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TRANSCRIPTION OF THE

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

MARIKANA

BEFORE TRIBUNAL

THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE FARLAM (RETIRED) - CHAIRPERSON MR TOKOTA SC MS HEMRAJ SC

HELD ON

DAY 224 30 APRIL 2014 PAGES 27641 TO 27722



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[PROCEEDINGS ON 30 APRIL 2014]

2 [10:38] CHAIRPERSON: The Commission resumes

- 3 somewhat later than was expected because some of those
- 4 counsel who are participating in the proceedings were
- 5 caught in a major traffic jam on the highway. Lieutenant-
- Colonel, you're still bound by the affirmation that you 6

7 made.

8 SALMON JOHANNES VERMAAK: (affirms

9 further).

10 CHAIRPERSON: Before Mr Semenya continues with his cross-examination, I was visited in chambers this 11

morning by Mr Bizos who indicates that he wants to raise an 12

objection and I was subsequently informed by Mr Fischer 13

that he's also going to raise an objection, make a 14

submission of some kind. So we'd better deal with that 15

first. Mr Bizos? 16

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MR BIZOS SC: We object to the admission of the document of which we were informed this morning by

19 Mr Pretorius, the senior attorney instructing our learned

20 friends for the police. The reasons for our objection to

21 the admission of the document are the following. Today is

22 the 12th day on which this witness is in the witness box.

23 He has been cross-examined by I don't know how many of my

24 colleagues, including ourselves. No notice was given to us

25 of this document throughout the proceedings, nor was it Page 27643

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Now Mr Chairman, witnesses, whether they are

2 police officers or not, probably know that they can trust

3 lawyers with whom they consult. If they are to be informed

that they will give evidence, the fact that it has been

5 recorded has got to be brought to his notice and given an

6 opportunity whether he's prepared to speak to them and that

7 they were going to record it. We are informed, Mr

8 Chairman, reliably I would submit by the evidence leader,

9 that there was no such option available to the witness in

10 order to determine whether he was willing to be recorded in 11 what is generally regarded as confidential between attorney

12 and client. We are informed further, Mr Chairman -

13 CHAIRPERSON: I'm sorry, before you go

14 on, on what you were informed further, on what basis can it

be contended that an interview between one of the evidence

16 leaders, who is not counsel for the witness but who in fact

17 is counsel for what one can describe as a quasi party,

18 namely evidence leaders -

19 MR BIZOS SC: I'm sorry, Mr Chairman -

20 CHAIRPERSON: On what basis can it be

21 said that an interview between one of the evidence leaders

22 who is not counsel for the witness but in fact counsel for

23 what one can describe as a quasi party, namely the evidence

24 leaders as such, and the witness could be described as

25 quasi -

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submitted to the Commission until apparently a day or two

2 ago. We have not yet seen a copy of it and no explanation

3 has been furnished to us as to why a senior attorney, who

4 on the information given to us is a document which was

5 recorded by him at a consultation with one of the members

6 of the evidence leaders. So it's not something that they 7

had to search for, Mr Chairman, and a very strong

8 explanation will be necessary to be furnished, and credible

9 explanation, before the Commission actually admits this 10

document. It is going to delay the proceedings by at least a number of days, if not a week. Why? We do not know -

11 12 CHAIRPERSON: Why is it going to delay

13 proceedings for that lengthy period?

14 MR BIZOS SC: I beg your pardon?

15 CHAIRPERSON: Why is it going to delay

the proceedings for that lengthy period?

17 MR BIZOS SC: Because all of us, Mr

Chairman, if it is a relevant document in order to try and

discredit this witness, we want an opportunity to ask him

questions, each one of us, and let me say that it may well

21 be that the days or a week may be hyperbole on my part, but

22 any time that is spent after 12 days to deal with a lengthy

document is not fair and it's not in accordance with the

24 administration of justice, Mr Chairman, irrespective of the

25 period, with respect.

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1 MR BIZOS SC: We are informed by the

evidence leader - and let him speak for himself, Mr

Chairman - that he was there but so was Mr Pretorius. Why

was Mr Pretorius there, Mr Chairman?

Normally when a party's 5 CHAIRPERSON:

6 witness is interviewed by another party or quasi party -

> MR BIZOS SC: Yes.

8 CHAIRPERSON: - the witness's legal

9 representative is present, or the legal representative of

10 the party proposing to call the witness. Now I understand

11 that at the time of the interview Colonel Vermaak was still

12 regarded as a client of Mr Pretorius and was still a

13 witness whom the police were intending to call. But if

14 that's correct, let's take it into a litigation context, if

15 the defendant says I want to, my counsel wants to consult

16 with the plaintiff's witness and that consultation takes

17 place, the plaintiff is entitled to be present, or his

18 legal representative, during the interview. Now was Mr

19 Pretorius's presence not there solely because he was

representing the SAPS, and in fact as I understand it the

21 witness at the time, and another party or quasi party to

22 the Commission wished to interview the witness, if you

23 wanted to interview Colonel Vermaak and had requested

24 permission to do so I imagine Mr Pretorius would have been

present there as well. So what -

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Page 27645 MR BIZOS SC: Yes. 1 2 CHAIRPERSON: So what is the significance 3 of Mr Pretorius's presence? No, Mr Chairman, it's 4 MR BIZOS SC: 5 common cause that the witnesses had made a statement way back on the 12th of December 2012, which was not consistent 6 7 with the official police version. I don't know that there 8 is any doubt about that, Mr Chairman. If the evidence 9 leaders say that we want to interview you and you are 10 entitled to bring your attorney with you, and the attorney 11 does not warn the witness that I am going to record what you are saying to the evidence leader and what I have 12 recorded will be made available and may be used in evidence 13 14 against you, that is an obvious precaution which a fair practitioner would avail himself of in the particular circumstances. We are informed that that did not happen, 16 Mr Chairman, and to ask on the 12th day after the various 17 18 cross-examinations of this witness to answer questions 19 which were recorded by Mr Pretorius, and I am sure that the 20 reason for it is to pick up some contradiction or other 21 which may assist the police in the version that, one of the 22 versions that they are now putting up, it is not fair to 23 the witness and it is not in the interests of the 24 administration of justice, Mr Chairman. 25 Mr Chairman, delays in a matter such as this are

Page 27647 do we know when the interview took place? 2 MR WESLEY: I will have a quick look. 3 I'll be able to tell you know, Judge. 4 CHAIRPERSON: But it was some time ago? 5 MR WFSI FY: Yes, it was some time - it 6 was last year -7 CHAIRPERSON: Last year, right. 8 MR WESLEY: September approximately, if 9 I'm not mistaken. 10 CHAIRPERSON: Okay, some time last year. 11 Anyway, sorry, I'm interrupting you, Mr Bizos. 12 MR BIZOS SC: Yes. Now Mr Chairman -13 CHAIRPERSON: I'm interrupting you to 14 indicate that I'm not sure whether your submission that this was kept under wraps until the last minute is factually well-founded. 16 17 MR BIZOS SC: Well, I will accept an 18 explanation that my learned friends give, but Mr Chairman, 19 you strictly call on us to disclose the documents which we 20 are going to use in the cross-examination of witnesses. If 21 this is an important document which the attorney of record 22 had recorded, why wasn't it disclosed with the documents -23 CHAIRPERSON: [Microphone off, inaudible] 24 what happened was, you know there's a bit of background here that I'm not sure if you're aware of. Originally Mr

