miss this witness in this first block.
- 21 Mr Vanderpuye, you wanted to speak.
- 22 MR VANDERPUYE: [9:35:54] Thank you, Mr President. I know that the Chamber
- 23 is concerned about the scheduling of the witnesses and you are right, we are
- 24 very -- we are very concerned about the scheduling of the witnesses. But I think
- 25 there may be some information that -- I don't know, maybe it was an error in

1 the transcript, there may be some information that the Chamber might not be aware

- 2 of and that is with respect to Witness 2926. The scheduling of that witness was
- 3 supposed to proceed pursuant to an audio-visual link beginning on the 23rd of the
- 4 month. However, there had been some difficulties with respect to the cooperation
- 5 that is required to do that, interstate cooperation, and as a result of that, his testimony
- 6 cannot begin before the 24th.
- 7 And as a result of that, the scheduling of the subsequent witnesses is pushed back and
- 8 we have lost essentially a day in there and that's the problem that we have now in
- 9 terms of filling the -- in terms of the remaining amount of time versus the remaining
- amount of -- versus the available time.
- And if you subtract from your calculation of about 14 hours a day, it leaves us about
- 12 a day short. And if you work into that the amount of time that the Registry has also
- 13 agreed to provide, the additional time, it's another two hours or so in all, then we're
- still about a couple of hours short of what we might otherwise need in order to
- guarantee that the witnesses who are presently here, pending their testimony, will
- 16 conclude their testimony.
- 17 So we're still -- I'm still talking to VWS and the Registry to see whether that's feasible,
- but that is the crux of the problem at this point is that if -- in fact, not if, but because
- 19 2926 cannot begin before the 24th, unless there is more room at the back end of the
- 20 block or in between to accommodate that day, we will be -- we will be in trouble.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:38:25] First of all, you are right, I misspoke. So
- 22 my information -- I have the information, I simply misspoke, it's 2926 starts on the
- 23 24th, of course, and the 25th, that is clear, we are going forward with that. P-287
- 24 then, 25th and 26th.
- 25 And then we have of course the crucial witness, so to speak, in that regard with

- 1 regard to the scheduling, 1847, and, yeah, you know, it's said -- the Latin says
- 2 iudex non calculat, but yet even I am able to add this up. So we are coming to
- 3 15 hours and we have currently 13.5 or 14 hours and this is -- and this we should
- 4 simply try and I would like to stick to that. We should simply -- and also perhaps
- 5 we should take into account what the -- how the evidence of the first witness
- 6 unfolded. Of course it was a different witness than Witness 1847 might be, yet it was
- 7 much shorter than envisioned.
- 8 So, as I said, my experience shows me this is -- and this is the charm of trial
- 9 proceedings, that hearings cannot be predicted, neither with regard to content nor
- 10 with regard to the time.
- 11 So, yeah, of course, Mr Vanderpuye, I know the problem and again I reiterate,
- 12 the Chamber is aware that especially Prosecution, because it's your turn at the
- moment, is in a difficult situation. We take that into regard of course.
- 14 MR VANDERPUYE: [9:40:04] The only thing I wanted to add was that I understand
- 15 from I think it was the Yekatom Defence that they have, with respect to 287, an
- additional hour that they would like to examine the witness on, and with respect to
- 17 2926, an additional half hour that they would like to examine the witness on, which of
- 18 course means that your calculation is exact and the concern there is if it's not, we may
- 19 end up with a witness who has travelled here having to return or go back incomplete.
- 20 But I just wanted to bring that to your attention because I wasn't sure if you were
- 21 aware of that particular fact.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:40:46] So I also heard that on 25 and 26 March
- 23 the Registry can also facilitate additional hour, so this would cover that. And of
- 24 course it's like always in life, you're never certain. You have to -- the Chamber is
- 25 now in a situation to have to weigh all the information and it's -- if it goes as we -- as I

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1 have told you, there are 14 hours against 15 hours envisioned and the alternative is

- 2 simply to say, okay, we skipped three full days. That's the alternative at the moment.
- 3 And we have talked about that, the Chamber, and we think we can accommodate that.
- 4 There must -- actually, I say now that there must be a way.
- 5 Okay, thank you very much for that. And also I would like to add on that that
- 6 the Chamber would very much appreciate it if such scheduling matters, first
- 7 the participants really try everything to solve these amongst themselves. It's not
- 8 that -- because you know much better than the Chamber all the details with regard
- 9 your working methods, your people that are in the courtroom, your people you have
- 10 conflicting dates that they have to accommodate. So really to everyone here in
- 11 the courtroom, try to explore avenues without the Chamber's -- before addressing
- 12 the Chamber.
- 13 So on that we can finish now the procedural matters and I would ask the witness to
- 14 be brought in.
- 15 (The witness enters the courtroom)
- 16 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:43:25] Good morning, Mr Bromley. Can you
- 17 hear and understand me well?
- 18 WITNESS: CAR-OTP-P-2193
- 19 (The witness speaks English)
- 20 THE WITNESS: [9:43:31] Yes, I can, thank you.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:43:32] I would like to welcome you in
- 22 the courtroom on behalf of the Chamber. You are called to testify to assist
- 23 this Chamber in the case against Mr Yekatom and Mr Ngaïssona. There should be
- 24 a card in front of you with the solemn undertaking to tell the truth. Could you
- 25 please read out loud the content of this card.

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1 THE WITNESS: [9:43:51] I solemnly declare that I will speak the truth, the whole

- 2 truth and nothing but the truth.
- 3 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:43:56] Thank you very much. You are now
- 4 under oath. You have already been informed by representatives of the Prosecution
- 5 and the Victims and Witnesses Unit about the importance to speak the truth, I don't
- 6 have to reiterate that. But I just wanted to tell you that, as you of course are also
- 7 aware of, that it is an offence within the jurisdiction of the Court to give false
- 8 testimony.
- 9 I would also like to note a few practical matters regarding your testimony. You are
- also aware that everything we say here in the courtroom is written down and
- interpreted in various languages, it is therefore important to speak clearly into
- 12 the microphone and at a slow pace. And please start only answering after perhaps
- one or two seconds when the question has finished.
- 14 We can start then with your testimony. You will be questioned by the lawyers from
- 15 the Prosecution, the Defence and the victims representatives, and perhaps
- 16 the Chamber too.
- 17 I give you the floor. Perhaps -- I give you the floor, but you know of course you
- have to establish the preconditions for Rule 68(3).
- 19 MR LEDDY: [9:45:00] Yes, thank you, Mr President. Thank you, your Honours.
- 20 QUESTIONED BY MR LEDDY:
- 21 Q. [9:45:05] Good morning, Mr Witness.
- 22 A. [9:45:07] Good morning.
- 23 Q. [9:45:07] My name is Nick Leddy and I'm a trial lawyer with the Office of the
- 24 Prosecutor. I'm going to remind you to please talk slowly today for the interpreters
- and if you have any questions or if anything is unclear, please let us know.

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- 1 Also, if you need a break at any time today, please let us know.
- 2 I'd ask you to please state your name and date of birth for the record.
- 3 A. [9:45:30] My name is Lars Bromley, born December 23, 1974.
- 4 Q. [9:45:38] And, Mr Bromley, you made a report for the Office of the Prosecutor
- 5 dated 28 October 2020; is that right?
- 6 A. [9:45:50] Correct.
- 7 Q. [9:45:50] And did you, with the help of the Victims and Witness Unit, recently
- 8 review this report, it's two annexes and associated material, including satellite
- 9 images?
- 10 A. [9:46:05] Yes.
- 11 Q. [9:46:05] And do you have any objections to its admission into evidence of these
- materials that I just mentioned?
- 13 A. [9:46:13] No.
- 14 MR LEDDY: [9:46:15] So for the record, your Honour, it appears the conditions to
- 15 Rule 68(3) are met.
- 16 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:46:20] I also see it this way and there is no
- objections on the Defence side so we can continue. Please proceed.
- 18 MR LEDDY:
- 19 Q. [9:46:28] And I understand, Mr Bromley, you may have a correction or
- 20 clarification that you'd like to make from your report; is that right?
- 21 A. [9:46:41] Yes.
- 22 Q. [9:46:43] Can you please provide us with that correction.
- 23 A. [9:46:47] There are probably a few. And the conditions for preparing this
- 24 report were not ideal, due to the pandemic and other factors.
- 25 Most immediately I communicated to you yesterday, or last evening that in

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- 1 the location of the coordinates for the Boeing mosque there is possibly a structure
- 2 which has been destroyed directly adjacent to the coordinates of the Boeing mosque.
- 3 Secondly, a structure relatively close to the Boeing mosque GPS coordinates was
- 4 certainly destroyed by 28 or 30 December, which is visible in figure 1, inset 1, but
- 5 the little arrow to point it out is not visible. I believe that was due to a technical
- 6 problem.
- 7 Finally, in annex 2, one of the images should have been identified as from
- 8 Google Earth, but I indicated it was one that we had purchased.
- 9 Q. [9:48:19] Thank you, Mr Bromley. And we'll get into more detail about those
- 10 corrections later in your testimony.
- 11 MR LEDDY: [9:48:25] And for the record, before we begin, your Honour, I'd like to
- state for the record that the Yekatom Defence has agreed to jointly engage this witness
- as an expert and for this I refer to filing ICC-01/14-01/18-719 confidential, paragraph 6.
- 14 And given that there is no objection to this witness being qualified as an expert, we
- would respectively seek the Chamber's confirmation that this witness is in fact
- qualified as an expert in the field of geospatial remote sensing and satellite imagery
- 17 and analysis.
- 18 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:49:05] That's fine. Please proceed.
- 19 MR LEDDY: [9:49:07] Thank you, your Honour.
- 20 Q. [9:49:09] So, Mr Witness, since the Chamber has already authorised you
- 21 testifying as an expert and your CV has been submitted in evidence at tab 4 of the list
- of materials at CAR-OTP-2130-0304, I'll just ask you a few questions about your
- 23 professional background.
- 24 Please state for the record your current job.
- 25 A. [9:49:36] My current job title is Specialist with the United Nations Institute for

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- 1 Training and Research Operational Satellite Applications Programme.
- 2 Q. [9:49:51] And can you please briefly describe your duties and responsibilities in
- 3 that role?
- 4 A. [9:49:56] Certainly. I lead a team of about eight colleagues doing satellite
- 5 imagery analysis in support of UN operations, human rights investigations, security
- 6 analyses. All day every day we work in support of United Nations' colleagues in
- 7 their various operations on request under different mandates and mechanisms
- 8 acquiring and analysing usually commercial, high resolution satellite imagery to
- 9 provide information to our colleagues on issues of interest.
- 10 Q. [9:50:44] How long have you been in that role?
- 11 A. [9:50:47] I've been with UNOSAT for about 11 years now and prior to that I did
- similar work for several years and have over 20 years' experience at this point with
- 13 satellite imagery and geospatial technologies.
- 14 Q. [9:51:09] Now, Mr Bromley, you prepared a report dated 20 October 2020 and
- that was analysing satellite imagery in the Central African Republic from late 2013
- through mid-2015; is that correct?
- 17 A. [9:51:30] Correct.
- 18 Q. [9:51:31] So I'd like to direct your attention to the first paragraph of the report,
- 19 tab 5 of CAR-OTP-2127-6617 at page 6618. You referred to the letter of instruction
- 20 from the Office of the Prosecutor from August 2018 and amended -- as well as an
- 21 amended letter of instruction from March 2020 and a third letter from the Office of the
- 22 Prosecutor in June 2020. Do you recall receiving those letters?
- 23 A. [9:52:05] Yes.
- Q. [9:52:07] And which of these letters guided your analysis in drafting the report?
- 25 A. [9:52:15] I think all of them, with each letter causing me to focus on more

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1 specific issues as we went along and providing additional information such as

- 2 corrected coordinates.
- 3 Q. [9:52:35] Since your report and annexes have already been submitted as
- 4 evidence under Rule 68(3), I will not ask you to repeat your methodology or all of
- 5 your findings. Instead, I will ask some follow-up questions to expand upon your
- 6 report and clarify certain aspects. I'll then ask you to conduct a brief technical
- demonstration, for which I understand we have the Chamber's permission, and that
- 8 will be a demonstration using your laptop.
- 9 Do you have any objection to me asking about a few technical terms first? The first I
- would like to ask you is about remote sensing. Can you define that for us, please?
- 11 A. [9:53:16] Yes. So remote sensing is a broad field dealing with using sensors
- and instruments to gather data on something from some distance. In my field it's
- interpreted as using satellites which are in orbit around the planet and acquiring
- imagery, satellite imagery, which we then use to conduct specific analyses on
- 15 different issues.
- 16 For this body what I'm using are a specific set of satellite images and we're reviewing
- 17 them visually to identify features of interest according to what you have asked us.
- 18 In other situations we might be using more computational algorithmic methods to, for
- 19 example, map vegetation or floodwaters or issues like that.
- 20 Q. [9:54:27] And could you also give us a definition, brief definition of geospatial
- 21 analysis; what is that?
- 22 A. [9:54:38] Geospatial is just a term used to identify data that has a geographic
- 23 component. So latitude and longitude, for example, the mailing address of any
- 24 home or office is also geographic data, but it is essentially data that is assigned to
- a specific location on the surface of the earth.

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1 Q. [9:55:08] What is orthorectification? And if you could please explain the role it

- 2 played in your analysis.
- 3 A. [9:55:21] Orthorectification refers to a very complex area or field which used to
- 4 be much more difficult but is now simpler based on the software available.
- 5 The satellites are moving at very high speed in orbit, they are often looking down at
- 6 the surface of the earth but at different angles. The surface of the earth itself will
- 7 have different slopes and terrain and so correcting out the distortion that those factors
- 8 introduce into the image is orthorectification. Without orthorectification, if I look at
- 9 two satellite images, they may be offset from each other by, you know, 10, 20 metres
- 10 or less. With orthorectification they become much more aligned and easier to
- 11 analyse.
- 12 Q. [9:56:35] I would like to direct your attention now to annex 2 of your report,
- located at tab 7 under CAR-OTP-2127-6634.
- 14 I'd ask the court officer to please show this document on evidence 1 and I confirm it
- 15 can be shown publicly.
- 16 Mr Witness, we'll just ask for your patience for a second while we set that up.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: I think it should be there.
- 18 MR LEDDY: [9:57:51] Is it? Okay.
- 19 Q. [9:57:50] Can you see it on your screen, Mr Bromley?
- 20 A. [9:57:55] I see the cover page for annex 2.
- 21 Q. [9:58:00] Okay, great. So if you proceed through the annex to the subsequent
- 22 pages, can start at page 1 and go to page 2, I'd ask you to please explain the columns
- 23 that we see in this annex and their significance.
- 24 A. [9:58:15] So the annex provides information on all the possible satellite images
- 25 that were available for the locations I was provided.

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- 1 Column 1 says "Image Date" and that is the date of the image acquisition.
- 2 Column 2 is the specific satellite. There are multiple satellites in use. This
- 3 particular page shows satellites with names like WorldView-2 and GeoEye-1.
- 4 The third column is the image ID and so this is the specific alphanumeric code that
- 5 identifies the specific image in question. So, for example, when I purchase
- 6 the imagery from the vender, I use that code to make sure we are getting the specific
- 7 image that we want.
- 8 The third column is the per cent of clouds visible on the image. These satellite
- 9 images are all optical satellite images, the same thing that you would see if you were
- 10 flying over in a plane and looking out the window, and therefore clouds are
- the biggest problem with imagery like this because if an area is completely cloud
- 12 covered, you're not seeing the ground at all.
- 13 The final column is the off-nadir angle. I mentioned earlier that a satellite can
- 14 acquire an image at an angle. The best possible satellite image is when it's looking
- 15 straight down and it would have an off-nadir angle of zero. You almost never see
- 16 images with an off-nadir angle of zero. The higher the off-nadir angle the poorer
- 17 quality the image will have in terms of what you can visibly see in it and also
- 18 the greater distortion you might experience even with orthorectification.
- 19 Q. [10:00:40] Can you explain the difference between the yellow and blue
- 20 highlights, please.
- 21 A. [10:00:48] The yellow highlighting indicated imagery which we were able to
- 22 purchase with relatively limited budget for this particular analysis.
- 23 The blue highlighting is imagery that I looked at using something called
- 24 Google Earth Pro, which is freely available software from the Google corporation
- 25 which has a large amount of satellite imagery already loaded into it.