Page 27646 to be avoided. There has to be a very, very cogent excuse or reason given to you as to why this document was kept under wrap by the police if in fact it was relevant to the issues before the Commission -CHAIRPERSON: I must just tell you, I was informed that it wasn't kept under wraps, as you put it; it was in fact, a copy was sent to Mr Wesley some time after -I'm not quite sure how long after – the interview took place. Is that correct, Mr Wesley? 10 MR WESLEY: Chair, I've been trying to work out. The actual typed transcript, I don't recall 12 receiving it, but I've had a debate with Mr Pretorius; he 13 says he sent the audio, an audio file. It may be, I don't 14 know. He says both. I can't find it, but it could very 15 well have happened. 16 CHAIRPERSON: What I'm interested in is 17 when. 18 MR WESLEY: I don't know. CHAIRPERSON: Anyway, let's not get involved in a sideshow on that issue. The point is it

doesn't appear, if that's correct, that this was kept under

soundtrack of the interview was sent to Mr Wesley and to

when did the interview take place? Do we know? Mr Wesley,

24 the witness and some time after the interview took place -

22 wraps. If a copy of the audio file, i.e. the actual

Page 27648 Semenya was going to cross-examine the witness. It then occurred to the police after certain points had been put to them by others that it would not be appropriate for Mr Semenya, who consulted with the witness, to cross-examine 5 him. Mr Semenya then indicated to me in chambers that he 6 was not going to cross-examine the witness - in fact that 7 was why the witness stood down - that they were going to 8 get an outside counsel to cross-examine the witness. That 9 they did. It then appeared that that counsel would only be 10 available some time in July, August. So I then said that 11 that was not satisfactory to keep the witness in a state of 12 suspense for that long period, and in any event the time 13 during which this Commission would be able to sit was 14 running out. The witness then indicated that he was 15 prepared to waive any rights he had to object to being 16 cross-examined by Mr Semenya. 17 I may say that before that waiver was made, I'm 18 not even sure if the witness was aware of this but Mr

Semenya had told me in chambers that he had no intention of cross-examining him in any way on things that were said in consultation with him, and in those circumstances, in the light of that undertaking, which I have no reason to doubt the sincerity of, and in view of the waiver made by the witness I was prepared to allow Mr Semenya to crossexamine.

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Page 27651

Page 27652

Mr Semenva was absolutely

Page 27649 But that whole process took up a lot of time. 1 2 The witness, I'm reminded, was in fact advised to seek his 3 own legal representation throughout. That point was made 4 to him repeatedly and I understand it was suggested that 5 the police would even pay for that, but it never got that far because the witness said he was quite happy that an 6 7 evidence leader should lead his evidence and he didn't want legal representation, but he was advised of his rights in 8

that regard as well. The point I'm making is because of the fact that the witness stood down after everybody else had crossexamined, for the police to get their chance to crossexamine once it was sorted out he was going to go into cross-examination, the documents upon which the police sought to rely were only produced at a late stage, but they were sent electronically I understand, I think it was on Sunday. The witness was given a copy of, an electronic copy of the documents and I asked him whether he'd read - I think I asked him, I didn't ask him about the transcript. I asked him about the complaint of misconduct which he had read. But anyway, the point is he was sent a copy, as I understand it. We were given copies yesterday morning. The reason why the documents were forthcoming late is I

3 profession that if you have acted for a person you do not 4 cross-examine him, but here was an instance where the 5 attorney actually recorded a conversation with the witness. 6 I haven't heard whether he's going to say that he warned 7 the witness that he was going to record it, but this 8 document I'm sure came to Mr Semenya's notice as late as it 9 came to you and us, with respect, and the question is it's 10 too much to ask this witness that it's your choice as to 11 whether you want to claim the privilege or not. It's too 12 complicated a matter, Mr Chairman -13 CHAIRPERSON: I'm sorry, what privilege 14 was there -

right and in accordance with the traditions of our

MR BIZOS SC:

MR BIZOS SC: And I think with respect -CHAIRPERSON: I'm sorry, Mr Bizos. What privilege was there? I can understand if this was a consultation between the Colonel and his legal representatives, or a legal representative for him, but what happened was this is a consultation between the Colonel and one of the evidence leaders, who was not his counsel. There was no attorney/client relationship, or advocate/client relationship between them at the time, and

24 Mr Pretorius was there in his capacity as attorney for the

25 witness in order essentially to ensure that nothing

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examination stood over and was only to be resumed

in which it came about, that this witness's cross-

2 yesterday. But there was apparently also, I'm reminded,

think clear from the narrative I've given of circumstances

3 difficulty or trouble in regard to opening the electronic

version of some of the documents that were sent.

But anyway, that as I understand it is the basis, or the reason rather for the fact that these documents were only forthcoming at this comparatively late stage. But anyway, but please continue with your argument. I'm sorry to interrupt you, but I thought I should put those on record -

11 MR BIZOS SC: Thank you, Mr Chairman. 12 CHAIRPERSON: - because they are relevant 13 in regard to some of the points you raised.

14 MR BIZOS SC: Thank you, Mr Chairman, and 15

I want to thank my learned friend Mr Semenya for his 16 original attitude that he was reluctant to cross-examine a

17 witness who was their client. It strengthens my argument that his attorney did not follow his example, Mr Chairman.

18

19 It strengthens my argument, with respect –

CHAIRPERSON: Sorry, I don't follow that point -

21 22 MR BIZOS SC:

Well, let me try and

explain, Mr Chairman. 23 CHAIRPERSON:

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No, no, please explain it

to me.

untoward happened in this consultation with someone who

wasn't the legal representative of the party, of the

3 witness. So I don't understand on what basis it can be

4 contended that this was a privileged occasion. If it was a

privileged occasion obviously it will be a totally

different situation, but unless you can satisfy me that

7 there is a privilege attaching to the communications which

8 were recorded, then I'm afraid I don't understand your

9 argument.

10 MR BIZOS SC: Well, with the greatest 11 respect we submit that it was a privileged occasion, Mr 12 Chairman. Whenever my attorney or even my ex-attorney is 13 recording what I am saying to someone else in respect of a 14 matter in which I am to give evidence, the occasion is a

15 privileged one, Mr Chairman.

> CHAIRPERSON: Have you got authority for

17 that proposition?

> MR BIZOS SC: Mr Chairman -

CHAIRPERSON: Because I must confess I

20 haven't seen authority -

21 [10:58] MR BIZOS SC: I haven't had an

opportunity. I have not had an opportunity because this 22

23 was sprung on us early this morning when we arrived, but I

24 am sure that with the Chairman's experience and the

assessors' experience -

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Page 27653 Page 27655 CHAIRPERSON: Not assessors they'll have the opportunity also. I don't think that 1 2 MR BIZOS SC: 2 that's an offer you can decline, Mr Bizos. - the question of attorney 3 3 and client privilege -MR BIZOS SC: I have been informed, 4 CHAIRPERSON: I'm sorry to interrupt you, 4 because I obviously discussed this with the persons that 5 5 have cross-examined the witness, they are in support of the Mr Bizos; not assessors, co-Commissioners. MR BIZOS SC: Commissioner, yes. The 6 application that the document should be excluded and I am 6 7 7 Commissioners, Mr Chairman, and you are sufficiently senior sure that it is a matter of some importance and as time-8 consuming as it may be, I would accept the suggestion made 8 in our profession -9 9 CHAIRPERSON: Mr Bizos, it may be by you, Mr Chairman. 10 MR BIZOS SC: - to understand the 10 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. So on that 11 situation basis then Mr Semenya, you will continue your cross-11 No -12 CHAIRPERSON: 12 examination but you will keep away from the document today 13 MR BIZOS SC: - of the attorney and 13 and you will only deal with it once we've finished dealing 14 client relationship -14 with this matter, and of course you will obviously also 15 CHAIRPERSON: Mr Bizos, I'm sorry to 15 have an opportunity to look at the law and make submissions interrupt you. I'm grateful for the compliments that on the matter insofar as you consider it necessary. In the 16 you've made to my Commissioners and even to me, although I meanwhile of course Mr Bizos will have an opportunity to 17 17 18 do not deserve them, but the mere fact that we are study the transcript, as I did last night, and there may be 19 experienced doesn't give us a detailed knowledge of what 19 something in it which I didn't notice, but I must confess I can in some respects be a complicated branch of the law. 20 20 was surprised that there's any concern about what's in the 21 21 transcript, but as I say, there may be something that, the May I make a suggestion? In view of the fact 22 full significance of which I didn't appreciate. But you 22 that we've lost a lot of time this morning because of the 23 traffic jam to which I referred, it sounds as if Mr Semenya 23 may feel that many of your fears will be allayed when 24 24 you've actually had the opportunity to peruse the won't be able to finish his cross-examination today. It 25 also may well be that he has enough material to crosstranscript, but that's a matter which we don't have to go Page 27654 Page 27656 examine for the rest of the day, because we understood he 1