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- 1 For this particular project, if I felt it was necessary, I did refer to the Google Earth
- 2 imagery just to give me an additional look at the location because in several cases we
- 3 could not afford to purchase that image.
- 4 Q. [10:01:35] You mentioned earlier this morning about wanting to make
- 5 a correction for one of these highlights. Can you indicate which one that was?
- 6 A. [10:01:46] Can you scroll or go to the next page?
- 7 The next page.
- 8 I believe it was the one there for Bossangoa. The top one should have been
- 9 identified as from Google Earth. But I confess I'm suddenly drawing a blank on
- 10 whether that's accurate.
- 11 Q. [10:02:41] We can come back to that.
- 12 So after receiving the letters of instruction from the Office of the Prosecutor, how did
- 13 you identify where to obtain the relevant images from?
- 14 A. [10:03:05] For this particular time period there weren't very many satellites in
- operation. We generally search a public -- or a commercial publicly available library
- 16 repository of images to determine what images are available for a specific location on
- 17 specific days.
- 18 So I referenced that commercial catalogue and then, based on the funds available and
- 19 further discussions with the Office of the Prosecutor, we determined which images
- 20 we could actually purchase, which were the best ones to answer the question for
- 21 a particular location.
- 22 In general, if the incident in question happened say on December 15, your best image
- pair to analyse that would be acquired on the 14th and the 16th, right before and right
- 24 after, and then the analyst, myself, is just comparing those two images.
- 25 In reality, in an area like Central African Republic, the image collections are much

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1 more infrequent and so it might be a month before or a month after are the best

- 2 images that you have available to purchase.
- 3 And then factors like cloud cover and the off-nadir angle would also influence
- 4 the purchasing decision.
- 5 Q. [10:04:44] And can you explain what resolution you looked for in the images
- 6 that you found?
- 7 A. [10:04:50] The best resolution possible. Again, taking into account the clouds,
- 8 the off-nadir angle and the date. The off-nadir angle will reduce the resolution in
- 9 practice, but in general, 50 centimetres was probably the average resolution of all
- 10 the imagery used, sometimes slightly better, oftentimes a bit worse. The QuickBird
- satellite that you see listed is one of the oldest ones, it's no longer in operation, but I
- think in 2013 it was acquiring imagery at 70-centimetre resolution.
- 13 Q. [10:05:41] In your report you often mention obtaining more than one image for
- 14 the same location. Can you explain why that is?
- 15 A. [10:05:49] Again, ideally you want one image before and one image after so that
- 16 you have the two images to compare. In some areas, if, for example, it was
- 17 a QuickBird image or the off-nadir angle was high, I may have purchased an
- additional image just to provide a little bit better look at that location.
- 19 Q. [10:06:19] And on page 3 of your report, this is tab 5 at CAR-OTP-2127-6617 at
- 20 page 6619, you mention the decision not to purchase some imagery from a few sites.
- 21 I believe you said it seemed unlikely to be useful. Can you explain that decision for
- the record, please.
- 23 A. [10:06:47] Again, our budget on this project was limited. In a perfect world I
- 24 certainly would have purchased every single image possible, but that simply was
- 25 not -- not possible in this particular analyses. Some of the issues I was asked about

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- 1 were things like: Was a crowd gathered at a particular location at a particular time?
- 2 And therefore if the image was acquired a week after, or something, yes, I don't think
- 3 there would be any chance that the crowd would still be there. So, therefore, in
- 4 those specific situations we -- I chose not to purchase the image.
- 5 Q. [10:07:39] Your report mentions the providers DigitalGlobe, Airbus Defence and
- 6 Space corporation, and Google Earth Pro. Have you obtained images from these
- 7 providers in the past for other analyses?
- 8 A. [10:07:56] All the time. Just one note, the imagery visible on Google Earth Pro
- 9 also comes from DigitalGlobe and Airbus and a few other sources. So
- 10 Google Earth Pro is not the imagery source, but it is the imagery provider.
- 11 Q. [10:08:24] And in the past, have you ever had problems with the accuracy or
- reliability from the images that you've obtained from these providers?
- 13 A. [10:08:34] No, I mean, you always want better resolution, you always want
- 14 cloud-free imagery, but you do the best you can with what's available. When you're
- 15 getting imagery from Google Earth Pro you have somewhat less ability to alter
- 16 the contrast and the stretch of the image to, for example, you know, get a better look
- 17 at a specific location. An image from Google Earth Pro is kind of a one size fits all
- 18 image. What you see is what you get. There is very little ability to improve
- 19 the visibility of certain features. Whereas imagery that we purchase from the vender,
- 20 you can adjust the contrast and the stretch to see some details a little bit more clearly.
- 21 But that is all perfectly common in the image analysis world.
- 22 Q. [10:09:37] And can you explain the different file types that these providers have
- and the ones that you gave to us as well, thanks.
- 24 A. [10:09:49] Certainly. And in hindsight, I'm realising I should have documented
- 25 that a little bit better. What I provided to the Court was most often the entire

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1 package of files that were delivered to us by the vender. That entire package of files

- 2 includes the satellite image, which is called a TIFF file or a GeoTIFF file. And in
- 3 addition, there are multiple other files included in what the vender delivers to us,
- 4 everything from perhaps the bill of sale or the licensing conditions and then other
- 5 geospatial data that describes where the image is on the surface of the earth, and
- 6 finally, a low resolution JPEG image, which is what we call the browse image, and
- 7 that is just a very small lightweight file that allows us to see quickly if, for example,
- 8 there are clouds in the image.
- 9 The full TIFF file is often several hundred megabytes so -- and we often deal with
- imagery up to 20 or 30 gigabytes, so these can be very large files. And so if you just
- 11 need a lightweight file that you can email as an attachment to show someone that
- there are no clouds, you would use the browse image, the JPEG image.
- But, yes, what I delivered to you included the TIFF file as well as all that other
- additional data which just comes along with it for -- for the record.
- 15 The imagery that I got from Google Earth Pro would have only included a JPEG
- which was taken from Google Earth Pro.
- 17 Q. [10:11:44] Can you explain what a KMZ file is?
- 18 A. [10:11:52] A KMZ file is the file format for Google Earth Pro. There's also
- 19 a Google Earth. And so it stands -- so there is a KML file which stands for Keyhole
- 20 Markup Language, which is just another file -- another geospatial data file format.
- 21 The KML file is then often compressed into a zip file and that's what we call the KMZ
- 22 file.
- 23 Q. And were the electronic files that you obtained in this case stored in a secure
- 24 manner?
- 25 A. [10:12:36] Yes. We are fortunate to be based at the Cern research facility

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- outside Geneva, Switzerland, with endless computing capabilities and extremely high
- 2 security and that is where the imagery was downloaded to and stored and then also
- 3 moved over to a web server to share with the Court.
- 4 Q. [10:13:05] And I understand that the files that you reviewed with the Victims
- 5 and Witness Section earlier this week are the same files that you sent to us on
- 6 29 October 2020; is that correct?
- 7 A. [10:13:18] Correct.
- 8 Q. [10:13:21] Now I would like to move to the next area to ask you a few questions
- 9 about your analysis. You've mentioned ArcGIS Pro, I believe. Can you please
- 10 explain briefly how you used it in this case.
- 11 A. [10:13:39] Yes, so ArcGIS Pro is a geographic information system, that's the GIS.
- 12 GIS software is common in our profession. There are many different types of GIS
- 13 software. For this particular analysis I used ArcGIS Pro because basically that's what
- 14 I had, that's what I had the licence for. I think of a GIS software as sort of like a word
- processor but for maps. You use it to load imagery and other data into and do your
- analysis and produce your infographics or your maps out of the GIS software. And
- 17 that's what I did in this case. As we acquired imagery from the vendors, I loaded it
- into ArcGIS Pro and conducted the analysis and then used it produce
- 19 the -- the figures and insets that I delivered to you.
- 20 Q. [10:14:51] Did anyone else assist you in this analysis?
- 21 A. [10:14:56] In the analysis, no. A colleague, a junior colleague helped with some
- of the graphic figure production, but only the graphical side.
- 23 Q. [10:15:11] And did you supervise that junior colleague?
- 24 A. [10:15:17] Yes, very closely.
- 25 Q. [10:15:19] Now I would like to direct your attention to page 3 of your report,

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again at tab 5 of the list of materials, to the second paragraph and this is at page 6619.

- 2 Can you clarify what you meant here by saying, quote: "Damage or destruction of
- 3 structures occurring in the time between the acquisition of the two satellite images is
- 4 usually readily visible when doing this comparison, assuming sufficient damage was
- 5 done." What did you mean by "sufficient damage"?
- 6 A. [10:15:51] It's important to remember, yes, you're looking at the ground from
- 7 a satellite in space. The damage has to be of a type or a level that, first of all, you
- 8 would see it from above, looking down. It also has to be of a magnitude that is big
- 9 enough for the satellites to see. So, for example, broken windows, invisible -- or
- 10 broken windows are invisible to a satellite. Cracks to the wall, cracks to
- a foundation, all invisible to the satellite. Any interior damage, if the structure was
- 12 ransacked or something like that, invisible to a satellite.
- 13 If the structure was completely burned or completely destroyed in some way, that is
- 14 what a satellite would see. If it was partially damaged or burned and a portion of
- 15 the roof was damaged, that is what a satellite would see.
- 16 So we know we're not seeing all the damage, we're really confined to a more
- 17 catastrophic level of damage that is visible in the satellite imagery.
- 18 Q. [10:17:15] Now staying on the same page of your report in the next
- 19 paragraph you differentiate between the "simple, single class assessment of 'damaged
- or destroyed" generally used in this case and more complex analyses.
- 21 Can you explain the difference between the simple and complex analyses, please?
- 22 A. [10:17:42] One moment, let me read this.
- 23 So, yeah, what I've learned in my years working with the Court is it's best to keep it
- 24 simple. So in this case I really only indicated structures which were certainly
- 25 destroyed. In other analyses we might be also interested in things like possibly

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- damaged or partially destroyed. Possibly damaged, for example, if we see debris
- 2 around a structure, that could indicate that the structure itself was damaged. But
- 3 since it's not directly visible in the image, it's a different class of analysis.
- 4 In the interest of time and basically a cleaner evidence product, in this case I confined
- 5 myself to the simple analyses.
- 6 We've done it in the past where we include the possible and moderate damage and it
- 7 is more difficult to present in a courtroom.
- 8 Q. [10:19:03] So am I to understand from your answer that in this case you did not
- 9 include those buildings that were possibly damaged?
- 10 A. [10:19:10] Correct.
- 11 Q. [10:19:13] And can you explain for the record what a vector is, please.
- 12 A. [10:19:21] Vector data is a point, line or polygon, generally it's a geometric
- creation which is then recorded by the -- by the software using the coordinates to
- 14 determine where the different parts -- where the point is, or if you're a line, where
- 15 the start point and the end point is, or a polygon, where the different facets of the
- 16 polygon are.
- 17 Q. [10:19:57] And just one last question before we get into your demonstration.
- 18 You mentioned earlier this morning you had a bit of difficulty recalling which item in
- 19 annex 2 was actually from Google Earth. So I'd like to direct your attention, please,
- 20 to annex 2 of your report, that's tab number 7 and that's at CAR-OTP-2127-6634 and
- 21 I'd like to direct your attention to page 6642, specifically at the item marked
- 22 "Table Six".
- Now, looking -- do you see that in front of you, Mr Witness?
- 24 A. [10:20:46] Yes.
- 25 Q. [10:20:47] And looking at that item, does that refresh your recollection as to

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1 which image was in fact obtained from Google Earth rather than the provider

- 2 indicated?
- 3 A. [10:20:59] Yeah, it was the top one, 19 January 2014.
- 4 Q. [10:21:04] And for the record, I indicate that's Table Six in the Carnot area.
- 5 Now, Mr Witness, I'd like to ask you to do a bit of a demonstration for us, using your
- 6 laptop, in fact, a visual presentation of the software you mentioned. I'll ask you to
- 7 do your demonstration on two locations. First at Bossangoa and then in Boeing.
- 8 So we'll start with Bossangoa. I'll direct your attention to annex 1 of the -- of your
- 9 report at tab 6, that's CAR-OTP-2127-6626 and on page 6629 to the map of Bossangoa.
- 10 A. [10:21:52] Can I take over the screen? Yes.
- 11 Q. [10:21:55] Yes, I understand, Madam court officer, that the witness can use
- 12 evidence 1 for his presentation?
- 13 A. [10:22:05] It's on evidence 2, I believe.
- 14 Q. [10:22:15] Correction, I believe it's evidence 2.
- 15 A. [10:22:18] So this is just a very basic quick demonstration of the ArcGIS Pro
- software, so this is GIS software. Over here where you see the world map, this is
- 17 what we call the map frame or the data frame. Over on the left you basically see
- a table of contents which has all the data loaded for this particular demonstration.
- 19 If I was doing the analysis, maybe slightly different datasets would be loaded, things
- 20 would be configured differently, but this is basically what a GIS software looks like.
- 21 Up along the top you have a lot of tools and a lot of options and a lot of things that we
- 22 could use. We won't really get into that. But again, looking at this world map, we
- 23 can easily zoom into Central African Republic. So this is the outline of Central
- 24 African Republic. In terms of the data that I was given in the letters of instruction,
- 25 I've just turned that on, so this is geospatial data. We were given geospatial data to

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1 identify the different locations and this is what it looks like when you -- you plot it on

- 2 the map.
- 3 You wanted to start with Bossangoa?
- 4 Q. [10:23:54] Yes, I'll direct your attention to inset 2 of the map of Bossangoa to
- 5 the location marked "École de la Liberté".
- 6 And for the record, these two images are the TIFF images referenced at tabs 48 and 49
- 7 of your binders, that's CAR-OTP-2127-6689 and CAR-OTP-2127-6690.
- 8 Mr Witness, can you explain your analysis that you did for these two images, please.
- 9 A. [10:24:31] So this is quite simple. This is the location of the school. One
- moment. So here is the GPS coordinates that I was given for École de la Liberté.
- 11 What you're looking at on the screen is the image from 4 December 2013, showing
- the grounds of the school. I can zoom in to quite a good level of detail.
- 13 If I then turn on the image from 12 December 2013, which is eight days after the first
- one, you see a lot of white and some blue objects have appeared on the grounds of the
- 15 school. These are what we would commonly identify as IDP shelters, internally
- 16 displaced persons. In this particular analysis what I do is do my best to identify each
- 17 particular shelter and then I simply click on it and make a vector data point and you
- end up with something like this where the blue squares indicate each individual
- 19 separate shelter.
- Now, importantly in a lot of -- in some areas the shelters are kind of merged together
- or grouped very closely, and so, yes, there are probably more actual shelters than
- 22 what I counted here, but this is a good approximation of what you're going to get out
- of the image.
- 24 But again, the analysis procedure for this is quite simple. You're just comparing
- 25 the two images, one to the other, and identifying the change and then doing your best

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- 1 to document the specifics of the change, how many specific shelters are you seeing.
- 2 Q. [10:26:40] And for these two images, is it correct that in your report you
- 3 mentioned that in the second image of 12 December 2013 you identified about
- 4 100 tent-like structures?
- 5 A. [10:26:55] Correct. And I mean, we can check that in the attributes of the data.
- 6 And so, yeah, there were 95 specific structures in that -- in that area.
- 7 Q. [10:27:09] And you also mention in your report on page 6 in the fourth
- 8 paragraph down, this is at page 6622 on tab 5, you mention in that paragraph that,
- 9 quote, several hundred more tent-like structures are visible. And I believe this is in
- 10 reference to subsequent imagery from 16 December 2013, 8 January 2014, and
- 11 22 January 2014.
- 12 Now, sitting here today, do you recall whether you in fact sent the Office of the
- 13 Prosecutor these three subsequent images?
- 14 A. [10:27:53] I don't recall actually. But I did get two of them and I have them
- 15 here ready to show if we want to show.
- 16 MR LEDDY: [10:28:10] With the Chamber's permission, we'd ask the witness to
- 17 show (Overlapping speakers)
- 18 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:28:13] You know, the witness has brought it
- 19 with him, why not have a look at it.
- 20 MR LEDDY: [10:28:17] Thank you, your Honour.
- 21 Q. [10:28:20] Mr Witness, please proceed.
- 22 A. [10:28:22] Okay. So again, these images come from Google Earth Pro. When
- 23 you get them from Google Earth Pro, that's what you get, you don't have any ability
- 24 to improve them so they are quite a lot uglier than what you're seeing here. But I'm
- 25 now going to turn on the image from 8 January 2014 and (a) you'll see its uglier, and

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- 1 that's again just because of the image source, but you can certainly see that by
- 2 8 January the area of IDP shelters, in this case they're just very white, has grown
- 3 versus 12 December 2013.
- 4 Now, the next image is 22 January and is even uglier in terms of how it appears, but
- 5 with a little work you can get in here and see that the area of shelters has grown quite
- 6 a bit versus the previous two images. And so that's how I arrive at the conclusion
- 7 that it's grown by 22 January.
- 8 Q. [10:29:37] When you say "uglier", what do you mean exactly?
- 9 A. [10:29:42] It's -- what is happening here is you have a very white area, both
- 10 the tent shelters and then the -- the dirt road and the dirt around it is all highly
- 11 reflective, and the sensor and the way the image has been processed, the image is
- what we call saturated, just like if you look at something that's too bright, your eyes
- 13 will get saturated. And so it's so white and bright that it's much more difficult to
- 14 determine the individual structures. I wouldn't necessarily try and count these
- structures, that's why I just estimated their -- their overall numbers.
- 16 If we had been able to buy this image, then I would have more ability to play with
- 17 the saturation and the colour balance and reduce this, you know, amount of bright
- white and make the shelters a little bit more visible.
- 19 Q. [10:30:48] Is that the kind of work that you mentioned performing earlier? You
- 20 said you had done some work on these subsequent images, can you describe what
- 21 kind of work that was.
- 22 A. [10:31:00] On the Google Earth Pro images or the other images?
- 23 Q. [10:31:04] The Google Earth ones.
- 24 A. [10:31:06] Yeah, if -- in other areas it's not this bad. You don't have this bright
- 25 white saturation kind of blurring everything. You can use the image much more like

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1 a better quality image to conduct your damage assessment. But, yeah, the work with

- 2 these images in -- in the most extreme case involves bringing them in to ArcGIS Pro to
- 3 conduct your analysis. Sometimes -- in this case, what I did previously was I just
- 4 looked at them in Google Earth Pro and determined that, yes, by the end of January
- 5 the area had grown quite a bit.
- 6 Q. [10:31:53] So I would like to move from your IDP analysis to the property
- 7 damage analysis for Bossangoa and going back to the images of 4 and 12 December.
- 8 I'll ask you some questions about the property damage you mentioned in your report
- 9 at tab 5, page 6622, in the last sentence of the second paragraph, that as of at least
- 10 4 December 2013, that hundreds of structures exhibit signs of destruction but would
- 11 need comparison with a previously-acquired image for verification. Can you
- 12 explain what you meant by that.
- 13 A. [10:32:36] So in that particular case had we been able to afford an image
- 14 acquired before 4 December, then I could have done a detailed assessment of images
- destroyed by 4 December. Since we did not have that previous image, I did not
- attempt that analysis using Google Earth Pro because it would, yeah, be much more
- difficult and time-consuming and the results would not be as solid.
- 18 Q. [10:33:09] Do you recall, sitting here today, in which areas of Bossangoa those
- 19 hundreds of destroyed structures existed as of 4 December 2013?
- 20 A. [10:33:21] I don't, I'm sorry. But, yeah, I remember them quite frequently
- 21 scattered around. But, yeah, I don't -- I don't recall specifically where they were.
- With a little bit more time, I'm happy to provide some additional information.
- 23 Q. [10:33:47] We'll come back to that if needed. But you also mentioned in
- 24 the same paragraph there were some indications of burning present in some of these
- 25 houses in Bossangoa on both 4 and 12 December 2013. Can you give us perhaps an

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- 1 example of what some of these indications look like or describe them for the record.
- 2 A. [10:34:12] Yes. Usually when -- if a structure -- if a wooden structure is burned,
- 3 you end up with a lot of black charred remains, sometimes you might see white ash,
- 4 depending on, on the overall conditions. In addition, you might see some of the
- 5 vegetation immediately adjacent to the structure was also burned. But, yeah,
- 6 the blackened areas tend -- tend to be the big clue.
- 7 Q. [10:34:44] And I'd like to now show you an image and seek your expert opinion
- 8 on it.
- 9 This is tab 61 of the list of materials at CAR-OTP-2085-3122 and I'll ask
- 10 Madam court officer to pull that up on evidence 1, I believe.
- 11 Please let us know when you see that image in front of you.
- 12 A. [10:35:56] Yes, I see it.
- 13 MR LEDDY: [10:36:00] Is it possible, Madam court officer, for that image to be
- 14 broadcast to the public as well.
- 15 Q. [10:36:23] I'll ask you, Mr Witness, in your expert opinion, is this image
- 16 consistent with the kind of damage you observed in the satellite imagery which you
- 17 obtained for Bossangoa?
- 18 A. [10:36:37] Yes. So here, you know, what you would see in a satellite image, so
- 19 the pre-image would show the structure with a roof and then the post-image, the big
- 20 clue would be the roof is gone. And then what you're also seeing is some of the
- 21 blackened charred remains on the ground, and also some of the white ash that I
- 22 mentioned. And so all of that would be very subtle but certainly visible if the image
- 23 had been collected while it was -- it was still visible.
- 24 The white ash in particular tends to blow away relatively quickly, but the blackened
- 25 soot will stay, you know, and gradually ablate, we call it, gradually kind of diminish.

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But, yeah, for here the -- you know, the immediate clue is the absence of the roof and

- 2 then the blackened parts are the indication of burning.
- 3 Q. [10:37:47] Now, next I'd like to show you a short excerpt from a video and this is
- 4 at tab 63 of our list of materials. The ERN is CAR-OTP-2088-2204 and the excerpt I'd
- 5 like to show you is from minute 1 through minute 4:19. And I'll ask your expert
- 6 opinion, after watching this video.
- We would like to request the video not be broadcast to the public and be put on mute
- 8 for the parties and participants.
- 9 I'd also like to state for the record the French translation of the transcript is at tab 65,
- 10 that's CAR-OTP-2127-6408 at 6410 to 6412, lines 3 through 75. And also for
- 11 the record, your Honours, this video was discussed in a witness statement,
- 12 CAR-OTP-2088-2173 at 2195, paragraph 130 -- 123, excuse me.
- 13 Is the video okay to play?
- 14 THE COURT OFFICER: [10:39:29] Yes, the video is ready to be played.
- 15 MR LEDDY: [10:39:32] Thanks. If we could start at minute 1, I'd appreciate it.
- 16 Thanks.
- 17 (Viewing of the video excerpt)
- 18 MR LEDDY: [10:43:00]
- 19 Q. [10:43:01] Mr Witness, having seen this video, is the damage that you saw in
- 20 the buildings depicted there consistent with the kind of damage you saw in
- 21 the satellite imagery for Bossangoa?
- 22 A. [10:43:15] Yes. Certainly indications of burning and then the frequent roofless
- 23 structures. It may be that this video was taken some time after, so some of the
- 24 blackened soot would have washed away in the rains, but yeah, this is very

25 consistent.

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1 Q. [10:43:37] Now I would like to move to the second area for your demonstration

- 2 of the Boeing mosque location. I'll direct your attention to annex 1 of your report,
- 3 that's tab 6 at CAR-OTP-2127-6626, to the first page, 6627, and the map of Bangui and
- 4 Boeing. Now directing your attention further to inset 1, the Boeing mosque.
- 5 For the record, these images are the TIFF images referenced at tabs 37, 38 and 41 of
- 6 your binders, CAR-OTP-2127-6678, 6679 and 6682.
- 7 Now, Mr Witness, I'd ask you to please describe the analysis that you did on these
- 8 images and please include the corrections and clarifications that you mentioned this
- 9 morning.
- 10 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:44:36] Can it be shown to the public?
- 11 MR LEDDY: [10:44:38] Yes, your Honour.
- 12 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:44:29] I also wondered if perhaps also the video
- that we have seen could have been shown to the public. Perhaps we can keep that in
- 14 mind. Actually, there might be a reason, but I -- I think we can be -- as I said on
- 15 the first day already, what we can do to be as transparent as possible we can do.
- 16 MR LEDDY: [10:45:01] I appreciate that, your Honour. Our concern was at the end
- of the video there are certain individuals depicted and without being able to notify
- 18 (Overlapping speakers)
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:45:13] I already thought this as the only possible
- 20 reason, yet it would be very difficult to identify them, it was very quick. But I
- 21 understand this now. Okay. Please proceed.
- 22 MR LEDDY: [10:45:23]
- 23 Q. [10:45:26] So, Mr Witness, if you could please proceed with describing your
- 24 analysis for the Boeing mosque area, using your laptop, for the Court, we'd
- 25 appreciate it.

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- 1 A. [10:45:39] Is it on screen?
- 2 Q. [10:45:45] I believe it should be coming up on evidence 1.
- 3 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:45:50] At least we have an image on
- 4 evidence 1, so ...
- 5 THE WITNESS: [10:45:55] Oh, yeah. Okay, so, yes, this is the -- what you're seeing
- 6 labelled in red --
- 7 MR LEDDY:
- 8 Q. [10:46:04] Just for the record, Mr Witness, I believe it's evidence 2. Thank you.
- 9 A. [10:46:09] So the label in red is the Boeing mosque, these are the GPS
- 10 coordinates that I was given. The image that you're looking at here is
- 11 27 November 2013. We can zoom in. And now I will turn on the image from
- 12 8 December 2013 and you see a slight shift in the image and that's due to the
- orthorectification issues, but you will see numerous structures in the area that again
- 14 have lost their rooftop or otherwise changed in configuration.
- 15 I can turn on the analysis layer, so these buildings are now marked in red. So once
- again, you're looking at 27 November 2013. And then I turn on 8 December 2013
- and again, accounting for the slight shift, but you can see multiple structures there
- 18 have essentially lost their rooftops. I do believe that there is indication of burning
- 19 here, it's blackened. However, there's also a lot of vegetation and trees casting
- 20 shadows, so some slight uncertainty there.
- 21 As I went through this -- so, as you may recall, one of the problems was we had no
- 22 photo of the mosque and I didn't really have a description of the mosque and, in
- 23 hindsight, I frankly think I assumed that the largest building was the mosque, which
- 24 was probably erroneous. And so as I was preparing this, I realised I should
- 25 probably correct myself a little bit and say that right here, directly adjacent to the GPS

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point is some sort of structure which, when we look at 8 December, has possibly

- 2 changed configuration. And again, I don't like doing the possibly discussion in this
- 3 courtroom, or in any courtroom, just because it's less certain. But after I reviewed
- 4 this, I felt frankly obligated that I should at least mention that directly adjacent to
- 5 the GPS point was a -- a possibly damaged or destroyed structure.
- 6 Now, if we jump forward to 30 December 2013, and this is the QuickBird image, so
- 7 lower quality, this is where an analyst might really have to play with the image, I
- 8 mean, change the contrast and the stretch to better understand what they're seeing.
- 9 But most importantly, going back to 8 December, here we go, we also see this white
- 10 rooftop here. And if we go to 30 December, then that white rooftop has clearly
- 11 disappeared. That would certainly be visible even in this lower quality imagery.
- 12 And so, yeah, those were the two corrections I would like to, to let you know about.
- Q. [10:49:59] And I'll direct your attention to page 5 of your report, that is tab 5 at
- page 6621, in the third paragraph you indicate that a structure is within 20 metres of
- the Boeing GPS coordinates for the mosque that were provided in the 9 March 2020
- letter of instruction. Can you please show us which building you were referring to
- in your report.
- 18 A. [10:50:32] So that would be this relatively large one here. So this is
- 19 a -- probably a metal rooftop and then you're seeing a white line which just indicates
- 20 that it is a peaked, peaked roof. And so if we look at -- you're looking at it now on
- 21 27 November 2013, 8 December 2013, all of that is gone. You see very faintly
- 22 the interior timbers, the wood frame of the structure, but, yeah, the roof -- the roof is
- 23 certainly gone and then several of the structures around it also show those
- 24 characteristics.
- 25 Q. [10:51:21] And can you show the Court, please, how you calculated that

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- 1 20-metre distance?
- 2 A. [10:51:27] So a GIS has a good measurement tool and so if we go from -- hold on.
- 3 If we go from the GPS point here and then to kind of the nearest corner, it's about
- 4 22 -- these are in feet, sorry. So, yeah, from there to the centre of the building and
- 5 then around here is roughly a 20-metre radius.
- 6 Q. [10:52:06] And how far is it to the edge of that structure that's closest to the GPS
- 7 coordinates?
- 8 A. [10:52:12] The edge, about 11 -- yeah, 11 metres.
- 9 Q. [10:52:18] And in the same paragraph of your report you mention four other
- 10 structures adjacent. Can you show the Court which four you're referring to in
- 11 the report?
- 12 A. [10:52:29] So that's this one down here and then these two up here and then one
- 13 up here. But all of those clearly, clearly disappear as of 8 December.
- 14 Q. [10:52:48] And how did you mark those in the annex that you provided to
- 15 the Prosecutor's office?
- 16 A. [10:52:56] Probably with a similar --
- 17 Q. [10:53:04] I can direct your attention to map 1a in annex 1, that's tab 6 at
- 18 page 6627.
- 19 A. [10:53:13] So on the big map frame I just had the -- the red squares on top of the
- 20 damage. And then in the insets we point to them with arrows because if you put
- 21 the red square right on top of the damaged building, then you wouldn't be able to see
- 22 the damaged building.
- 23 Q. [10:53:33] So which colour arrows did you use to mark these four structures in
- 24 inset 1?
- 25 A. [10:53:40] Orange.

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- 1 Q. [10:53:45] And the red arrows in inset 1, what do those signify?
- 2 A. [10:53:52] Those signify the buildings damaged by -- wait, I may have gotten
- 3 that backwards. So the arrows are different. I think the arrows are switched. So
- 4 in the insets, the -- yeah, okay, it's sort of self-explanatory. So in the insets the red
- 5 arrows show the structures destroyed 30 December. The orange arrows show
- 6 the structures destroyed 8 December.
- 7 Q. [10:54:35] And in the same paragraph of your report you mentioned six
- 8 structures destroyed nearby towards the airport. Can you indicate for us which six
- 9 structures you were referring to?
- 10 A. [10:54:55] So that's over here. So here is the Boeing mosque location and then
- there are four up right adjacent to the airport which were destroyed and then two also
- 12 next to the airport but down here.
- 13 Q. [10:55:15] So those additional six structures do not appear in inset 1; is that
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. [10:55:20] Correct.
- 16 Q. [10:55:35] On the same page in the next paragraph you mention that "Blackened
- 17 remains consistent with burning are somewhat visible but image-colour quality for 28
- 18 [December] and 30 December is limited due to the sensor source." Can you describe
- 19 for the record what that means?
- 20 A. [10:55:55] So again those came from the QuickBird satellite. The QuickBird
- satellite was a glorious creation launched in I think 2001, but, yeah, the technology at
- 22 that time, the sensor wasn't as sensitive as what we would see now and you get
- 23 less -- less ranges in the colours that the sensor can capture. The resolution is also
- lower. So all in all it just yields a less clear image simply because the age of the

25 sensor.