was going to finish either at the end of yesterday or

3 reasonably early in today's sitting, so travel arrangements

4 were made on the basis that we would not sit beyond 1

5 o'clock, which can't be changed now. I think the travel

6 arrangements have just been communicated to me by my cell

phone, which I shouldn't have had on, but Mr Semenya, if

8 you are going to cross-examine on other material until 1

9 o'clock then, and this transcript you're not going to

touch, then it seems to me the sensible way for us to

proceed is to allow Mr Semenya to carry on now.

12 We're adjourning today until the 8th of May 13 because apart from Friday, which is a day when it's

pointless to come back after the holiday tomorrow, the

chambers are either not available or, the chamber is

16 actually not available to us on Monday and it won't be

17 available in any event on Tuesday on Wednesday because the

18 whole area is going to be used for the election, so we're

19 resuming on the 8th. That gives you ample time, apart from

the time you will spend considering how you are going to

21 cast your vote, if you're going to, to do research on this

22 matter and you can resume the argument with full citation

of authority on Thursday morning. That seems to be the

practical sensible way, and if any of the other parties

want to assist us with their submissions on the point

ARCHIVE FOR JUSTICE

into now. So Mr Semenya, can you proceed with your cross-

examination?

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3 MR WESLEY: Chair -

> CHAIRPERSON: Mr Wesley?

5 MR WESLEY: Yes, Chair, maybe just place

two facts on record which might assist the parties with 6

7 their argument. I've gone through my emails now and I can

8 now confirm the transcript, the draft transcript - I call

9 it a draft - was sent to the evidence leaders on the 28th of

10 October 2013, the typed document. The voice, the sound

11 recording was, there was an attempt to send that on the 8th

12 of November, but that failed because the file was too large

13 to be delivered. So that's the position. We received the

14 transcript on 28th of October. We never followed up for the

15 sound recording, the actual voice recordings.

16 CHAIRPERSON: That's helpful. So I think

17 the wraps under which it was allegedly kept appear to have

18 disappeared like the morning mist -

19 MR BIZOS SC: [Microphone off, inaudible]

20 information, Mr Chairman.

21 CHAIRPERSON: Yes, right, anyway, I did

remind you, you're bound by your affirmation some time ago,

23 but just in case you forgot, I'm reminding you again. Mr

24 Semenya.

25 MR SEMENYA SC: Thank you, Chair, and I

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Page 27657
                                                                                                                           Page 27659
    must thank the Commissioners for the indulgence I was
                                                                               CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                     But we don't have to
2
    granted this morning.
                                                                        interrupt the cross-examination now on that point.
3
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                     3
                                 It was not only you, but a
                                                                               MS LEWIS:
                                                                                                 I'm just not sure that the
4
    number of the others were all caught in what sounds like
                                                                     4
                                                                        allegation that Mr X makes is as broad as what Mr Semenya
5
    the mother and father of traffic jams that you people were
                                                                     5
                                                                        has put it.
    caught in, but I'm glad you finally escaped and got here
                                                                     6
6
                                                                               CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                     If you've got the statement
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                                                                     7
    safely.
                                                                        then perhaps you can refer to the passage you say is not as
8
           CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR SEMENYA SC (CONTD.):
                                                                    8
                                                                        broad as the proposition put by Mr Semenya.
                                                                     9
                                                                                                 I'll look for it, Mr Chair.
9
    Colonel, yesterday when we stopped we were dealing with the
                                                                               MS LEWIS:
    prospects whether the cordon and search could have been
                                                                    10
                                                                               CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                     Mr Semenya, can you do
10
    successful. You remember?
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                                                                    11
                                                                        something else while Ms Lewis is looking? It depends how
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           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       That's correct.
                                                                    12
                                                                        long she's going to take.
13
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                    13
                                                                               MS LEWIS:
                                   And I said, I had put it
                                                                                                 Mr Chair, I suggest then that
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    to you that the facts as we know them, the most militant
                                                                    14
                                                                        we carry on. I don't have it immediately to hand.
15
    part of the crowd would have spent their night at koppie 3.
                                                                    15
                                                                               CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                     My recollection was there
    So your cordon and search of the hostels would not have
                                                                        was some evidence about people being on koppie 3 with their
16
17
    proved fruitful.
                                                                    17
                                                                        weapons. My impression was it wasn't everybody.
18
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       Chair, I don't think
                                                                    18
                                                                               MS LEWIS:
                                                                                                 Ja.
                                                                               CHAIRPERSON:
19
    there's any proof that it will not be successful.
                                                                    19
                                                                                                     And the evidence also seems
20
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    If the object of the
                                                                    20
                                                                        to indicate that some of the people went home every day
    cordon and search was to take the arms from those who were
                                                                        with their weapons and brought them back the next morning,
21
                                                                    21
22
    bearing them, they would have been at koppie 3. What
                                                                    22
                                                                        and some people even went home for lunch carrying their
23
    proof -
                                                                    23
                                                                        weapons and came back after lunch. They took a lunch break
24
                                                                    24
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 I'm sorry, they would have
                                                                        in the course of this gathering. So that seems to be the
25
    been at?
                                                                        evidence, but anyway - yes, Ms Pillay?
                                                       Page 27658
                                                                                                                           Page 27660
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    At koppie 3.
                                                                               MS PILLAY:
                                                                                                  Chair, just to understand,
1
                                                                     1
2
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                  At koppie 3?
                                                                        because there seems to have been a slight change between
3
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Yes.
                                                                     3
                                                                        the questioning yesterday and the questioning this
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           CHAIRPERSON:
                                  Well, that's on the
                                                                         morning -
                                                                                                      [Microphone off, inaudible]
5
    assumption that what Mr X says is correct, which may or may
                                                                     5
                                                                               CHAIRPERSON:
    not be so, but of course if they found, unless all the arms
6
                                                                     6
                                                                        today's questioning.
7
                                                                     7
    were stored on koppie 3 they might still have found some
                                                                               MS PILLAY:
                                                                                                  Yesterday the proposition was
                                                                        put that the people stayed over at koppie 3 overnight.
8
    arms in the hostels or in the shacks in the informal
                                                                    9
9
                                                                         This morning it was put that the armed group stayed over on
    settlement. But anyway, that's a matter that you can take
10
    further if you wish.
                                                                    10
                                                                        the koppie, koppie 3.
11
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                    11
                                                                               CHAIRPERSON:
                                    Do you agree at least,
                                                                                                      Whether they stayed with or
12
    Colonel, that -
                                                                    12
                                                                        without their arms is a matter that Mr – yes, Ms Hemraj
13
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                  Before you ask him what he
                                                                    13
                                                                        just told me that she has particular recollection of what
14
    agrees with, I see Ms Lewis has turned on her microphone,
                                                                    14
                                                                        Mr X says in this regard and perhaps you can tell us and
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                                                                    15
                                                                        then we can shorten the debate and get on with the cross-
    she wants to say something.
16
           MS LEWIS:
                             Chair, I'm sorry, for the
                                                                    16
                                                                         examination. But I take it, never mind what you said
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    benefit of all the parties would it be possible to have the
                                                                    17
                                                                        yesterday; I'm interested in what you said today.
    relevant paragraph of Mr X's statement be put up so that we
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                                                                    18
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       May I tidy that so that
19
    could all remember precisely what -
                                                                        it does not create any confusion? At no point are we
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           CHAIRPERSON:
                                  I don't think we need do it
                                                                        holding that 3 000 people were sleeping at koppie 3. We
21
    now. As far as I can recall it's in the supplementary
                                                                    21
                                                                        have always talked about the "makarapas" which Mr Noki was
   statement, which isn't so very long, but if necessary I'm
                                                                        the leader, and those are the ones Mr X says, "We were
    sure Mr Semenya can find it and if he can't I'll look at my
                                                                    23
                                                                         sleeping at koppie 3" in his statement, and he's saying "We
24 copy and see if I can find it.
                                                                    24
                                                                         chose koppie 3 for various strategic reasons. It was out
           MS LEWIS:
                             I'm just -
                                                                    25
                                                                        of access, we couldn't be seen," and we dealt with this
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Page 27664