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- 1 The QuickBird satellite was decommissioned several years ago, whereas the other
- 2 satellites that I used in this analysis are still in operation.
- 3 Q. [10:56:47] Now, finishing up here in Bangui, for the 30 December date we have
- 4 two photos for the same part of Bangui, one is in colour and the other appears black
- 5 and white.
- 6 And for the record, I'm referring to the TIFF files located at tabs 41 and 42 at
- 7 CAR-OTP-2127-6682 and 6683.
- 8 Can you explain the significance of these two images?
- 9 A. [10:57:20] The black and white image is -- probably comes from a specific
- 10 satellite called WorldView-1. WorldView-1 only collects imagery in panchromatic,
- 11 black and white basically.
- 12 Q. [10:57:40] And for your analysis in map 1a, did you look at both the black and
- 13 white and colour images?
- 14 A. [10:57:49] If you don't mind, I would like a moment to check on what you're
- saying just in case there's some -- some confusion.
- 16 Q. [10:57:59] Please, yeah, take a minute.
- 17 (Pause in proceedings)
- 18 THE WITNESS: [10:58:21] So just to be clear, you're referring to map 1b? Are you
- 19 referring to a black and white image in the -- in annex 1?
- 20 MR LEDDY:
- 21 Q. [10:58:33] I apologise, yes, I'm referring to the image of Bangui, images of
- 22 Bangui that you purchased located at tabs 41 and 42. I understand these to be
- 23 images of Bangui larger than what appears at a certain inset in your annex 1.
- 24 A. [10:58:59] Is that on evidence 1?
- 25 Q. [10:59:07] I don't believe the underlying TIFF files are displayable through our

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software, but if you could possibly look at the files that you have on your laptop that

- 2 are corresponding with these dates.
- 3 A. [10:59:25] And what were the dates?
- 4 Q. [10:59:26] It's for 30 December 2013.
- 5 A. [10:59:33] In Bangui?
- 6 Q. [10:59:35] That's right.
- 7 A. [10:59:37] Okay. So if you're seeing a black and white image for
- 8 30 December 2013, what you may be looking at is the panchromatic version of that
- 9 image. So just a brief technical discussion, when these satellites are collecting images,
- 10 they're collecting kind of two images at the same time. First is the panchromatic,
- which is black and white, that's the one at the highest resolution. The second image
- is the multispectral image, that's the colour image.
- 13 What we do for the analysis is we do what's called pansharpening where we merge
- 14 those two files together. So in the report in the annex 1, the images may be all in
- 15 colour because you're seeing the -- the pansharpened version of them. Whereas in
- the original TIFF files, yes, you may have them separately, one of them is
- a panchromatic and then the other one would be the multispectral.
- 18 I hope that makes sense and I can certainly talk more about that.
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:00:55] I think it would now be a good time to
- 20 have a break. Or do you have something that you would like to discuss and finish
- 21 now? Then we do that and adjust the break accordingly.
- 22 MR LEDDY: [11:01:06] Your Honour, I just need a couple of minutes to finish.
- 23 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:01:10] Okay. Then this is of course -- then we
- 24 would do that first and then have the break.
- 25 MR LEDDY: Great.

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- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:01:11] Thank you, Mr Leddy.
- 2 MR LEDDY: [11:01:15] Thank you, your Honour.
- 3 Q. [11:01:17] So, Mr Bromley, I'm just going to wrap up and ask you about a few of
- 4 the limitations from your reports and your analysis.
- 5 So we talked about clouds already and how those can impede analyses. Can you
- 6 describe any other limitations that satellite image analysis has for the purposes of
- 7 your report?
- 8 A. [11:01:40] Most immediately again it's an image acquired from, you know,
- 9 a sensor in orbit. It in no way means that we are actually seeing all the detail of
- 10 what's visible on the ground. And as analysts we are very aware of that and that is
- something we train quite a lot on. We are not seeing all the details simply because
- we're limited to objects 50 centimetres or larger or whatever the resolution of the
- 13 image is.
- 14 The off-nadir angle can also reduce the quality of the image and, for example, you
- 15 know, if the satellite is up and to the right and looking down from an angle and there
- is a tree standing between a house and the satellite, the tree will block what
- 17 the satellite can see, basically.
- 18 So, yeah, you have those sorts of visibility issues.
- 19 Sometimes there is also not exactly clouds but atmospheric haze where it may not be
- very visible that you're actually looking through a cloud, but myself as an analyst,
- 21 when I see the image, I can see immediately, oh, we must be looking through some
- 22 haze because the quality is degraded.
- 23 Q. [11:03:16] And do you recall seeing such haze or having such problems in your
- 24 analysis in this case?
- 25 A. [11:03:22] Yeah, for the 30 December and 28 December images there was a bit of

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- 1 haze on one of those, which is why I had the two of them, just to help compensate for
- 2 that. It was in some areas and then not in others. And then, yeah, as mentioned,
- 3 clouds are also visible on some of them.
- 4 Q. [11:03:49] Now, for -- for gatherings of people, for example, the IDP camps,
- 5 these imagery can't tell you who those people are, can it?
- 6 A. [11:03:58] No.
- 7 Q. [11:03:58] And same question for damage assessments, it can't tell you who
- 8 damaged the buildings, right?
- 9 A. [11:04:04] No.
- 10 MR LEDDY: [11:04:05] I have no further questions for this witness, your Honour.
- 11 Thank you, Mr Witness.
- 12 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:04:11] Thank you very much, Mr Leddy.
- 13 So then we will then have a break, let's say half an hour, although we reconvene, if I
- say now at 11.35, it's a little bit odd, but let's give it a try that we all keep in mind that
- 15 it's not 11.30, it's 11.35.
- 16 THE COURT USHER: [11:04:31] All rise.
- 17 (Recess taken at 11.04 a.m.)
- 18 (Upon resuming in open session at 11.37 a.m.)
- 19 THE COURT USHER: [11:37:07] All rise.
- 20 Please be seated.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:37:39] I don't assume that the representatives of
- 22 the victims have questions, so I would give the floor to Mr Antley for the Yekatom
- 23 Defence, as I understand it correctly.
- 24 MR ANTLEY: [11:37:57] Good morning, your Honours. Thank you for having me
- 25 here. I just wanted to raise one issue with you before we started. In light of some

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- disclosure we received this morning, we would request a little bit more time just to
- 2 prepare and to disclose our own analysis to the Prosecution. We've spoken with
- 3 Dr Knoops and he is willing to go first and then hopefully after lunch we can both
- 4 start and finish the witness.
- 5 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:38:23] Thank you for this constructive approach.
- 6 I would have suggested it immediately the same way, so of course we accommodate
- 7 that.
- 8 Mr Knoops, if you want to start, we are fine with that.
- 9 MR KNOOPS: [11:38:35] Thank you very much, Mr President.
- 10 QUESTIONED BY MR KNOOPS:
- 11 Q. [11:38:40] Good morning, Mr Bromley. My name is Alexander Knoops. I'm
- one of the counsel for Mr Patrice Ngaïssona. I first have some small introductionary
- 13 questions for you before I go into the specific areas of your research.
- 14 First of all, my question to you is in the amended letter of the Office of
- 15 the Prosecution, you were given some geographical coordinates. Were you able to
- do on-site verifications of those coordinates?
- 17 A. [11:39:22] If I recall correctly -- I mean, in terms of on site, going to Central
- 18 African Republic, no. I verified the coordinates in the GIS software. I believe I
- 19 spotted an error with one or two of them, which was then corrected later on with
- 20 the letters -- with the subsequent letter of instruction.
- 21 Q. [11:39:48] Thank you. You also told us this morning that you sometimes had to
- 22 make a decision on whether to purchase an image or not. Who was able to make
- 23 the final choice when purchasing the image or not?
- 24 A. [11:40:09] That was myself, based on the budget available.
- 25 Q. [11:40:13] And were you able to, before you made a decision on the budgetarian

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1 consequences of a choice, were you able to assess the quality, the difference between

- 2 an image which is purchased and --
- 3 A. [11:40:30] You don't get to see the full resolution image until you've paid for it.
- 4 Q. [11:40:35] Okay. Thank you.
- 5 Now in your report, the Prosecution requested a single class assessment as to
- 6 the damage or destruction. Could you be more precise as to whether you were able
- 7 to, in every instance, detect the cause of the destruction or damage?
- 8 A. [11:41:06] No, not -- I mean, in -- in areas where the blackened charred remains
- 9 were clear, then I would indicate that I thought that fire was involved. But in other
- 10 areas, no. I was essentially finding roofless structures and counting them as
- 11 destroyed.
- 12 Q. [11:41:29] Yes. In your report in footnote 8 you mention that "Damage must be
- of a significant degree to be visible in imagery, involving some [type] of external
- structural damage" and you mentioned this already this morning before, such as
- broken windows, kicked-in doors, internal destruction, and other signs of violence.
- But you already observe in your report in footnote 8 that these symptoms, these signs
- 17 are in principle not visible in commercially available satellite imagery. In your
- 18 research, Dr Bromley, in this case --
- 19 A. [11:42:24] I have no PhD.
- 20 Q. [11:42:28] I'm sorry.
- 21 A. [11:42:28] Thank you for the upgrade, though.
- 22 Q. [11:42:30] But still -- it reflects my respect to you as expert. Did you encounter
- 23 in your research, Mr Bromley, in any way any of these signs which you just -- I just
- 24 alluded to in your report footnote 8, so were you able to detect in one of the images
- 25 you saw in this case any signs of broken windows, kicked-in doors, internal

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- destruction, or other signs of violence --
- 2 A. [11:43:09] No, the --
- 3 Q. [11:43:12] -- which --
- 4 A. [11:43:13] Yeah, those types of damage are invisible in imagery. The imagery
- 5 just does not see that level of detail.
- 6 Q. [11:43:18] But my question was were you able to detect this other than through
- 7 imagery in this case? You have no --
- 8 A. [11:43:26] No.
- 9 Q. [11:43:27] -- proof that --
- 10 A. [11:43:27] I only use satellite imagery.
- 11 Q. [11:43:30] Yeah, okay.
- 12 A. [11:43:31] Correct.
- 13 Q. [11:43:33] In your report you mention in your last page that in relation to Yaloké,
- 14 we will come to this later, you refer to the relevant range of time, range of time in
- order to extrapolate certain imagery to a certain incident. What is, in your
- professional opinion, an acceptable range of time, based on which you can relate
- 17 a certain imagery to a certain event?
- 18 A. [11:44:16] I mean, the destruction will stay visible if the structure is not repaired,
- and so it's more did the destruction happen in the time frame that I was being asked
- 20 about? So in that area I was asked about the end of January 2014, but I was not able
- 21 to get an image until 14 February 2015, and so therefore that is a much longer time
- 22 frame where that damage might have occurred.
- 23 Q. Yeah.
- 24 A. [11:44:56] So I am confident in the damage, but, yeah, the -- the length of time
- 25 that had passed means that I can't say whether the end of -- or, yeah, the end of

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- 1 January 2014 was the time period where it happened.
- 2 Q. [11:45:11] Yes. My question to you is, Mr Bromley, indeed you referred to this
- 3 report, your report at page 8 regarding -- then we directly take the example of Yaloké,
- 4 you say, "Given the amount of time passed before the February 2015 no attempt was
- 5 made by UNOSAT to determine the cause of structural removal." And we're
- 6 speaking here about the time frame January 2014, February 2015.
- 7 For you at that moment, you took into account the amount of time which passed. Is
- 8 there, for you as an expert, a certain limit, a certain border on the basis of which you
- 9 say, this is for me too much in terms of amount of time to investigate or to make any
- attempt to extrapolate from the image a certain cause of structural removal?
- 11 A. [11:46:23] So in -- in that case I was referring to whether fire -- fire was involved
- 12 or not.
- 13 Q. [11:46:30] Yes.
- 14 A. [11:46:32] For the use of fire, it's -- again, it's going to leave blackened charred
- remains, it will often leave white ash. I wouldn't really have a time frame, it will
- 16 differ from environment to environment. Central African Republic is a relatively
- 17 rainy place so I would not go beyond the onset of the rains because that is going to
- wash away a lot of the soot and char and then vegetation is going to grow rather
- 19 quickly.
- 20 In other environments, desert environments, you might see the damage for -- you
- 21 know, you might see indications of fire for years after, because the environmental
- 22 change there is very slow. Again, the term we use is ablation, which is the gradual
- change as something dissolves or changes and, yeah, in an environment like Central
- 24 African Republic it's going to change relatively quickly.
- 25 Q. [11:47:39] Right. Thank you. Just for my curiosity, maybe also for

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- 1 the curiosity of the Court, are there any scientific protocols to say this is the range of
- 2 time beyond which an expert like you should abstain from giving any assessments,
- 3 any answer to questions such as the Prosecution asked you in their letter of
- 4 assignment? Is there any international standard beyond which --
- 5 A. [11:48:11] There's none that I would know of. We're an operational office.
- 6 We're not an -- we're not an academic office, so we don't have a lot of time to do
- 7 the academic side of things. For us, I mean my office, my team, kind of the dividing
- 8 line would be the rainy season in this particular environment.
- 9 Q. [11:48:32] Right. Did you, by the way, do other similar investigations in Africa
- as a continent, except for the CAR?
- 11 A. [11:48:40] Yeah, we -- we've done this -- I've done this, I mean, South Sudan,
- 12 Sudan, DR Congo, Ethiopia.
- 13 Q. Yeah.
- 14 A. Yeah, we do this all the time.
- 15 Q. [11:48:52] Why I'm asking you this, Mr Bromley, because you just said
- 16 the landscape in CAR changes relatively fast. If you compare to other --
- 17 A. [11:49:03] Yeah, compared to Darfur, for example.
- 18 Q. [11:49:05] Yeah, that was my question. If you compare it, put it in context to
- 19 other countries in Africa, you would say the landscape in the CAR changes quicker
- 20 than compared to --
- 21 A. [11:49:19] Correct.
- 22 Q. -- the other --
- 23 A. Yeah.
- 24 Q. -- countries you (Overlapping speakers)
- 25 A. Yeah, like a very arid -- a very arid desert area where you get almost no rain --

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- 1 Q. Yeah.
- 2 A. [11:49:29] -- the signs of destruction might be visible for decades. In an area
- 3 where you have a rainy season and you have vegetation, you know, it's season to
- 4 season is what's going to change basically.
- 5 Q. [11:49:43] Right. Okay. So these were some introductionary questions to you,
- 6 Mr Bromley. I now would like to systematically go into the questions
- 7 the Prosecution suggested to you, starting with the Bangui area of Boy-Rabe.
- 8 In your report, Mr Bromley, you indicate that this area was not analysed. What was
- 9 the decision, what was the reason to decide with the Office of the Prosecution, as you
- mentioned in your report, not to purchase these available images for the location?
- Because that's not explained, if I recall well, in your report. You just said you
- 12 consulted the OTP on this matter and a decision was apparently made not to go into
- this investigation further into Boy-Rabe.
- 14 A. [11:50:39] Right.
- 15 Q. [11:50:42] That's to be found in your report, Mr Bromley, on page 5.
- 16 A. [11:50:49] Page 5.
- 17 Q. [11:50:50] The first -- the first paragraph.
- 18 A. [11:50:51] Right. So if I recall correctly, yeah, at Boy-Rabe we were -- the issue
- 19 was whether there were gatherings, gatherings of people, which took place on specific
- 20 days. And so, yeah, a gathering of people is an ephemeral event, it's, you know,
- 21 there for an hour or two and then it's totally gone. If you do not collect an image at
- 22 that exact moment, you are not going to see the people because they are not going to
- 23 be there.
- In some cases, if they had, you know, camped out or, you know, caused a lot of, you
- 25 know, damage to the vegetation or something, then maybe you would see indications

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of it, but I felt the likelihood of seeing anything useful was nil. And again, given

- 2 the budgetary considerations, we decided -- I decided not to do that. Had we had
- 3 adequate budget, I certainly would have bought the images and we would have still
- 4 probably seen nothing.
- 5 Q. [11:51:59] Yeah. My second question regarding this district relates to
- 6 the second question the Prosecution asked you about, the neighbourhoods in Bangui,
- 7 and it struck me in the question put to you that the Prosecution asked you whether
- 8 you could verify the existence of an attack against a number of neighbourhoods in
- 9 Bangui.
- 10 Now my question to you: Are you, Mr Bromley, in your position as expert, able to
- determine whether a certain type of damage or destruction originated from an attack,
- 12 an armed attack? Are you able, in the position, to answer such a question at all?
- 13 A. [11:52:55] I mean, in this particular situation, when you're seeing things like
- burning, the fact that it's only houses burned and not say the vegetation between
- 15 them, then that means somebody is walking the fire from structure to structure. So
- 16 it's -- it's arson, arson. Wildfires do happen, but people are pretty good at,
- 17 you know, saving their town from them. But, yeah, if you saw burning kind of
- 18 equally affecting all vegetation and structures, then perhaps we would say it's
- 19 possibly a wildfire. But when we see the isolated structures only burned, then that's,
- 20 to me, arson.
- Other than that, in this particular area, explosives aren't used, heavy weapons aren't
- 22 used, there's no shell craters, there's no tanks driving around or anything like that.
- 23 Explosives will, you know, cause a different pattern of destruction, obviously. They
- 24 will throw debris out and usually level the structure, meaning it's gone. Mortars and
- 25 tank fire, you know, then you're looking at craters, and yeah, none of that was visible

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- 1 in these particular areas. But whether the -- whether the persons committing
- 2 the arson or however the arson happened, whether they were specifically armed or
- 3 not is not something I would -- I would speak to.
- 4 Q. [11:54:39] No. So you would agree with me, Mr Bromley, that if you qualify
- 5 a certain destruction as a potential arson, it's for you not the same as an attack?
- 6 A. [11:54:52] I would usually -- yeah, in my work we would -- we commonly see
- 7 fire used as a weapon, so, yeah, it -- you know, unless you have some other plausible
- 8 explanation for the -- for the burning, yeah, we would generally call a widespread
- 9 burning of an area to be an attack.
- 10 Q. [11:55:14] But you just said if there are no indications for such an armed attack --
- 11 A. Well, it's --
- 12 Q. [11:55:24] -- and you just see that houses are burned, maybe even on a larger
- scale, are you in a position to answer the question whether this qualifies as an armed
- 14 attack?
- 15 A. [11:55:35] In my judgment it would be because again you're not seeing
- 16 the vegetation between the structures burned. If you saw the entire area burned
- evenly, then perhaps you would say it's a wildfire that had somehow caused
- 18 catastrophic damage. But, yeah, when you see the individual structures burned, for
- 19 us that's -- yeah, we would -- we would call that an attack.
- 20 Q. [11:55:59] And you just answered the questions of the Office of the Prosecution
- 21 before they broke this hearing, you have -- you cannot as an expert indicate whether
- such an incident originates from a certain group of people, from a certain location
- 23 where it started --
- 24 A. [11:56:30] Not in this particular case. In other areas, if you -- I'll slow down,
- 25 sorry.