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Page 27661
     thing in the application for the in-camera hearing.
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            CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                      2
                                  Alright, I think Ms Lewis
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    would like you - and I think she's not alone in this - give
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     us the paragraph number of Mr X's second statement in which
                                                                      4
5
     that appears.
           MS PILLAY:
6
                              Chair, it's LLL26, paragraph
                                                                      6
7
     21.
                                                                      7
8
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                      8
                                  Triple L?
9
                                                                      9
            MS PILLAY:
                              LLL26, paragraph 21.
10
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                  There we are, and now we're
                                                                     11
11
     going to see it on the screen, so all debate on the matter
                                                                     12
12
     - we now see the passage that's relied on, and I think the
                                                                     13
13
     submission put by Mr, well not the submission, the
                                                                     14
14
     proposition put by Mr Semenya does accord with that
                                                                     15
     statement. As I say, whether it's correct or not is a
     matter that can only be decided once Mr X has been cross-
                                                                     16
     examined, but it's premature to go further into that
                                                                     17
17
18
    matter.
19
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    The point, Colonel, I'm
                                                                     19
20
    making I if that is found to be correct you would see that
                                                                     20
21
     the group that was the makarapas were sleeping in koppie 3
22
     from the 11th already.
                                                                     22
23
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                     23
                                       Chair, yes. I also see
     that was according to Mr X only 50 people out of more or
                                                                     24
24
25
    less 3 000.
                                                                     25
```

particular day, did you? COLONEL VERMAAK: No, I make the proposal that they must consider it. MR SEMENYA SC: In your proposal you did not specify any particular day in which in your judgment would have been the appropriate day for the cordon and search? COLONEL VERMAAK: I've made the proposal that they must consider my proposal. I explained to them why I'm saying so and at no stage there was a question put to me when did I think will be the best day to do it. As I already have mentioned previously Colonel Scott at one stage informed me that they have a plan and the plan is in place. MR SEMENYA SC: No, but that's -CHAIRPERSON: But do I understand your evidence from yesterday correctly that your proposal, as I understood you, was the cordon and search should be done first? You didn't say when it was to be done because that depended on when the tactical option was to be implemented, but your evidence of yesterday, as I understood it - and if I'm wrong you must please correct me - was that whenever the tactical option was implemented the first stage should be a cordon and search? COLONEL VERMAAK: That is correct, Chair.

Page 27662 MR SEMENYA SC: Which 50 people? 1 CHAIRPERSON: 2 He said in the statement, 3 about the middle, "Each time the larger group of the 4 makarapas left the koppie for a mission, a group of about 5 50 makarapas remained behind with the inyangas to protect and preserve the koppie," and then he goes on, "The 6 7 makarapas and two inyangas permanently stayed and slept at 8 the koppie." That's the passage the witness is referring 9 to. His interpretation may not be entirely correct but 10 that's a matter you can take up further with him. 11 MR SEMENYA SC: He's wrong, but anyway, 12 I'm interested in the inputs that you as an experienced POP 13 member was making in the JOCCOM. I'm correct to have 14 understood your evidence that you did not specify any 15 particular day when that cordon and search was to happen? 16 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** No, I didn't. I 17 mentioned, I make a proposal that they must first consider 18 a cordon and search before they are doing an encirclement because why I have already started warning them from the Sunday that this people will fight until they die. I've 21 received Mr X's statement yesterday, I go through it last 22 night and in several passages he also mentioned the same thing that I warned the senior members of. MR SEMENYA SC: My question is very

25 narrow. In your proposal you did not mention any

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Is that the correct CHAIRPERSON: position? COLONEL VERMAAK: That is correct. COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ: And the cordon and search that you envisaged was in relation to the hostels only? **COLONEL VERMAAK:** That is correct, to start with your first steps with cordon and search, Chair, and as I said out of experience you will get a lot of dangerous weapons. Later after the Marikana incident, if I recall it correctly, it was around in September the police did a cordon and search and they have big successes removing dangerous weapons. CHAIRPERSON: Now you say a cordon and search to be done on the hostels. Was it only the hostels or did it also include the shacks in the informal settlement? **COLONEL VERMAAK:** Chair, the -CHAIRPERSON: A number of the workers had availed themselves of this so-called living-out allowance and were living in shacks in rather squalor -COLONEL VERMAAK: It was -CHAIRPERSON: - undignified circumstances in Nkaneng. **COLONEL VERMAAK:** It was built houses

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Page 27665
                                                                                                                        Page 27667
    close to Marikana self, next to I think the shaft where the
                                                                       during the morning and also then on the 15th and the 16th of
    first incident at the 13th happened where the policemen were
                                                                   2
2
                                                                       the morning.
                                                                   3
3
    attacked.
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                   So you didn't give it at a
4
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                           At the time you
                                                                       JOCCOM meeting on the 14th, the Tuesday?
5
    made the proposal you had no idea what proportion of the
                                                                   5
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        No, Chair.
    strikers lived in the hostels as opposed to in the various
                                                                   6
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                   But you gave it outside a
6
7
                                                                   7
    settlements around?
                                                                       JOCCOM meeting to General Annandale -
8
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   8
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      No. No, Chair.
                                                                                                         To General Annandale -
9
                                                                   9
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                           Thank you.
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                   - on the Tuesday, and the
10
                                                                       evidence was he arrived later in the morning I think, and
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 All I'm interest in is was
                                                                  10
                                                                       you repeated it, you say, on the 15th and 16th?
11
    your proposal in relation to a cordon and search, was that
                                                                  11
                                                                  12
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
    only intended to cover cordoning off of the hostels and a
                                                                                                         That's correct.
                                                                  13
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
13
    search in the hostels, or did it also include a search of
                                                                                                   Thank you.
                                                                  14
14
    some, the shacks in the informal settlement?
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     You do make the
15
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                  15
                                                                       distinction between talking to General Annandale and making
                                      At that stage it was
                                                                       contribution in a JOCCOM meeting. You do have that
16
    only included at the hostels, Chair.
17
                                                                  17
                                                                       distinction in mind?
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 I see. Thank you.
18
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   Of course, Colonel, I'm
                                                                  18
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         That is correct.
19
    putting these questions to you with the stated position of
                                                                  19
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     And you're not referring
20
    the SAPS that you did not make any suggestions in the
                                                                  20
                                                                       to conversations that you would have had with any of the
21
    JOCCOM as a matter of fact.
                                                                  21
                                                                       members outside of the JOCCOM meeting?
22
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                  22
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         I have mentioned it to
                                      Chair, I believe
23
    Colonel Isaacs can maybe confirm that because why on my
                                                                  23
                                                                       the JOCCOM chairperson -
                                                                  24
    input that this people is very dangerous he also give an
24
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     No, no -
    input that the CIG didn't have specific information at that
                                                                  25
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
25
                                                                                                        - at the 15th and the
                                                      Page 27666
                                                                                                                        Page 27668
    stage and they are very dangerous and they will fight
                                                                       16th. I did not discuss it outside with any other police
1
    according to his information until they die.
                                                                   2
                                                                       officer.
2
3
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   But you do accept even
                                                                   3
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                      No, no, no, I want to
4
    the manuscript notes by Adv Moolman and Brigadier Pretorius
                                                                   4
                                                                       tidy this up. It is one thing to discuss a matter with
5
    do not reflect what you say were your contributions in
                                                                       General Annandale. It is another to discuss the matter
    those JOCCOM meetings?
6
                                                                   6
                                                                       with Brigadier Calitz, but quite different to make
7
                                                                   7
                                                                       submissions in a JOCCOM meeting. That distinction you
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      Are you -
                                                                   8
8
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   Do you accept that?
                                                                       appreciate?
9
                                                                   9
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        That's correct, Chair.
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      Chair, are you
                                                                       I've said that I talked to General Annandale outside the
    referring to which date?
                                                                  10
10
11
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                       JOC, not during a JOC meeting. The 15th and the 16th at the
                                   The 15th and 16th.
                                                                  11
12
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      No Chair, I also have a
                                                                  12
                                                                       JOC meeting I mention it specifically.
                                                                  13
13
    witness, Sergeant Brown from TRT in Klerksdorp who will
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                      Okay, and you're saying
    come and testify that I did make the suggestion and also
                                                                  14
14
                                                                       your suggestion was that the cordon and search as a
                                                                  15
15
    that I did again say that the people will not surrender,
                                                                       tactical option must be the first one to be undertaken?
                                                                  16
    they will not give in their dangerous weapons and they will
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         That is correct, Chair.
17
    fight until they die due to the rituals that they went
                                                                  17
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     And the only basis of
18
    through.
                                                                  18
                                                                       intelligence you had was the previous history of previous
19
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                  19
                                                                       operations where this was done?
                                   Okay -
20
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 I'm sorry, Mr Semenya, if I
                                                                  20
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         That is correct, Chair.
21
    can ask, this information you gave that you mentioned now,
                                                                  21
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     Okay. Now Colonel,
22 at the JOCCOM, was that on the Tuesday morning? Was that
                                                                  22
                                                                       surely in the previous instances when that was taken as a
23 given on the Tuesday morning?
                                                                  23
                                                                       tactic there was intelligence supporting the prospects of
24 [11:18] COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                        Chair, I gave it to
                                                                  24
                                                                       that yielding a positive outcome, was there not?
25 Brigadier – ag, General Annandale when he arrived there
                                                                  25
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         No, Chair. It was
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                                                                                                                          Page 27671
    faction fights and immediately after the faction fights we
                                                                        information, any intelligence as regards what Mr Semenya
                                                                        put to you that there were a group of people on the koppie
    normally did the cordon and search to remove any dangerous
2
                                                                    2
3
    weapons.
                                                                        without access to cell phones except for one person? Did
4
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    No, but there surely must
                                                                    4
                                                                        you hear that?
5
    have been intelligence that tells you that the weapons are
                                                                    5
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                           Chairperson, no.
                                                                    6
                                                                               COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
6
    in the hostels, the people are in the hostel this time of
                                                                                                                Thank you.
7
                                                                    7
    the hour, no?
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                           CIG said they haven't
8
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                    8
                                       Chair, it was obvious
                                                                        got any information.
                                                                    9
9
    that those weapons were in the hostels because why those
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        Precisely, Colonel, and
    people were fighting in the hostels.
                                                                   10
                                                                        we now know through the evidence that Mr Twala was killed
10
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    So you had dependable
                                                                   11
11
                                                                        precisely because he had a cell phone on him with airtime.
    intelligence to tell you that the cordon and search would
                                                                   12
12
                                                                        Was all this information known to you as the police in the
                                                                        JOCCOM?
13
    be successful if done.
                                                                   13
14
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       Yes, the belief was so,
                                                                   14
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                           No.
15
    Chair.
                                                                   15
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        And in fact the evidence
16
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Now let me share with you
                                                                        is it was very difficult to penetrate that group of people
                                                                        to find reliable information about their doings and their
17
    what, if the evidence of Mr X is to be accepted, indicates.
                                                                   17
18
    Firstly all the people in the makarapas were told no cell
                                                                   18
                                                                        thinkings.
19
    phones here except one member. That intelligence you
                                                                   19
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                           That's correct.
20
    didn't have, right?
                                                                   20
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        In fact it makes me ask
21
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   21
                                                                        the question; your criticism that there was inadequate
                                       No, I haven't got it.
    I said I only got this statement yesterday afternoon at
                                                                   22
22
                                                                        intelligence, is it through any neglect on the part of the
23
    half past 4.
                                                                   23
                                                                        police, you'd contend?
                                                                   24
24
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    No, when I say "you" I'm
                                                                                                           No, I never said the
    referring to the police in JOCCOM when you were discussing
25
                                                                        police neglect it. I said that was a part of the problem
                                                       Page 27670
                                                                                                                          Page 27672
    the possibility of a cordon and search. I'm saying that
1
                                                                    1
                                                                        that was experienced there.
                                                                    2
2
    information was not available, was there?
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       You see that's my
3
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      Chair, if I can make an
                                                                        difficulty. There's some equivocation there, or a
4
    example, Mr Semenya asked a question before we end the day
                                                                    4
                                                                        contradiction as I see it. Whilst contending that there is
    that the operation could have backfire if the hostel was
5
                                                                        inadequate intelligence during the period of the operation,
                                                                    6
6
    searched. Referring to that, if you are driving a motor
                                                                        you insist it is premised on inadequate intelligence that a
7
    vehicle and somebody heard that there's something wrong
                                                                    7
                                                                        cordon and search and seizure of weapons should happen on
                                                                    8
8
    with that vehicle, say for instance a mechanic, and he's
                                                                        the basis of inadequate intelligence.
9
                                                                    9
    telling you as the owner of that vehicle there's something
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          Chair, what information
10
    seriously wrong with that vehicle, you must take it to the
                                                                   10
                                                                        that they had for the Thursday, I wasn't aware of any other
    garage, and if you didn't do it and your vehicle break down
                                                                        information they had and the outcome of that operation was
11
                                                                   11
12
    then it is your responsibility. But the fact that you have
                                                                   12
                                                                        not very nice.
                                                                   13
13
    been warned that it could happen, that is what you must
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       Is that an answer to the
14
    take in consideration and that is more or less the same
                                                                   14
                                                                        question I asked you?
15
                                                                   15
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
    what was here. I could see things is going wrong. I take
                                                                                                          That's correct, Chair.
    it upon me to mention it from the Sunday. I sent a BBM to
                                                                   16
16
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       Okay. Before I omit to
17
    Brigadier Garnett in the, at National JOC. What more is
                                                                   17
                                                                        make, to put this to you; you do know the evidence of
18
    being expected from me? If they did not listen to the
                                                                   18
                                                                        Colonel Merafe is in relation to the events of the 13th that
19
    information that I've given them, I cannot stand for the
                                                                        you took an R5 from one of the members. You're aware of
    actions that took place afterwards
                                                                   20
                                                                        that evidence?
21
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   That's your answer to my
                                                                   21
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          I have heard about it.
22 question?
                                                                   22
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       And your comment and
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      That's correct, Chair.
                                                                   23
23
                                                                        reaction to it?
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                           Colonel, when you
                                                                   24
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          That is also not true.
   were there at the JOCCOM meeting did you hear any
                                                                   25
```