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- 1 In other areas of the world, if the image is collected while the attack is happening and
- 2 perhaps you see 20, you know, 20 trucks or 20 armoured vehicles, then that would tell
- 3 you a lot about who was doing it. But in this particular area, no, we didn't get that
- 4 kind of imagery with that kind of time.
- 5 Q. [11:57:03] So you didn't in your research see any imagery of armed groups or
- 6 indications that armed groups were on the ground responsible for those alleged
- 7 attacks?
- 8 A. [11:57:15] With our kind of satellite imagery you generally don't see people,
- 9 especially individuals. One of the figures does show a group of people next to
- a bridge, so I can see people if they're grouped together or if the conditions are perfect,
- meaning that the sun is in the right position and the people are casting long shadows.
- But, yeah, I can't tell the difference between a person and a person standing there
- 13 with a -- with a rifle, for example.
- 14 Q. [11:57:49] Right, yeah.
- 15 A. [11:57:51] And, yeah, with no vehicles or other hardware like that,
- 16 there's -- there's nothing to see.
- 17 Q. [11:57:56] Yeah. Could you with your expertise and based on satellite imagery
- detect whether a truck would be a military truck or a civilian truck?
- 19 A. [11:58:11] Very often, yes, assuming the military truck is, you know, a typical
- 20 large green truck. Some of the imagery, if you're looking at what we call a light
- 21 truck or a pickup truck and then they have a gun mounted in the back, what's
- 22 commonly called a technical, with some imagery you can --
- 23 Q. [11:58:39] You can see it.
- A. [11:58:40] -- see the gun mounted in the back, but in other imagery you don't get
- 25 that level of detail.

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- 1 Q. [11:58:46] No. You did not encounter any level of detail in this regard --
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. -- in this situation; that's correct?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. [11:58:56] Yeah. Speaking about trucks, Mr Bromley, then I make a small step
- 6 also again to the district of Yaloké. In your report you describe on the last -- the last
- 7 page that you observed a large truck convoy parked on the road adjacent and perhaps
- 8 this was a social event relating to the trucks and not an IDP camp.
- 9 A. [11:59:31] Yes.
- 10 Q. [11:59:32] It's -- you recall it, Mr Bromley?
- 11 A. [11:59:35] Yes.
- 12 Q. [11:59:35] It's on your last page. So I deduce from your analysis in this regard
- that you apparently were able to detect that there was a large truck there?
- 14 A. [11:59:58] Yes.
- 15 Q. [11:59:59] And you associated that truck with perhaps -- perhaps a social event?
- 16 A. [12:00:07] Well, so these are, you know, typical transport trucks, heavy, heavy
- 17 freight trucks. I believe them to be parked because they're all very close together,
- 18 there's no dust, they don't appear to be moving. And then, yeah, nearby you have
- 19 something that looks like tent shelters. However, this is also 14 February 2015, so
- again so much time has passed that, yeah, there's some doubt that those are displaced
- 21 person shelters. Maybe this is an important truck convoy and they just arrived and
- 22 they get some sort of refreshment was all I was thinking there.
- Q. [12:00:59] So here, and that's my point here, we have an example whereby you
- 24 were able to identify this type of truck not being a military truck, so it's fair to say that
- 25 if you would have seen on one of the images a vehicle which resembles a military

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- 1 truck, you would have reported this; is that correct?
- 2 A. [12:01:24] Yeah. And, yeah, in general vehicles were very sparse.
- 3 Q. [12:01:28] Sparse?
- 4 A. [12:01:28] Yeah, yeah, a few here and there but certainly nothing that --
- 5 Q. [12:01:35] Right, yeah, yeah.
- 6 A. [12:01:36] -- looked off.
- 7 Q. [12:01:36] Okay, I'll go back to the first district because we are -- we went back
- 8 and forth with Yaloké, but still speaking about the district of Bangui. On page 3 of
- 9 your report, and I ask you to look at footnote 7, footnote 7, it is said that "... in Bangui
- a smaller analysis area was designated to shorten [the] time required for analysis."
- And my question to you is, Mr Bromley, what would be the direct implications of
- 12 such a reduced analysis? When you mention a smaller analysis area was designated,
- does it mean that the area was kept smaller from your perspective as researcher, or
- 14 does it mean that the quality of that area was reduced?
- 15 A. [12:02:35] The first.
- 16 Q. [12:02:36] The first?
- 17 A. [12:02:37] Yeah, I -- I analysed a smaller area because I was running out of time.
- 18 A larger area takes longer to analyse and so I made the judgment call to -- to analyse
- 19 a subset of the image as opposed to the entire image.
- 20 Q. [12:02:57] Right. Thank you. With respect to the area of Bimbo, you also
- 21 indicate that no imagery was acquired for Bimbo. Also here the question is what
- 22 was your decision not to purchase the images for the Bimbo area? And also here,
- 23 was this your choice or was this a choice made in consultation with the OTP, or is
- 24 the answer the same, that it was a budgetary --
- 25 A. [12:03:26] It was a budgetary limitation. OTP would have preferred that I

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analysed -- or purchased and analysed everything, but yeah, we were -- I was under

- 2 significant constraints for this.
- 3 Q. [12:03:41] I understand.
- 4 With respect to the Cattin neighbourhood you indicated that no information was
- 5 provided on the location of Cattin and therefore it could not be reliably located. Was
- 6 this a matter of problems with the coordinates or was this -- had it a different reason
- 7 why no information was provided on the location of Cattin?
- 8 A. [12:04:09] Yeah, there were no coordinates provided for Cattin, if I remember
- 9 correctly. It was mentioned in the letter of enquiry, but no specific coordinates were
- 10 given. And I actually got into this issue a bit in the last couple of days and Cattin is
- probably very well known in Bangui, but it's not represented in any of the geospatial
- data that I have access to.
- 13 Q. [12:04:44] I understand, yeah. Then we go to the Boeing mosque. Already
- 14 touched upon this morning, Mr Bromley. Prosecution asked you already about
- 15 the qualification consistent with arson, consistent with arson. But you answered that
- 16 based on at that time the QuickBird satellite, which is not longer -- any longer
- 17 commissioned, you said the resolution was lower, less clear image due to age of
- 18 the -- the age of the sensor and so all in all it just yields to a less clear image.
- 19 Can you explain to the Court what implication does it have with and for your
- 20 qualification consistent with arson. Is there any -- what is the degree of uncertainty
- 21 you can tell us? If you say on the one hand, the QuickBird satellite at that time,
- 22 which is now decommissioned, had several impediments, on the one hand, and still
- 23 you were able to say, well, it's consistent with arson, what degree of uncertainty can
- 24 we expect from such a qualification?
- 25 A. [12:06:11] That's hard to say. I mean, first of all, it's not that the satellite got old

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and was getting less and less quality over time. It's just that it was an older -- older

- 2 model, you know, and not as robust as the newer models because technological
- 3 advancements in sensor technology had been made. How much it changes my
- 4 certainty level, yeah, I mean it -- in other areas it would not have been a big factor, but
- 5 here with the vegetation you end up with a very dark landscape regardless, and so it's
- 6 harder to say if the structures are blackened within that landscape. So it does -- it
- 7 does bring some more uncertainty onto the arson issue not onto the destruction issue.
- 8 Q. [12:07:13] I understand.
- 9 A. Yeah.
- 10 Q. [12:07:14] Thank you. Now you told us this morning, Mr Bromley, with
- 11 respect to the Boeing mosque that in the direct environment of the mosque is a lot of
- 12 vegetation and trees where they were casting shadow. You would expect, if
- the mosque indeed is surrounded what you said by a lot of vegetation and trees
- casting shadows, that these would have been destroyed by arson?
- 15 A. [12:07:49] Again, it's a wet environment. A building will burn easier than a wet
- tree simply because the inside of the building is dry, so you can easily start a fire in
- 17 a building, but whether the tree is totally consumed I -- you know, I would say
- probably not, especially if it's damp, if it had recently rained. With a lot of
- 19 additional analysis you could probably determine if the vegetation had been
- 20 damaged, but again, we were constrained by time on this.
- 21 Q. [12:08:29] But the observation you made that there was a lot of vegetation and
- 22 trees surrounding the mosque casting shadow implies that that vegetation, trees, was
- 23 intact?
- 24 A. [12:08:44] Yeah, yeah. Yeah, it -- or it wasn't -- it wasn't necessarily intact, but it
- 25 wasn't damaged to a degree that I was able to see. There are other areas where, yes,

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- 1 you could see a house had been burned --
- 2 Q. [12:08:59] (Overlapping speakers)
- 3 A. [12:08:59] -- and then a small patch of grass nearby had also burned.
- 4 Q. [12:09:09] All right. When you have to ascertain the cause of the, let's put it for
- 5 the sake of argument the potential arson of the mosque, are you able to say what
- 6 the cause thereof would be?
- 7 A. [12:09:33] Beyond some sort of fire, no.
- 8 Q. [12:09:35] No. But I mean how the fire came about to exist?
- 9 A. [12:09:41] It could be a cigarette lighter, it could be a torch, it could be, you
- 10 know, any -- anything that would start with a fire, but there -- you know, it wasn't
- something like napalm, which is a munition that leaves distinct patterns. It wasn't
- things like white phosphorus or something like that.
- 13 Q. [12:10:06] But it could have been a human cause or natural cause other than an
- 14 attack?
- 15 A. [12:10:16] I wouldn't be able to comment on that. Again, when you're seeing
- 16 the individual structures burned, it's a deliberate act. But, yeah, I mean it -- whether
- it was an attack or not, I mean I -- to me it is automatically an attack if that happens,
- but I can't say who did it or motivations or anything like that.
- 19 Q. [12:10:42] But you just said it could be cigarette lit so it could be a deliberate
- 20 cigarette lit, that's what you mean to say?
- 21 A. [12:10:53] Yeah, or a cigarette lighter. I mean, there are many ways to burn
- 22 a building, I'm sure.
- 23 Q. [12:10:56] Okay. Now I ask you, Mr Bromley, to go to your report. We're still
- 24 speaking about the Bangui area. Your report mentions that blackened remains
- 25 consistent with burning are somewhat visible, but the image-colour quality and

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- 1 the 30 December is limited due to the sensor source?
- 2 A. [12:11:30] Correct.
- 3 Q. [12:11:32] So what are we to understand from your words "somewhat visible"?
- 4 It seems to me relatively vague, arbitrary, these are my words. So I ask you to
- 5 explain to the Chamber what you mean with the word "somewhat", are "somewhat"
- 6 visible"?
- 7 A. [12:11:57] So, again, yeah, with imagery analysis we are always aware we are
- 8 not there on the ground and so, you know, perhaps too much we point out when we
- 9 are feeling more uncertain. In this particular instance, for example, if you had an
- area with heavier vegetation, I would be less certain of arson of structures in those
- 11 areas.
- 12 However, a structure by itself that was blackened, you know, without any nearby
- 13 vegetation casting shadow or anything like that, then even in that lower quality
- 14 imagery I would call that burning. So on balance you just have less areas where I am
- more certain of the burning, because of the lower quality of the imagery.
- 16 Q. [12:12:51] Right. Thank you.
- 17 Now I ask you to pay attention to the -- your assessment on the Yamwara school.
- 18 You have concluded that "No obvious gathering of individuals or gravesites are
- 19 visible on any of those days" you researched "nor any significant changes of any kind
- 20 that may indicate graves."
- 21 My first question is: Does satellite imagery permit you as an expert to identify
- 22 whether individuals on the ground are indeed, for instance, children belonging to
- 23 the school or adults? Is this at all possible?
- 24 A. [12:13:44] So if -- if the conditions are right and people are casting a long enough
- 25 shadow, then we are seeing the shadow that they cast, with -- with most of the

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1 imagery that I've used here. And so, yeah, a lot of times, you know, if you see

- 2 a soccer pitch somewhere, you can see where the players are because they're casting
- 3 a shadow.
- 4 But the difference between children and adults, I would not do that. The only time
- 5 we've done that is when we look at bodies laid out for burial and wrapped up in
- 6 shrouds and then, since they're laying on the ground and they're in a white shroud,
- 7 you can measure each one and tell which one are children and which one are adults.
- 8 But that did not happen here.
- 9 Q. [12:14:37] In your table, which is not included, this observation, in your report,
- 10 but in your table 1 on page 4 of your report, Mr Bromley, you say in the third column
- that, in brackets, "normal schoolyard activity seen on 27 November 2013". And it
- struck me that this is not reflected as such in your report, so how were you able to
- conclude that on 27 November 2013, apart from not observing any gravesites or
- 14 gatherings, that was as of 30 December, that on 27 November apparently you were
- able to detect with the satellite imagery that was normal schoolyard activity going on
- 16 on that day?
- 17 A. [12:15:41] So the satellite image is collected roughly 11 in the morning local time.
- 18 And I recall -- I don't recall what day of the week 27 November was, but I think it was
- 19 a schoolday, a weekday, and, yeah, when you look at it you see exactly what is
- 20 a schoolyard would look like at 11 a.m., you know, on a school morning. You see,
- 21 you know, people scattered around which you could interpret to be just normal
- 22 schoolyard activity but not a -- you know, not a large group basically.
- 23 Q. [12:16:23] Yeah. Do I take it from your answer, Mr Bromley, that the satellite
- 24 image taken on that day was of the time 11 in the morning --
- 25 A. Yeah.

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- 1 Q. -- 11 a.m.?
- 2 A. [12:16:38] It'll be somewhere around there, say 10.30 to 11.15 for natural
- 3 historical reasons is when the satellites usually collect their imagery.
- 4 Q. [12:16:51] Yeah, yeah. You just said sometimes it's possible based on the sheer
- 5 size of the individual to detect whether it's a child or an adult?
- 6 A. [12:17:01] If they're laying on the ground.
- 7 Q. [12:17:04] If they're laying on the ground?
- 8 A. [12:17:05] Yeah. And, you know, wrapped in a white shroud or wearing
- 9 something that is easy to discern.
- 10 Q. [12:17:11] Right. So based -- based on these ingredients, you came to
- the conclusion it's a normal school day, normal school activities (Overlapping
- 12 speakers)
- 13 A. [12:17:29] Only -- yeah, only based on the time of day and just the way
- 14 the activity looked in the image, not any attribute of the size of the individuals seen.
- 15 Q. [12:17:39] Yeah. Thank you. Now I go to the area of Bangui PK9. Also here
- 16 the Prosecution asked you to verify the existence of a checkpoint at or next to
- the bridge crossing the M'Poko River in PK9 after beginning of January 2014.
- 18 My first question to you, Mr Bromley, on this subject relates to page 5 of your report.
- 19 You used images from 30 December 2013 till 28 February 2014. Why did you decide
- 20 to purchase the image of 30 December 2013? was this your decision or was it made
- 21 in consultation with the OTP?
- 22 A. [12:18:37] That would have been my decision. And if I recall correctly, yeah, I
- 23 wanted something what we would call, you know, "pre".
- 24 Q. [12:18:54] For comparison?
- 25 A. [12:18:56] Correct, yeah.