Are you aware of any

MR SEMENYA SC:

23

24

25

22

23

riverside.

COLONEL VERMAAK:

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24 he was telling that because why I never had an R5 in my

hands. According to the witnesses that the police put

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    reason, now that you know Colonel Merafe as well as you
 2
    told us, why he would just fabricate that?
 3
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      Chair, if you read
 4
    through the statements of the members who gave their
 5
    statements on the 14th, nowhere did any of those members who
    was with me said that I took any firearm from them.
 6
 7
            MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   Ja, but you told us we
    shouldn't believe them. So why should we believe them on
8
 9
    this one?
10
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      I said, didn't say you
11
    shouldn't believe them.
12
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   You said they were
13
    inaccurate when they said you gave several commands to them
14
    to shoot, you said that's inaccurate.
15
           MS PILLAY:
                             Chair, just an objection -
16
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   For instance -
17
           MS PILLAY:
                             Just an objection. The
18
    witness has indicated very clearly that he couldn't
19
     identify either Sekgweleya or Mguye. He was clear that
20
    there were members of the TRT that were with him, but he's
21
     unable to say whether the two members were either
```

He also didn't say that

Sekgweleya or Mguye for that matter.

CHAIRPERSON:

and one of the colonels of Phokeng was taking the other injured person by vehicle to the clinic. So I don't know 6 when and where he saw me with that R5. 7 MR SEMENYA SC: And we're going to argue 8 that the probabilities are very slim that you'd see 9 somebody with an R5 from the helicopter, land without a 10 firearm on you and chase on foot after them. You must have 11 had confidence of chasing after that R5 people. 12 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** I've explained that I 13 had members who has been trained, I believe been trained 14 correctly, and then therefore I didn't see the necessary that I must have a firearm with me. I never book out a R5. Only when I had specific information and where there is a 17 specific operation I will book out my 9 millimetre pistol and that's why I said the members that was Captain Loest 19 getting together to go with me were people who were armed. So this is how you saw it 20 MR SEMENYA SC: 21 play out; you would run after somebody with an R5 and you 22 will command those TRT members to shoot if the necessity 23 arose? That's how you saw it play out? 24 COLONEL VERMAAK: Chair, I didn't gave instruction to members -

before us nobody came forward and said I have any firearms

saw me with the R5 because why if I remember correctly he

in my hands. I don't know where Colonel Merafe was when he

Page 27674 mentioned he had a firearm and that's the point of argument 1 2 really which can be argued at the end. I don't know that 3 we need spend much more time on it, Mr Semenya. 4 But there's another point that concerns me. I 5 understood you to say, Mr Semenya – if I misheard you, please correct me - why would Merafe fabricate that. It 6 7 doesn't follow, the fact that he says it, which we know he 8 did, the fact that according to this witness he was 9 mistaken doesn't mean - if the witness is correct on that 10 it doesn't mean that Merafe fabricated it. There is 11 another possible inference. So you can't put it as 12 strongly as you did, if I heard you correctly. Perhaps we can revisit that topic from a slightly different angle 13 without taking objections from Ms Pillay or from me. 14 15 MR SEMENYA SC: Colonel, you have heard the point raised by the Chair, that there may - are you 17 alive to any reason why Colonel Merafe may be mistaken on 18 the point? 19 COLONEL VERMAAK: Chair, I cannot -20 MR SEMENYA SC: Of so obvious a nature as 21 to say that he saw you have an R5 in your hand at the

everything they said was untrue. So the point he's making

is that they didn't mention, none of the people there

1 MR SEMENYA SC: No, no, no, I -2 COLONEL VERMAAK: I only gave instruction 3 to a member. 4 MR SEMENYA SC: No, no, no, before that instruction, I'm saying was this how you contemplated this 6 to unfold? 7 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** I do have the trust in the policemen who was going with me. If needed they will 9 be able to protect our lives. 10 MR SEMENYA SC: I know, but I'm asking how you contemplated this to unfold. You were going to 11 12 chase without a firearm on you and if the need arise you'd 13 instruct these TRT members to shoot? 14 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** If the need arise, as 15 it was, I gave the instruction to one member. 16 CHAIRPERSON: 17 19

You haven't answered the question. The question related to something anterior to what you've just said, relates to how you saw the situation developing, what you thought was going to happen or might happen. What Mr Semenya is putting to you is before you actually went with this group of people towards the river and over it, did you envisage that a situation might happen where it would be necessary for shots to be fired from the

side of your group because of the behaviour of the people

on the other side of the river, and you yourself didn't

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Chair, I don't know why

23

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                                                                                                                         Page 27679
    have a firearm, you say, so did you envisage that if that
                                                                       the following shortcomings were identified." The first,
    situation arose you would have to or be able to give an
                                                                       you say, "Members don't have commanders with experience in
2
3
    instruction to one or more of those with you -
                                                                       charge at unrest scenes." This is absolutely no reference
4
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       That is correct.
                                                                       to Marikana. Am I right?
                                                                   5
5
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 - to fire. That's your
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        No, this was written
    question, Mr Semenya?
                                                                   6
                                                                       after Marikana.
6
7
                                                                   7
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       That's correct, Chair.
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                      No, I'm saying this
8
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                   8
                                 And the answer is yes.
                                                                       criticism does not relate to the operation in Marikana.
9
                                                                   9
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       That's correct, Chair.
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        It did relate to it.
10
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                            Whilst we're at the
                                                                   10
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                      It did?
    river on the 13th can you just assist me with something?
                                                                   11
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                   He said Lonmin, Amplats,
11
                                                                   12
                                                                       and Impala, so it refers as I understand it to unrest at
12
    You say that there was just one striker from across the
13
    stream shooting with an R5
                                                                   13
                                                                       the three mines, Lonmin Mine, the Amplats Mine, and the
                                                                   14
14
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       That's correct, Chair.
                                                                       Impala Mine. So it does include Marikana. Is that right?
                                                                   15
15
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        That's correct, Chair.
                                            Because your
                                                                   16
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     Well Chair, I'm trying to
16
    statement and your evidence-in-chief make mention of
                                                                       tidy up and see whether this Lonmin relates also to the
17
    shooting with an R5 and - you say presumably a shotgun in
18
    your statement, but in your evidence-in-chief you speak of
                                                                       events of August 2012. Are you saying this criticism is
19
    both. Would you like to clarify that?
                                                                   19
                                                                       valid to the events of August 2012 in Marikana?
                                                                                                   It must do. If you look at
20
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       Chair, yes, we heard
                                                                   20
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
21
    some shots. We could only saw the person with the R5, but
                                                                       11.7, look at 11.4 and 11.7, he refers in terms to Marikana
                                                                  21
    from experience the shots that was in between I could make
22
                                                                   22
                                                                       - in one case Marikana (Lonmin), the other case
23
    out that is of a shotgun and with rubber bullets. It
                                                                       Marikana/Lonmin, so quite clearly when he's talking about
24
    wasn't make such a loud sound as it was made by the R5.
                                                                   24
                                                                       Lonmin in this document read as a whole, he's referring to
25
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                            And how many shots
                                                                       Lonmin. But it may well be a helpful exercise to isolate
                                                      Page 27678
                                                                                                                         Page 27680
    were fired from the other side with the R5?
                                                                       the comments made insofar as they relate to Lonmin/Marikana
1
2
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                       and don't relate to Amplats and Impala, which was not
                                      Chair, I cannot tell
3
    you. I cannot remember precisely. I just heard it, but
                                                                       covered by our terms of reference.
4
    what I specifically saw was the member with the R5 who was
                                                                   4
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     I'm attempting to do
5
    shooting at us.
                                                                       that, Chair. Now your evidence is that criticism covers
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                       the Marikana incident during August 2012?
6
                                            Thank you, Colonel.
                                                                   6
7
                                                                   7
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 You say the member with the
                                                                                                        That's correct.
                                                                   8
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
8
    R5 were shooting at you. I think you mean the member of
                                                                                                     Did I understand you
9
                                                                   9
                                                                       correctly when we started this cross-examination that
    the group, the striker.
10
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   10
                                                                       Brigadier Calitz is a POP commander of immense experience?
                                      The striker, yes.
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 The striker. He was a
                                                                   11
                                                                       Is that what you said?
11
                                                                  12
12
    member of the group of strikers, but in the context in
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        That's correct.
                                                                   13
13
    which we use the word "member" here we -
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     And that you said so is
14
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   14
                                                                       Colonel Merafe?
                                       It's a policeman.
15
                                                                   15
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        That is correct.
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 - normally mean a member of
                                                                   16
16
    the police service.
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     So is Colonel Pitsi.
17
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   17
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        That's correct.
18
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 Which is not what you meant
                                                                   18
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     How then do you say that
19
    to say?
                                                                       that event the commanders do not have the experience in
20
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      That's correct, Chair.
                                                                   20
                                                                       unrest situations?
21
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   Can I invite you to look
                                                                   21
                                                                       [11:38] COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                           Chair, they were not
    at exhibit HHH68, which is your, the document dated 12
                                                                       the only commanders. You get section commanders, you get
   December 2012. In particular can we go to that paragraph
                                                                   23
                                                                       platoon commanders. So that includes those members,
24 11? I want us to deal with the issues that you say there.
                                                                   24
                                                                       referring to commanders. So I didn't only refer to Colonel
25 It reads, "During the unrest at Lonmin, Amplats and Impala,
                                                                       Merafe or Pitsi or Brigadier Calitz. I said there
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                                                                                                                             Page 27683
     "commanders." That included your section commanders and
                                                                         there were POP commanders from province X or province Y who
                                                                         didn't seem to know what was going on, didn't seem to have
2
     your platoon commanders.
                                                                         the necessary experience, that would be helpful. If you
3
            MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Ja, okay. Which
                                                                         can't give that information then obviously of course the
4
     commanders are you referring to? Give us the names so that
                                                                      4
5
     we can just test the correctness of your criticism?
                                                                         point will fall away.
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                      6
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                           That's correct, Chair.
6
                                        In the first place a
7
                                                                      7
     TRT member don't have -
                                                                         If you can take people that's coming from Natal, they
8
                                                                     8
                                                                         haven't got the same problems at mines as we had here in
            MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    You can complete. You
                                                                      9
9
     can complete, Colonel.
                                                                         the North West province. I think the only two provinces
10
                                        They don't have the
                                                                     10
                                                                         that really have, or three provinces is Limpopo, Gauteng,
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
     necessary experience to handle unrest. They are not
                                                                     11
                                                                         and the Free State, who also have got problems with mines.
11
                                                                     12
                                                                         I'm not aware of any other province who have the problems
12
     trained for it and they are not supposed to be utilised
                                                                     13
13
     during crowd management incidents.
                                                                         with mines specifically.
14
            MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Can you give us names of
                                                                     14
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        I'm surprised, Colonel.
15
     POP commanders who do not have experience in unrest
                                                                     15
                                                                         Are you telling the PC North West about lack of experience
     situations?
                                                                         of POP members in Natal? Is that your answer?
16
                                                                     17
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                           Chair, you must look at
17
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                        Chair, I think if the
18
     police can go and withdraw all the section and platoon
                                                                     18
                                                                         the letter and why I wrote that letter, and if you will see
19
     commanders' history about their training and that, the
                                                                     19
                                                                         at one stage I said it's not to criticism individuals, it's
20
     experience that they have, I specifically also said at mine
                                                                     20
                                                                         to assist the police.
21
     unrest, so not very much of people in other provinces are
                                                                     21
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        In North West?
                                                                     22
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                           Well, I'm in North West
22
     exposed in such a way that the North West Public Order, and
23
     specifically the Rustenburg Public Order Police is exposed
                                                                     23
                                                                         and I wrote it to the PC, that's correct, Chair.
                                                                     24
24
     to, and the experience that they also have on mine unrest.
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        That's why I'm going
            MR SEMENYA SC:
25
                                                                     25
                                    Colonel, can you give us
                                                                         back. Are you saying you are bringing it to the attention
                                                        Page 27682
                                                                                                                             Page 27684
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names of POP commanders with no experience in unrest 2 scenes? 3 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** Chair, there was people 4 from the whole country. How can you expect from me to give 5 you names? There was over 700 policemen deployed. 6 MR SEMENYA SC: You cannot make a criticism that somebody does not have an experience if you don't know them. Please give us the names of the 9 commanders you say are POP commanders without experience 10 and who are managing in South Africa unrest-related issues. 11 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** Chair, I think then the 12 police must, as I said, get the 15th, see who was the 13 commanders, because I haven't got names. 14 CHAIRPERSON: I'm sorry to interrupt you, 15 Colonel. Is this not the way to approach it? I understand your point that people came from other provinces. They 17 didn't come from the whole country. They didn't come from 18 the Western Cape as far as I understand. I don't think 19 they came from the Northern Cape either, but they came from various provinces. Now are you able to be more specific than you've been up to now in respect of POP commanders who 22 you say did not have the necessary experience or training? Experience I suppose would be more accurate. Not

24 necessarily by giving names, because you presumably don't

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know the names, but if you can say as far as you were aware

of the PC in North West that there are POP commanders in 2 KZN who don't have experience in unrest -3 COLONEL VERMAAK: No, Chair, I'm not 4 specifically name provinces. It was a overall letter just to give assistance to the Provincial Commissioner. 6 MR SEMENYA SC: Just have a look at 11.1 7 there. Firstly it doesn't talk about in the mine areas, 8 but that aside, that aside; are you saying there are POP 9 commanders in the North West, which has mines, who do not 10 have experience in unrest scenes? 11 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** Chair, you're referring 12 to paragraph 11.1, or 11? 13 CHAIRPERSON: He asked you about 11.1. 14 COLONEL VERMAAK: 11.1 -15 CHAIRPERSON: Now if I can just ask you a few questions to get clarity in my mind before Mr Semenya 17 continues. 11.1 of course is a rather broad 18 generalisation, but I understood you to say by way of 19 explaining it that there were POP commanders from provinces that didn't have the same kind of problems that are 21 encountered in the North West and they wouldn't therefore 22 have the experience. Is that right? 23 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** That's right, Chair. 24 CHAIRPERSON: That's what you meant. In other words the advice you were giving the Provincial

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                                                                                                                        Page 27687
    Commissioner, if I can put it in my words - if I'm wrong
                                                                       So I didn't say only North West.
                                                                   2
    you must please correct me - was in future when we have
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                   You said as far as you knew
    this kind of problem and you have to get reinforcements
3
                                                                       there was mine-related unrest in Limpopo, Gauteng, and the
4
    from other provinces, try to get reinforcements from
                                                                       Free State. You seem to think there wasn't mine-related
                                                                   5
5
    provinces where they have similar problems so that the
                                                                       unrest in Natal: I don't know whether that's correct or
    people who come will be able to deal with them. Don't get
6
                                                                   6
                                                                       not, but anyway, that's what you said, and equally the
7
    people from provinces who haven't got that experience as
                                                                   7
                                                                       Eastern Cape. There may be unrest of other kinds, but not
8
    they won't be much good. Is that -
                                                                   8
                                                                       mine-related. Is that what you're saying?
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
9
                                                                   9
                                     That is -
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        That is correct, Chair.
10
           CHAIRPERSON:
                               - in my language what
                                                                  10
                                                                              COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                                                              There's another
11
    you're saying?
                                                                  11
                                                                       point. This criticism you say is peculiar to section
12
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                     That is correct, Chair.
                                                                  12
                                                                       commanders and platoon commanders.
                                                                  13
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
13
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                Alright.
                                                                                                         I didn't say the
14
                                                                  14
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                  But Colonel, okay, which
                                                                       officers, and I didn't say that the people I know didn't
15
    POP commanders displayed lack of experience to you in
                                                                       have the necessary experience. As I said, I work a long
    Marikana, from other provinces?
                                                                       time with Brigadier Calitz and Colonel Merafe, and also
16
17
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                  17
                                                                       Colonel Pitsi. So I never mentioned their names.
                                     Chair, if you go back
18
    to the 13th and you look at what happened there -
                                                                  18
                                                                              COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
19
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                  Which of the POP
                                                                       platoons and sections which would have come from other
20