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- 1 Q. [12:18:56] Yeah, I thought so, yeah.
- 2 A. [12:18:57] Yeah.
- 3 Q. [12:18:58] And were there any differences between those images when making
- 4 that comparison?
- 5 A. [12:19:07] I mean, as I say, the eastern side of the bridge includes, you know,
- 6 what we would call market-like activity. So there is not a large amount of difference
- 7 except for the fact there are different vehicles and different groups of people visible
- 8 there.
- 9 Q. [12:19:44] On page 6 you conclude there was no checkpoint visible. That's
- 10 correct, I think?
- 11 A. [12:19:51] Yeah, I mean, in satellite imagery, you know, a proper checkpoint
- 12 with a, you know, arm across the road or a fortification, you know, a fighting position
- of some sort, that would all be visible. A guy standing there with a rifle stopping
- cars, not visible at all. The fact that there are cars stopped there, I have -- you know,
- I can't tell are they there for a Coca-Cola or are they there because somebody stopped
- them and it's a checkpoint in that sense.
- 17 Q. [12:20:34] Yeah.
- 18 A. [12:20:36] Even if they lay stones across the road, we would usually see -- see
- 19 some indication of that. You know, any, any military base, anything with
- 20 a controlled access, you know, when you have to weave your vehicle through what
- 21 we call chicanes, all of that is visible, that's what we would call a checkpoint. If there
- 22 was an actual barrier across the road like, you know, a barricade, we call that
- 23 a roadblock. But in this case none of that was visible. Vehicles were stopped.
- 24 There are people there. If it was a checkpoint, it was not a, a physical constructed

25 checkpoint.

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- 1 Q. [12:21:20] I see. Thank you.
- 2 A. [12:21:24] It was -- yeah.
- 3 Q. [12:21:25] Yeah, yeah. Just to go one question back before I pursue with this
- 4 question. How would you define the market-like activity? Is there something here
- 5 specific which led you to the conclusion that there was a market-like activity? You
- 6 just mentioned already the way the people were grouped or (Overlapping speakers)
- 7 A. [12:21:52] Yeah, I mean, so there are what we would consider, you know,
- 8 probable market stalls, meaning, you know, the little kiosk selling sodas and
- 9 whatever. They were not there several years ago, it was a -- it was a relatively recent
- development. And then the fact that there are vehicles stopped there and people
- 11 gathered, yeah, is consistent with a market-like area.
- 12 Now, a -- there are other parts of the city where there is the traditional market which
- is much denser, it's not along a main road.
- 14 Q. [12:22:34] Yes, yeah.
- 15 A. [12:22:36] And yeah, those markets are elsewhere. But, yeah, this -- this looked
- like, you know, the last refreshment stand before you leave the area.
- 17 Q. [12:22:47] Yeah, yeah. When you mention, Mr Bromley, in your report that
- prior Google image actually reflected similar market-like activities for some years,
- does it mean that you went beyond this information and you also looked into these
- 20 Google images to compare whether those activities throughout these years didn't
- 21 change?
- 22 A. [12:23:17] Right, right. Yeah, I was interested in when that collection of
- 23 structures actually appeared.
- 24 Q. [12:23:22] Yeah, yeah.
- 25 A. [12:23:22] But, yeah, I used -- I used Google Earth Pro for that --

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- 1 Q. [12:23:27] Yeah.
- 2 A. [12:23:27] -- because we didn't buy the imagery.
- 3 Q. [12:23:30] And you identified no substantive changes in these type of activities?
- 4 A. [12:23:37] Not -- it grew a bit over time so the addition of new possible market
- 5 kiosks. I do recall it was -- you know, it was empty at some point, you know, I think
- 6 back in maybe 2007 or that area.
- 7 Q. [12:23:57] Yeah. But all in the context of market-like activity?
- 8 A. [12:24:01] Yeah.
- 9 Q. [12:24:02] So this -- that was the only thing which grew in your assessment of
- 10 those images?
- 11 A. [12:24:08] Yeah.
- 12 Q. [12:24:09] My final question on -- in regards to PK9 is a question also out of
- curiosity and maybe it's also relevant, we don't know what you're going to say about
- 14 that. In your annex 1, map 1b, inset 1 there is an image where there is a white object
- in the centre.
- 16 A. [12:24:39] Mm-hmm.
- 17 Q. [12:24:40] Maybe you'll recall it. It's --
- 18 A. [12:24:42] Yeah, I see it.
- 19 Q. [12:24:43] -- for the Court, CAR-OTP-2127-6653.
- 20 You see a small white object?
- 21 A. [12:24:51] Yeah.
- 22 Q. [12:24:52] I have my own interpretation, but I would like to ask you,
- 23 Mr Bromley, what is your interpretation of that white object?
- 24 A. [12:25:02] Yeah, so it's -- it's a flare. It's exactly what happens with your
- 25 eyeballs if you look into a light that's too bright. So in this particular case that's

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- 1 probably a metal roof that's reflecting sunlight directly into the sensor and the line
- 2 that you see coming off of, you know, the bulb, is simply because the sensor is
- 3 moving very fast so it essentially drags that point for, you know, 20 -- 20 metres or so,
- 4 but it's the same -- the sensor was saturated by -- by reflected light.
- 5 Q. [12:25:42] It's reflected in the screen.
- 6 A. [12:25:46] Yeah.
- 7 Q. [12:25:46] Okay, thank you. These were my questions for PK9. I'm now
- 8 moving on to Bossangoa.
- 9 Some questions based on the Prosecution question whether you could verify
- 10 the existence of an attack on Bossangoa on 5 December and the gathering of
- 11 thousands of individuals at *École de la Liberté*.
- 12 My question is, to you, Mr Bromley, in your annex 2, in your report, you indicate that
- 13 you purchased two images for Bossangoa, namely from 4 and 12 December. Three
- 14 you viewed from Google Earth, these were the ones of 16 December, 8 January and
- 15 22 January. So in my calculation, the images from 5 December, 12, 15, 16, 22,
- 16 29 December and January 16 -- 6, sorry, 14, 26 were not purchased or accessed.
- 17 If this is correct, if the calculation is correct, my question to you is why were only 5
- out of the 14 images accessed by you or purchased for the Bossangoa area? Was
- 19 there any reason for (Overlapping speakers)
- 20 A. [12:27:19] Again, yeah, budget for the purchase, and then the images that are
- 21 available on Google Earth I don't have any control over what is in there. I am only
- 22 able to see what they've -- what they've put in there. I know that they are choosing
- 23 their images, they want the highest quality, they don't want clouds or, you know,
- 24 haze or high off-nadir angles and stuff like that. So, yeah, in this particular case we
- 25 spent our budget on what we could.

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- 1 Q. [12:27:54] (Overlapping speakers)
- 2 A. [12:27:55] And then I used a few images from Google Earth, but, you know,
- 3 I don't -- I can't tell Google to put imagery on Google Earth Pro for us to look at.
- 4 Q. [12:28:05] Yeah, thank you.
- 5 My second question relates to the video which was shown to you this morning by
- 6 the Prosecution. You commented on this video, Mr Bromley, by saying that maybe
- 7 the video was taken quite some time after. Could you clarify, please, to us what you
- 8 mean or could you specify what you mean with was some time taken after
- 9 the alleged --
- 10 A. So --
- 11 Q. [12:28:36] -- underlying event?
- 12 A. [12:28:37] Yeah, I mean, you -- you know, we saw signs of fire, but we didn't see
- anything smoking, so therefore, you know, the fire had been completely extinguished.
- 14 The other thing I look for is the white ash, because the white ash tends to blow away
- 15 quite quickly, depending on the local conditions.
- And then also it's -- yeah, you know, you saw signs of fire, but maybe not enough
- so -- you know, what I was thinking was that it had rained possibly a few times
- between the video was taken -- or when the destruction happened and when
- 19 the video was taken simply because it -- yeah, that was just the feeling I had from it.
- 20 Also things like the large vehicle tyres that were in some of the buildings were
- 21 probably put there afterwards. Yeah, but it's -- yeah, it's just a quick judgment based
- 22 on that one viewing.
- 23 Q. [12:29:49] But in your estimation it's unlikely that this video was directly taken
- 24 on the spot when the incident happened?
- 25 A. [12:29:58] Definite -- yeah, I mean, you would have -- if you had seen debris

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- 1 smoking -- but, yeah, it had the feeling of an event at least, you know,
- 2 maybe -- maybe only a few days after but, yeah, certainly, certainly not during or
- 3 right after.
- 4 Q. [12:30:18] Also here, Mr Bromley, the question whether you were able to detect
- 5 if the vegetation was affected by potential arson?
- 6 A. [12:30:33] In the video?
- 7 Q. [12:30:34] Or in one of your images.
- 8 A. [12:30:39] For which particular area?
- 9 Q. [12:30:41] Bossangoa.
- 10 A. [12:30:47] One moment.
- 11 Q. [12:30:48] Because you said this morning at transcript page 32, line 18 of the
- 12 English transcript that -- you say the reason why you came to the conclusion of
- potential arson is, you said the blackened area tend to be the big clue. But you said
- 14 at the same time normally you might see vegetation immediately adjacent to
- 15 the structure also being burned.
- 16 A. [12:31:16] Not always. Again, it's going to depend on the conditions at the time.
- 17 If you had a rainy morning and someone came and burned your house down,
- 18 the vegetation might be fine.
- 19 Q. [12:31:30] Yeah. But were you able to detect here any clear signs of burning
- 20 which affected vegetation in the surroundings of --
- 21 A. [12:31:45] I don't recall specifically in Bossangoa if I saw the burned vegetation.
- 22 I didn't mention it here.
- 23 Q. [12:31:54] Right.
- 24 A. [12:31:54] But yeah, I remember the -- yeah, just the blackened skeleton of the

25 structures.

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- 1 Q. [12:32:00] I see. Thank you. Still speaking about Bossangoa, you say in your
- 2 report that the images of 4 December would include "hundreds of structures that
- 3 exhibit signs of destruction", but then you say, Mr Bromley, at the same time, "but
- 4 would need comparison with a previously acquired image for verification." That's
- 5 on page 6 of your report.
- 6 A. [12:32:31] Mm-hmm.
- 7 Q. [12:32:32] Also in footnote 9 you say the same about a different image.
- 8 My first question is: Was this comparison being made, were you able to make that
- 9 comparison?
- 10 A. [12:32:44] No. Again, we were limited by budget. I could buy what I bought
- and I -- I had it. So the -- the assessment of possible destruction by 4 December is
- 12 based because I am seeing a large amount of those skeletal structural remains, but I
- do not have a previous image with which to verify that.
- 14 Q. [12:33:13] Yeah. So this destruction, alleged destruction could have been
- occasioned before 4 December; you agree with me?
- 16 A. [12:33:23] Yes.
- 17 Q. [12:33:24] Thank you.
- 18 A. [12:33:25] For those particular structures.
- 19 Q. [12:33:27] Yes, of course.
- 20 A. [12:33:28] The ones identified on 12 December, yeah, then I'm using 4 December
- 21 as the comparison.
- Q. [12:33:34] So actually without such a comparison, a possible time frame or date
- or an extrapolation to a time frame cannot be found, cannot be concluded?
- 24 A. [12:33:50] Not with the present resources.
- 25 Q. [12:33:53] Right. Interesting, I just got an interesting message from my team.

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- 1 Do you know how much rain seasons the CAR exhibits?
- 2 A. [12:34:09] Not off the top of my head, no.
- 3 Q. [12:34:12] Okay. If I would tell you that there are two seasons, in October and
- 4 March, what would you say? Is this something which might change any of your
- 5 conclusions?
- 6 A. [12:34:24] No, no. I mean ...
- 7 Q. [12:34:27] Okay. April, September, that's the rainy season, does it ring a bell to
- 8 you?
- 9 A. [12:34:42] I do -- I do know the rainy seasons in multiple places, so, yeah,
- 10 the April to September in that part of the continent of Africa, South Sudan has
- 11 a similar rainy period. The dry period tends to be -- be December-ish. But, yeah,
- 12 you know, I do know looking at Central African Republic you will see cloud cover
- 13 year round and so, yeah, I think you could have some rain year round, it's just that
- 14 you have a rainy season.
- 15 Q. [12:35:21] Yeah. So a rainy season, if a country has several rainy seasons per
- 16 year, that could affect, of course, the extrapolation of the dates between the incident
- 17 and the imagery?
- 18 A. [12:35:41] The main thing is we would not get imagery during the rainy season
- 19 because it's consistently cloudy, but we've also seen plenty of destruction in many
- 20 places during the rainy season or right after the rainy season. I believe if you're
- 21 determined, you can burn a building in any -- in any weather, almost.
- 22 Q. [12:36:10] Speaking about Bossangoa, in your report there is a document, which
- 23 is CAR-OTP-2079-0671. And this is the document prepared by UNOSAT in
- 24 the context of its rapid emergency response, where it's indicated that additional 893
- 25 buildings between that period would have been destroyed. It mentioned, this

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document disclaimer, saying, I quote: "The depiction and use of boundaries,

- 2 geographic names and related data shown here are not warranted to be error-free ..."
- 3 What type of errors or potential disclaimers are we referring to here?
- 4 A. [12:37:20] So this refers specifically to the national boundaries or any place
- 5 names, any town names displayed. So we -- we as a United Nations entity have to
- 6 be very careful that we do not accidentally endorse, you know, some interpretation of
- 7 a boundary, and so this -- this disclaimer appears on all of our maps just because it's
- 8 better to have it on there than not have it on there. Many, many, many countries
- 9 have, you know, small border disputes with their neighbours and so if we release
- a map that takes a side of, you know, one country versus another, yeah, then that
- disclaimer is what keeps us out of trouble, for lack of a better term.
- 12 Q. [12:38:20] Speaking about Bossangoa still, we arrive at the assessment of the
- 13 École de la Liberté, you did indicate that a tent encampment is not visible as of
- 4 December but is clearly visible as of 12 December 2013, and you said it numbers
- around a hundred tent structures by 22 April -- sorry, January 2014. This morning in
- 16 your evidence you gave to the Office of the Prosecutor you said: We would
- 17 commonly identify these tents as IDP shelters. How are you able to identify these
- 18 structures as IDF shelters?
- 19 A. [12:39:15] IDP.
- 20 Q. [12:39:17] IDP, internally displaced persons shelters.
- 21 A. [12:39:24] Primarily based on years of experience of looking at this sort of stuff
- 22 and also given the context, reports of violence, reports of displaced persons and then
- 23 suddenly you see a tent encampment popping up. I don't know of another way to
- 24 explain that during a period of conflict.
- 25 Q. [12:39:57] So can I take it that you came to this conclusion based on not a visual

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1 assessment but a combination of your experience, your interpretation of certain

- 2 reports what happened in the CAR?
- 3 A. [12:40:13] It's partially visible just because the way they are clustered together.
- 4 I mean, it's not a -- it's not a social encampment, there's not a games area or something
- 5 like that.
- 6 But, you know, I've looked at a lot of these in Somalia, South Sudan and a lot of other
- 7 places and, yeah, it's a tent encampment in the middle of a conflict situation. It's not
- 8 military. Military ones would be -- would have a perimeter, there would be fighting
- 9 positions. But, yeah, in the absence of any other explanation, we would call it an IDP
- 10 settlement.
- 11 Q. [12:40:56] But it could be an encampment by people who decided to shelter
- 12 there without being displaced persons?
- 13 A. [12:41:09] Theoretically, yes.
- 14 Q. [12:41:11] Do you agree that the terminology "displaced persons" is
- a terminology you cannot use as expert, because it relates to a certain normative
- 16 qualification?
- 17 A. [12:41:27] I mean, it is a very standard term in our world. Mostly we explain to
- 18 people you're not a refugee until you cross a border. Until you cross a border,
- 19 you are internally displaced, IDPs. And, yeah, we -- we map this so much in so
- 20 many countries that -- that, yeah, I ...
- 21 Q. [12:41:56] But are you able to distinguish, Mr Bromley, between a white tent put
- 22 by persons who decided to voluntarily shelter and a white tent set up by internally
- 23 displaced persons, are you able to differentiate this based (Overlapping speakers)
- 24 A. [12:42:12] Not necessarily, no. I mean, in some areas if you see rather luxurious
- 25 campgrounds, then we might not call them displaced persons. Bedouin tents in

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1 the desert, for example, are kind of a different story. But, yeah, this is -- you know,

- 2 it's a contextual thing for us --
- 3 Q. [12:42:38] Yeah.
- 4 A. [12:42:39] -- conflict and shelters appearing.
- 5 Q. [12:42:42] So I understand from your testimony that before you took on this
- 6 assignment, you did read a lot about the conflict in the CAR and what happened
- 7 there and you took this into account when qualifying these tents as IDPs --
- 8 A. [12:43:00] I did not --
- 9 Q. [12:43:02] -- shelters.
- 10 A. [12:43:03] So we were very focused on Central African Republic back in 2013/14,
- my team and I. So the map that you referenced earlier was produced at that time.
- 12 We did a lot of analysis on the conflict as it developed. For this -- for anything I do
- 13 for the -- for the ICC, I don't generally go out and look for any additional information.
- 14 I -- I stay confined to what's in the letter of instruction.
- 15 Q. [12:43:37] Yeah. But, Mr Bromley, take away, take away the conflict, take away
- all your knowledge on the conflict and you see from a satellite image a cluster of
- 17 white tents, and I would ask you, Mr Bromley, can you identify whether these tents
- are tents by displaced persons or by ordinary civilians, what would be your answer?
- 19 Extract it from the conflict.
- 20 A. [12:44:12] Yeah, I mean, if you just showed me random images of tents and
- 21 didn't tell me where they were, yeah, it could be a campground, you know, here in
- 22 the Netherlands. The only other thing is just the way these are grouped together,
- 23 you know, they're in a small place -- small a space as possible, they're as crowded
- 24 together as they can be, and so, yeah, that to me would perhaps say not a -- not
- a social event, but yeah, I mean, at the end I'm seeing tents. And, yeah, that's -- that's

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- all I would say purely based on the imagery.
- 2 Q. [12:45:02] You ever went to youth camp --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. -- in your youth?
- 5 A. [12:45:05] Yes.
- 6 Q. [12:45:06] Speaking about clustering tents. I'll leave it at that.
- 7 Mr Bromley, speaking about the situation in Bossangoa in those days, you reported
- 8 there were no obvious signs of roadblocks and checkpoints and you reviewed
- 9 the image from Google Earth Pro collected on 16 December 2013. But you say at
- a certain point in your report that a possible group of people estimated at 10-20
- metres is visible on the east side of the bridge of the Ouham River, and that this may
- be the only potential checkpoint based on that location.
- 13 And my question to you is: How did you arrive at the conclusion that this was
- 14 a potential checkpoint and if it's correct that this was the only potential checkpoint
- 15 you were able to detect on the basis of the materials?
- 16 A. [12:46:23] So again, just like PK9, you know, if a checkpoint is constructed, if it's
- a physical checkpoint with a barrier and a fighting position of some sort, then that is
- 18 visible. If it is one or two people standing there stopping cars, or stopping people,
- 19 we wouldn't see it.
- 20 In some areas of the world where people have more -- you know, where cars are more
- 21 frequent, you can identify checkpoints because you just have two lines of opposing
- 22 cars stopped in the middle of the road for no reason. But here there's very few
- vehicles so we don't see anything like that.
- 24 The group of people at the bridge, the main thing there is they are at a bridge and so
- 25 if you want to cross that bridge you have to go through those people. And given

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- the timing of the image acquisition, yes, that could be a checkpoint. But for me it
- 2 was the bridge that was -- you know, that's an ideal place for a checkpoint. There's --
- 3 Q. [12:47:48] So that was the only reference, the bridge?
- 4 A. [12:47:51] And the group of people.
- 5 Q. [12:47:52] But this group of people could have moved?
- 6 A. [12:47:54] Yeah, yeah, they could have been walking. This is -- a satellite image
- 7 is a moment in time.
- 8 Q. [12:47:58] A moment.
- 9 A. Yeah.
- 10 Q. So these people could have moved from one side of the bridge to the other?
- 11 A. [12:48:07] Yeah. They look like they're grouped there, but, yeah, that's -- it was
- really their position related to the bridge. It is a very good location for a checkpoint.
- 13 Q. Yeah.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:48:19] May I shortly.
- 15 I think from the wording of your report you say "... a possible group of people ... this
- may be the only potential checkpoint", I think we can deduct from that that there
- there is a high level of uncertainty, if not speculation, if I may word it like that, in that;
- 18 isn't that correct?
- 19 THE WITNESS: [12:48:42] Yeah, yeah. I mean, it -- looking at it I would say it's
- 20 a group of people. If you wanted to go out and put up, you know, 15 wooden posts
- 21 to make it look like a group of people, then I would not be able to tell the difference.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:48:59] I think that that is clear (Overlapping
- 23 speakers)
- 24 MR KNOOPS: [12:49:01] Thank you, Mr President, yes.
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:49:02] Also it's clear to the Chamber, I think.

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- 1 MR KNOOPS: [12:49:07] Yes.
- 2 Q. I look at the time, I just have 11 minutes, Mr Bromley, I would like to finish my
- 3 questions before 1. So I quickly move on to move to the district of Berbérati, some
- 4 questions on this.
- 5 First of all, you mentioned that 15 structures were visibly damaged or destroyed.
- 6 Also here the question is: Could you ascertain the cause of the damage or
- 7 destruction? For instance, is it possible based on the satellite image evidence to say
- 8 it's a natural cause, it could be natural, could be human cause, and if human, what
- 9 would be the underlying activity which caused this damage?
- 10 A. [12:49:48] I do say occasional blackened remains indicate arson, so there were
- 11 a few that appeared black. The rest generally appear as roofless structures with
- skeletal interior remains and that could indicate fire, but the signs of it have -- have
- 13 gone by the time the image was collected.
- 14 Q. Right.
- 15 A. [12:50:19] I can say again high explosives, no. You know, heavy munitions, no.
- But, yeah, I mean, people could pull it apart with their hands and it would look
- 17 the same.
- 18 Q. [12:50:33] Of course, but also the exact time of destruction you cannot deduct
- 19 from the evidence you were shown?
- 20 A. [12:50:43] Right. I have images 16 January and 9 March.
- 21 Q. [12:50:47] So it could be at a different time frame caused?
- 22 A. [12:50:53] (No verbal response)
- 23 Q. [12:50:57] Yeah, right. With respect to Berbérati, the question was put to you
- 24 by the Prosecution whether there was -- to verify the existence of a gathering around
- 25 300 Muslims in the compound of the Catholic mission throughout 2014. It may be

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an open door, but are you able as an expert to say if an individual is a Muslim or not

- 2 based on satellite imagery?
- 3 A. [12:51:23] An individual, no.
- 4 Q. [12:51:25] Right. So the question to you whether there is a gathering of 300
- 5 Muslims is not a question you could answer at all?
- 6 A. [12:51:33] I think I was only told 300 people in the letter of instruction.
- 7 Q. [12:51:38] Okay.
- 8 A. [12:51:39] Yeah.
- 9 Q. [12:51:40] But, in any event, you didn't detect any obvious gatherings on
- 10 the basis of the evidence --
- 11 A. [12:51:47] No, and --
- 12 Q. -- correct?
- 13 A. [12:51:49] Right. Again, we were limited by budget.
- 14 Q. [12:51:51] Yeah, right.
- 15 A. [12:51:52] Now, just to be clear --
- 16 Q. Yes.
- 17 A. [12:51:52] -- things like a cathedral, a church, a wealthier mosque with a minaret,
- these are things you can see in imagery, Buddhist pagodas, stuff like that. But, yeah,
- individuals, no, you can't -- you can't tell any religion of a person based on an image.
- 20 Q. [12:52:22] Yeah. And were you able to label one of these buildings or
- 21 structures as a Catholic church?
- 22 A. [12:52:35] There were -- I did look at other maps to see where church
- 23 compounds were. In general in this area they're bigger and wealthier looking than
- 24 other things you might see. Sometimes you see the -- you know, the cross on
- 25 the rooftop or something like that or they've, you know, laid out stones in like a cross

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- 1 pattern or something. I don't recall if I saw anything of that here.
- 2 Q. [12:53:12] Right. Thank you. I have some questions on Boda.
- 3 The images you reviewed were from 8 January and 28 February 2014, but the alleged
- 4 attack was from 29 January in Boda. My question to you is: Is there any way to
- 5 discern if the alleged destruction occurred on that specific date indicated by
- 6 the Prosecution in its letter to you, if there is any indication for you to say this is likely,
- 7 not likely?
- 8 A. [12:53:52] No. I -- yeah, these two image dates are what I had.
- 9 Q. [12:53:56] Okay.
- 10 A. [12:53:59] Nothing -- again, your ideal situation would be an image 28 January
- and 30 January, but that never happens.
- 12 Q. [12:54:09] Yeah, the probability of fire which you indicated as a potential cause
- of the damage, you say an obvious -- that an obvious market area and many large
- 14 commercial structures were destroyed and the cause thereof being probably fire,
- 15 page 7 of your report.
- 16 Did you take into account other causes which may look like fire and cause blackened
- 17 remains or collapsed structures, is there in your experience any other alternative
- 18 explanation to it?
- 19 A. [12:54:52] I mean, if you're (Overlapping speakers)
- 20 Q. [12:54:54] Plus you mention probably fire.
- 21 A. [12:54:56] Yeah. I mean, again, I don't -- if you're talking -- if you're talking
- 22 about people demolishing structures and painting them black in order to fool
- 23 satellites, that is certainly possible, of course. But, yeah, based on the imagery that
- 24 we have or based on the context, I'll assume that's not the case.
- 25 Q. [12:55:19] Yeah.

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- 1 A. [12:55:21] So, yeah, we would say probably fire.
- 2 Q. [12:55:23] But also here like you answered before, Mr Bromley, it could
- 3 be -- the underlying cause could be a cigarette lighter or any other form not being, as
- 4 to say, deliberate acts of arson?
- 5 A. [12:55:39] That would be an awful lot of cigarettes.
- 6 Q. [12:55:42] Yeah. When you speak of the enclave, the alleged enclave in
- 7 the context of -- we're still in the area of Boda, you were asked by the Office of
- 8 the Prosecution whether this compound was surrounded by water in the area. And
- 9 then you answer, well, if water is considered to be a small waterway fashioned into
- 10 pools which envelop an area of the north of Boda, then there is a potential candidate.
- 11 Is this not, with all due respect, also purely speculation?
- 12 A. [12:56:51] This was -- so there were no buildings that were perfectly encircled by
- like a moat of water. However, if you were trying to run from this compound, you
- 14 would quickly run into water. But, yeah, there was nothing where there was a -- you
- 15 know, a compound with a perfect moat of water around it and so, yeah, that was
- the best I could kind of think of based on what was in the letter.
- 17 Q. [12:57:31] Yeah. Thank you. In my last four minutes I would like to take you
- 18 to Carnot and my question to you is, the Prosecution asked to you verify the existence
- of a gathering of around 1,500 to 2,000 individuals at the Catholic compound in
- 20 Carnot, following the February 2014 attack. Your answer was no, no clear indication
- of a Catholic compound, et cetera. My question to you is: If such gathering would
- 22 have existed on those days, would it be easy for you to detect this on the images you
- 23 have seen?
- 24 A. [12:58:18] So with imagery on 4 March or 19 January, basically, yeah, that many
- 25 people would certainly be visible. That's -- that's a fairly large gathering. But

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- 1 the -- yeah, I didn't see anything like that, but, yeah, if they were there on 4 March,
- 2 unless they were in buildings somehow, you know, under cover, but if they were
- 3 outside kind of camped out in the open as we saw earlier, then that would -- that
- 4 would almost certainly be visible.
- 5 Q. [12:59:01] Of course that was the question, whether they were visible on the
- 6 compound.
- 7 A. [12:59:05] Yeah.
- 8 Q. [12:59:08] Yeah.
- 9 A. [12:59:09] But again, I think the compound was big enough that if -- yeah, if you
- 10 put people in different buildings and basements, you could probably fit, you know,
- 11 that number of people in there, but they just weren't outside where -- where I was
- 12 going to see them.
- 13 Q. [12:59:22] Yeah. Thank you very much. My questions on the district of
- 14 Yaloké, we already discussed when we started, Mr Bromley, the interrogation of you,
- and the same counts for the district which preceded, that's the -- I think that was
- 16 the -- one second, please.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:59:57] I think you went through all of them, I
- 18 would say.
- 19 MR KNOOPS: [13:00:00] Yeah, I went through -- Yaloké we already discussed. So
- 20 it's 1 o'clock, I just have one final question from my team.
- 21 Q. [13:00:16] Right, my final question, Mr Bromley, apologies for mentioning that
- I was finished, but I have one question. In annex 1 of your report, page 6, that's map
- 4, the image assessment represents a damage and destruction occurred in Boda,
- 24 28 February 2014. The OTP introduced to you a map, that's CAR-OTP-2080-1476,
- 25 and that was allegedly an area identified as a Muslim area. Was this taken into

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- 1 account in your analysis?
- 2 A. [13:01:14] No, I don't think that -- that was --
- 3 Q. [13:01:18] Because it seems to us, if we look at it, that this part was not destroyed.
- 4 Can you verify this? This is my last question.
- 5 A. [13:01:29] Can you say that again, sorry.
- 6 Q. [13:01:33] The map is OTP-2080- and then the following numbers 1476. That
- 7 area is identified by the Prosecution as a Muslim area.
- 8 A. [13:01:51] Okay, yeah. I mean, I haven't seen this map before, but yeah, I think
- 9 I see what you're going for. Give me --
- 10 Q. [13:01:57] Can you recall whether you were able to detect from the imagery if
- this area was affected in any way by arson or any form of destruction?
- 12 A. [13:02:10] At the northern, so the uppermost part of it you see some destruction
- and then a few scattered instances in the interior. But, yeah, it's --
- 14 Q. [13:02:29] Largely intact?
- 15 A. [13:02:31] Yeah, much more intact than the stuff around it.
- Now that map is May 2014 and this image is 28 February, so that would have
- 17 a -- again, the dates are always important.
- 18 Q. [13:02:45] Thank you very much, Mr Bromley, for your time. And apologies
- 19 that I passed the time limit with two minutes. Sorry. Thank you.
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [13:02:58] This is within the margin that we would
- 21 always give you. Thank you very much, Mr Knoops.
- We will now have the break until 2.30 and then we will start with the Yekatom
- 23 Defence, Mr Antley.
- 24 THE COURT USHER: [13:03:17] All rise.
- 25 (Recess taken at 1.03 p.m.)

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- 1 (Upon resuming in open session at 2.32 p.m.)
- 2 THE COURT USHER: [14:32:33] All rise.
- 3 Please be seated.
- 4 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [14:33:01] Good afternoon.
- 5 Mr Antley, you have the floor.
- 6 MR ANTLEY: [14:33:13] Thank you, your Honour. And everyone around
- 7 the courtroom.
- 8 QUESTIONED BY MR ANTLEY:
- 9 Q. [14:33:20] Mr Bromley, I have a few questions for you today about your report
- and some of the things that you covered today in direct examination.
- 11 I'm going to start with the change in location or the supposed location of the
- 12 Boeing mosque. Yesterday you indicated that you felt that you had one location for
- the mosque and that you clarified it this morning; is that correct?
- 14 A. [14:33:49] Say that again, I'm sorry.
- 15 Q. [14:33:51] Sure.
- 16 A. [14:33:54] Ah, no, I understand what you're asking. I -- I felt I was obligated to
- point out that there was a possible structure directly adjacent to the coordinates as
- opposed to, you know, 10 to 20 metres away. But it's -- it's faint and difficult to see,
- 19 so it's a possible.
- 20 Q. [14:34:26] And is there anything that prompted you to make this change last
- 21 night?
- 22 A. [14:34:32] Not really. Just having another look at -- at the imagery and
- 23 preparing my testimony and, you know, erring on the side of caution, essentially.
- Q. [14:34:47] If we can take a step back, is there anything in satellite imagery that
- 25 can assist you with determining if a building is a mosque?

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- 1 A. [14:34:55] If it has a minaret. So, you know, we look at Syria a lot of course
- 2 and, yeah, so a more expensive mosque with a minaret is generally how we would
- 3 identify it.
- 4 Q. [14:35:14] Is there a minaret visible on either of these two possible locations?
- 5 A. [14:35:18] No, not that I could see.
- 6 Q. [14:35:25] When you look at mosques in other places is there anything else that
- 7 can assist you with determining if it is a mosque?
- 8 A. [14:35:31] I mean if it appears on a map. Off the top of my head, I mean, we
- 9 also -- if there is a cemetery associated with it and the graves are oriented in a certain
- 10 direction. But that's not always the case.
- Q. [14:35:55] What about the orientation of the building itself, can that assist you?
- 12 A. [14:36:01] I don't recall that I've ever done it that way, but we would usually rely
- on the minaret. That is a question I will follow up on myself, but, yeah, in general
- the orientation of the building itself is not something I've used.
- 15 Q. [14:36:25] But are you aware of others who may use the orientation of the
- building towards Mecca? In this instance it would be towards the north-east.
- 17 A. [14:36:35] No, I mean, this building is almost due north-south. The larger
- building is north-east, depending on which end.
- 19 Q. [14:36:54] Thank you very much, Mr Bromley. If I can next take you to a video
- 20 that the Prosecution took when they tried to measure the GPS of the mosque.
- 21 And for the court officer that's CAR-OTP-2121-2859, that's at tab 11. And if it's with
- 22 the sound off, I believe that can be public.
- 23 (Viewing of the video excerpt)
- 24 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [14:37:42] So we are seeing it already, for everyone.
- 25 (Viewing of the video excerpt)

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- 1 MR ANTLEY: [14:37:52] Thank you, your Honour.
- 2 Q. [14:37:53] There were just two points there, Mr Bromley. I don't know if you
- 3 could have your attention drawn to -- there is a building on your left, a large white
- 4 building.
- 5 A. [14:38:02] Mm-hmm.
- 6 Q. [14:38:03] Thanks. And then as well there was a large sort of empty, empty
- 7 concrete platform, correct?
- 8 A. [14:38:11] Yeah.
- 9 Q. [14:38:17] Okay. (Microphone not activated) Now if we can also go to
- 10 CAR-D29-0008-0001, that's a YouTube video, it's public. It's from 3 March 2021 and
- it's a MINUSCA video of 26 February 2021 about the reopening of a mosque in
- 12 Bangui.
- 13 And if we can go to 1:47, please. I guess if we keep the sound off, that's fine too.
- 14 Thank you.
- 15 So just before we do play it, sorry, if we can all just keep that white building there in
- 16 the back and then if we can play it now. Thank you.
- 17 (Viewing of the video excerpt)
- 18 MR ANTLEY: [14:39:52]
- 19 Q. [14:39:52] So again there was a large foundation there, and then again the white
- 20 building. Also appear to be prayer mats, some sort of structure over the foundation.
- 21 And then if we can actually go back again, I'm sorry, to 2 minutes -- I'm sorry, 01:47.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [14:40:20] Yeah. And could we perhaps for
- 23 the benefit of the Chamber elaborate where this is supposed to be exactly. So I
- 24 assume that might be your line of questioning, but I simply would indicate that we

25 would like to orientate ourselves also.

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- 1 MR ANTLEY: [14:40:39] Absolutely, your Honour. What I'm hoping to suggest
- 2 here is that this is a video that is the same area that we saw on the Prosecution
- 3 video, sir.
- 4 Okay. So again just I would like to draw attention to the white building there.
- 5 We can take that off the screen now. (Microphone not activated)
- 6 Go to CAR-D29-0005-0144, that's at tab 15. I don't think there's anything in it that
- 7 would make it confidential, so you could just play it publicly.
- 8 Q. [14:41:47] So the first figure there, Mr Bromley, is a comparison between what
- 9 we saw in the Prosecution video, 2121-2859, and then the YouTube video of the
- 10 Boeing mosque, just to show the orientation as his Honour asked where we were for
- both videos. Would you agree with me that those videos -- or those buildings do
- 12 appear to be the same buildings?
- 13 A. [14:42:19] They appear to be.
- 14 Q. [14:42:20] Okay. Can we scroll down, please. And again the first set of
- images there is another demonstration of the white building that we see multiple
- times in the YouTube video. And then the second set of images, that is the large
- foundation along with the house in the back which we've highlighted in yellow or
- orange, as your eye colour may be. And then in the YouTube video we've tried to
- 19 indicate the same structures there.
- Would you agree with me as well, Mr Bromley, that that appears to be the same,
- 21 the same house and, as a consequence, the same foundational area?
- 22 A. [14:43:09] Yes, looks to be.
- 23 Q. [14:43:11] Okay.
- Now if we can go to the next page, please, and if we can shrink that so I can get both
- 25 satellite images on the same screen.

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- 1 And I appreciate, Mr Bromley, this is all a bit last minute. The top, if we can -- this is
- 2 from 8 December 2013, it's from Google Earth, it's a satellite image. And what we've
- 3 tried to do is highlight -- I guess, court officer, sorry, can we zoom in back on that first
- 4 image, figure 3. Right.
- 5 So the image in green is the large structure which may be the mosque. There's an
- 6 image boxed in in red directly south, which was the image you drew our attention to
- 7 last night. And then as well there's an area in yellow, which is covered up by trees at
- 8 the time, and actually appears to be nothing on 8 December 2013.
- 9 Does that all make sense, Mr Bromley?
- 10 A. [14:44:24] Yes.
- 11 MR ANTLEY: [14:44:25] Can we do the same now for the next image.
- 12 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [14:44:28] Thank you very much, court officer,
- 13 you are so quick, and court usher. Thank you, really.
- 14 MR ANTLEY: [14:44:33] Thank you very much.
- 15 Q. [14:44:39] So what we've done here, this is actually from 8 December 2020 -- no,
- that's not right, 18 January, I'm sorry, 2020, so almost contemporaneous with
- 17 the Prosecution video. And we bracketed in, again in green, the area that used to be
- 18 that large building. The area in red, again, what used to be a smaller building due
- 19 south. And then the area in yellow which is -- now looks to be a large structure.
- 20 Is that all making sense still, Mr Bromley?
- 21 A. [14:45:15] Yes. Yes.
- 22 Q. [14:45:18] Okay.
- Now if I can ask the court officer to go to the next page. And I appreciate this is
- 24 getting even more complicated. But if we go to the map itself -- and his Honour
- asked a couple of minutes ago where exactly were we. This is what we tried to do,

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- 1 sir. You can see the camera location there with a little camera icon, and then what
- 2 we tried to do and, court officer, if you can zoom out maybe a little bit you can see
- 3 we started to pick out images. And what we've done is we've compared
- 4 the Prosecution video, 2121-285 (sic) and the Google Earth imagery. Now, this is
- 5 from 17 December 2019 simply because it's a clear image, but I don't think much has
- 6 changed in the intervening year.
- 7 So working around, Mr Bromley, you can see the -- from the left, that's again
- 8 the white building there. And that seems to be corresponded then to the satellite
- 9 imagery. And then as you move across the screen you can see there's various houses
- which we tried to locate, again on the satellite imagery.
- And then if the court officer can zoom out for us. We've indicated there in green that
- 12 large cement foundation.
- 13 Does that all seem correct, Mr Bromley?
- 14 A. [14:47:10] Yeah. The only thing I would double-check is the building in white I
- 15 think has a reddish rooftop, if I saw correctly earlier, and then in the satellite image
- 16 the rooftop looks white. Not that that's a -- you know, not that that makes it
- impossible but that's what I would double-check.
- 18 Q. [14:47:33] Okay. Thanks very much, Mr Bromley.
- 19 So then if we can go -- you can take this off the screen actually, court officer, and
- 20 thank you very much for your indulgence there.
- 21 Earlier this morning you told us that the large building, that when you looked at it on
- 22 8 December that there were still interior timbers present; is that correct?
- 23 A. [14:48:04] Yeah, it looked that way.
- 24 Q. [14:48:10] Would that be consistent with arson?
- 25 A. [14:48:15] Yes. I mean, you know, a building won't burn completely

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1 necessarily. So, yes, you could -- you often have interior timbers remaining. Not

- 2 always, but often. I mean, you know, some of the time at least.
- 3 Q. [14:48:38] Okay. Is that consistent with damage caused by grenades or rockets?
- 4 A. [14:48:46] Ah, I would expect more debris to be visible if there was explosives
- 5 being used like that, and you wouldn't see -- you wouldn't see the roof
- 6 a hundred per cent gone. It would be, you know, at the impact points things would
- 7 be blown off.
- 8 Q. [14:49:04] Okay.
- 9 A. [14:49:07] But there's no reason explosives can't then cause a fire.
- 10 Q. [14:49:11] I understand. But you would expect, you would expect debris?
- 11 A. [14:49:18] Yeah, I mean if it was -- if it was rockets and grenades, unless the site
- was cleaned up or something like that.
- 13 Q. [14:49:27] Okay. And finally just on this topic, we have evidence of
- 14 a Prosecution witness that testified the other day. I appreciate you may not have
- access to this, but I can read it to you. It's P-2682 on 15 March and it's Prosecution
- evidence about how the mosque actually was destroyed. And this is on page 41 of
- 17 the transcript and it is from open session.
- 18 Question: "What, if anything, happened to the Boeing mosque during and after
- 19 the attack on 5 December, if you know?
- 20 Answer: "Well, I went out two days after the events, but I know that
- 21 the Boeing mosque was destroyed, razed to ground. The bricks from used by some
- 22 people to build their houses, but the plot is completely empty, the mosque no longer
- 23 exists.
- 24 Question: "And had you heard how this happened, the destruction of the mosque?
- 25 Answer: "Well, you know, when something is destroyed it can be seen.

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- 1 The roofings were taken away and then progressively the bricks were often off.
- 2 After that, they started digging the ground and they even dug up the cement in order
- 3 to plaster their walls. So the mosque completely ceased to exist."
- 4 In light of all this, Mr Bromley, the evidence of the Prosecution witness, the location
- 5 of the mosque, its orientation and the information we've seen about the large
- 6 foundation that is present still in 2021, do you think that you were not in error but
- 7 you were in fact correct about the location of the mosque until last night?
- 8 A. [14:51:15] Yeah, yeah, based on what you just showed me, if the -- if that area
- 9 was the mosque, yeah, I think the original assessment, the bigger building is
- 10 the mosque.
- 11 Q. [14:51:25] Thank you, Mr Bromley.
- 12 Now the Prosecution also asked you to look at Yamwara school to see gatherings of
- individuals or any grave sites visible between 5 December 2013 and 15 January 2014;
- is that correct?
- 15 A. [14:51:55] Correct.
- 16 Q. [14:51:55] And in fact in your report, annex 1, you helpfully give some insets in
- the report itself to demonstrate what you found; is that correct?
- 18 A. [14:52:12] Yes, I believe so. Let me ...
- 19 Q. [14:52:14] I'll get the reference for the court officer now. So that's 2127-6626.
- 20 That's our tab 4. It's public. And if you go to the second page, which is 2127-6627.
- 21 And it's down at the bottom, court officer, it's inset 3.
- 22 And specifically, Mr Bromley, I wanted to ask you about the satellite imagery there,
- 23 8 December 2013. And if we could compare that to what is on my list at tab 8,
- 24 CAR-OTP-2126-0269. It's confidential, but I believe the satellite image which is at
- 25 that ERN can be shown publicly.

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- 1 Thank you, Mrs Court Officer.
- 2 So, Mr Bromley, is this image here on the screen now, is that the same area as you
- 3 analysed in your report?
- 4 A. [14:54:55] Yes, it is. We discussed this the other day. So this is a much later
- 5 date than what I was analysing, based on the -- the changes to the landscape and
- 6 some of the new structures around it.
- 7 Q. [14:55:12] Thank you very much.
- 8 And I think I just have one more topic for you, Mr Bromley, and again we spoke
- 9 about this the other day, is it possible in your experience to determine a road surface
- 10 from a satellite imagery?
- 11 A. [14:55:34] Yes, if it's a tarmac road and it's not too covered in dirt, then it will
- 12 generally appear as you would expect.
- 13 Q. [14:55:46] Would the satellite imagery that you used to conduct your report,
- 14 especially of the Boeing area, would that be precise enough or would we need to
- show you Google satellite imagery in order to make that determination?
- 16 A. [14:55:59] Remember, Google and my imagery are the same source. For me it
- 17 would be more about the -- I mean, I could probably look at it and tell you, but if
- 18 there was a margin of error it would be that the red dirt of that area has -- has covered
- 19 it and wouldn't -- wouldn't wash away until it rained.
- 20 Q. [14:56:20] Sure. I think what we'll do then is we'll just go directly to our
- 21 document. It's on tab 9, it's public, and it's CAR-D29-0003-0012.
- 22 And just while we're waiting, the red, the red dust does tend to get everywhere in
- 23 Bangui during the dry season, correct?
- 24 A. [14:57:12] I'm no expert on Bangui, but it's certainly common in the satellite

25 imagery.

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- 1 Q. [14:57:14] And it could certainly end up on a roof, couldn't it?
- 2 A. [14:57:19] Theoretically.
- 3 Q. [14:57:19] Okay. So here is a -- from Google Earth, we have marked there in
- 4 red -- this is the satellite imagery of 8 December 2013, sorry, and we've marked in red
- 5 what you have marked in your report as simply "Bangui", so it's the same, it's
- 6 the same GPS coordinates?
- 7 A. [14:57:42] Correct.
- 8 Q. [14:57:42] Okay. And then if we can go to the next page, please, and what
- 9 we've done is we've put a box in blue around a junction as you proceed west from
- 10 that PK5 crossroad, or what you previously marked as Bangui. And again this is
- 11 from 8 December 2013.
- 12 So if we can go to the next image, please. And we've gotten quite a lot tighter here in
- 13 terms of the zoom. You can see on the right where we still are, although I just
- 14 noticed my box moved down on that image. Anyway, this is still the PK -- this is
- the crossroads coming from the west out of PK5?
- 16 A. [14:58:46] Correct, yes.
- 17 Q. [14:58:48] Okay. Is there anything there that can assist you in determining
- 18 the surface of that road as it comes from the east and then drops down to the south?
- 19 A. [14:58:55] I would say that's a dirt road. The -- you can see kind of the striping
- 20 that goes around the corner. And then the large circular area, that is probably from
- 21 water at some point, maybe not, you know, that week or something. But, yeah, that,
- 22 that to me says that you're dealing with a dirt road that has mud issues at times.
- Q. [14:59:27] And the road that proceeds then straight to the west, would that also
- 24 be a dirt road?
- 25 A. [14:59:34] Yeah, that is less clear but it seems to be the same material as the other

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- 1 roads. So, yeah, to me those all look like dirt roads.
- 2 Q. [14:59:46] We'll just show you a couple more images from different time periods
- 3 and see if there's anything that changes your analysis.
- 4 Court officer, if we can go to the next image, please.
- 5 A. [15:00:04] Ugh.
- 6 Q. [15:00:05] Not a great image, I can tell based on that reaction.
- 7 A. [15:00:12] Yeah, I'm -- I see the same mud curve, but yeah, that's a horrible
- 8 image.
- 9 Q. [15:00:26] Okay. We'll try one more and see if I'm lucky. It's 9 December 2013,
- 10 Mr Bromley. Does that help at all?
- 11 A. [15:00:42] Again, yeah, I would say it's dirt. In this case the junction to the west
- 12 is showing signs of mud. But, yeah, again, I'm -- I'm sure the dirt covers everything
- 13 at times, so, yeah, that's my only caveat.
- 14 Q. [15:01:01] Okay. Thank you, Mr Bromley.
- 15 Mr Bromley, your Honours, those are my questions. Thank you very much.
- 16 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [15:01:19] Thank you very much.
- 17 This concludes the testimony of Mr Bromley. Thank you very much on behalf of the
- 18 Chamber that you came to the Court. Also thank you very much, Mr Antley, that
- 19 you were prepared to examine under this aggravated circumstances, to put it this way,
- 20 but this is one of the preconditions that we could do it this way.
- 21 Again, I wish -- Mr Bromley, I wish you a safe trip back home.
- 22 This also concludes the hearing for today.
- 23 We have discussed this this morning, the further scheduling. The next witness is
- 24 P-2926 and it starts at 24 March, that is Wednesday, I think, Wednesday 9.30. Till

25 then.

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1 THE COURT USHER: [15:02:07] All rise.

2 (The hearing ends in open session at 3.02 p.m.)