    commanders on the 13th were coming from provinces other than
                                                                  20
                                                                       areas without this unrest experience, these commanders,
21
    the North West?
                                                                  21
                                                                       section commanders, platoon commanders, would be carrying
22
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                     I haven't got the list
                                                                  22
                                                                       out or relaying orders from senior commanders in the North
23
    with me, but there was other people who was coming from
                                                                  23
                                                                       West?
                                                                  24
24
    other provinces.
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         No, not necessarily,
25
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                         Sorry to interrupt
                                                                       Chair. They were normally put under command of their own
                                                      Page 27686
                                                                                                                        Page 27688
    you. Do I understand that the criticism is purely on the
                                                                   1
                                                                       people.
1
    basis of where they come from and therefore they might not
                                                                   2
                                                                                                               So they would be
2
                                                                              COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
3
    have experience with mine-related unrest?
                                                                       acting in a big operation like Marikana independently of
4
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       That is correct, Chair.
                                                                   4
                                                                       Brigadier Calitz's orders?
5
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                            There's nothing
                                                                   5
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          That's in their own
    that you observed -
                                                                   6
                                                                       unit sections, that's correct, Chair. They all fall under
6
7
                                                                   7
                                                                       the overall commander.
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       No.
                                                                   8
8
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                            - that led you to
                                                                              COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                                                               Yes.
9
                                                                   9
    that conclusion?
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          But they're not
10
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       No. No, that is what I
                                                                  10
                                                                       splitting them up and say six of this members from the
11
    said is the experience that the people have in mine unrest
                                                                       North West and six of KwaZulu-Natal, they're going to make
                                                                  11
12
    is total a difficult situation where you have say a strike
                                                                  12
                                                                       up one section now, to share the experience. So the
                                                                  13
13
    on service deliveries.
                                                                       sections stayed with the units that is reporting here for
14
                                                                  14
                                                                       this, for the duties.
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Let me have the benefit
                                                                  15
15
    of your reasoning then. Your expert opinion, or your
                                                                              COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                                                               So in a dispersal
    experienced opinion is that only POP members in North West
16
                                                                       action, if Brigadier Calitz had to give an order to
17
    can be used in North West, where the mines are? Is that
                                                                  17
                                                                       disperse, that order would come down the line to the
18
    the logic I must follow from your evidence?
                                                                  18
                                                                       section commanders and the platoon commanders, right?
19
                                                                  19
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       No, I didn't say that.
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          Under normal
20
    I have -
                                                                  20
                                                                       circumstances, yes, that will follow the line from the
21
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    No, I'm just trying to
                                                                  21
                                                                       operational commander to the platoon and section
22
   see if you -
                                                                  22
                                                                       commanders, Chair.
         COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                     I said to you, Chair,
                                                                  23
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
23
                                                                                                    Look, I don't want to get
24 that I said the people from Gauteng also have experience.
                                                                  24
                                                                       involved too much in the detail. I'm not sure how much you
   I said the people from the Free State also have experience.
                                                                       know about it, but take a practical example, what happened
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                                                                                                                            Page 27691
    at scene 2 on the 16th, Brigadier Calitz was there. I'm not
                                                                     1
                                                                                CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR SEMENYA SC (CONTD.):
2
    sure how much command and control he exercised and I'm not
                                                                         Thank you, Chair. Colonel, on the 13th of August 2012 the
                                                                         POP people who were deployed outside of the North West were
3
    sure how clearly any command that he gave found its way
                                                                         POP members from Pretoria, POP Johannesburg, POP East Rand,
4
    down the line. I mean you were in fact the eye-in-the-sky
                                                                     5
5
                                                                         POP KwaMhlanga, and the NIU from Pretoria. Now which ones
    and we've, a lot of that evidence has been dealt with
                                                                     6
                                                                         were you referring to that were coming from other
    already and we don't have to go over it again, but it's not
6
7
                                                                     7
                                                                         provinces?
    necessarily a reflection on Brigadier Calitz, that's
                                                                     8
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          I don't know where's
8
    another issue we won't go into now, but certainly the
9
                                                                     9
    section commanders who were operating in the vicinity of
                                                                         KwaMhlanga, if you maybe can help me.
10
    koppie 2, I'm not sure how much experience they had of
                                                                     10
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       It's Mpumalanga.
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
11
    being in charge of unrest scenes, but that's a broader
                                                                     11
                                                                                                          Okay.
                                                                     12
                                                                                                       Which ones were you
12
    issue which we don't have to go into. But as a general
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
13
    proposition can a man say whether what happened at scene 2
                                                                     13
                                                                         referring to, to be -
                                                                     14
                                                                                                           I've said -
14
    illustrates the point you're making, or does it not
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                     15
15
    illustrate the point you're making?
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       - coming from provinces
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                         that do not have -
16
                                    No, but Colonel, being in
                                                                     17
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          Chair, I've said -
17
    the sky -
18
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 Let him answer him question
                                                                     18
                                                                                MS PILLAY:
                                                                                                 Chair, just so that we're all
19
    first, Mr Semenya.
                                                                     19
                                                                         on the same page, if Mr Semenya could just indicate to us
20
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Sorry.
                                                                     20
                                                                         where we find this evidence so we can all follow it, where
21
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 Then you'll have
                                                                     21
                                                                         the POP units came from?
                                                                     22
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
22
    opportunity to ask yours. Have you got any comment on the
                                                                                                       I'll give a statement.
23
    question I asked you?
                                                                     23
                                                                         I've just consulted with the JOC. I can give you a list of
24
                                                                     24
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                         the provinces from where -
                                       Chair, yes. I did not
25
                                                                     25
                                                                                CHAIRPERSON:
    know what sort of instructions was given by the commanders
                                                                                                      It's somewhere in the
                                                        Page 27690
                                                                                                                            Page 27692
1
    on the ground and the situation was not a normal situation
                                                                     1
                                                                         record.
2
    at that stage. So I will not be aware of the instructions
                                                                     2
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                         It is in the record, yes.
3
    that was given by specific commanders on the ground as I
                                                                     3
                                                                                CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                      I think we can carry on in
4
    have that on the 13th.
                                                                         the meanwhile. The document sets it out - I'm inclined to
5
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                     5
                                                                         think we can rely on Mr Semenya on that, and it's an
                                   Nor can you make a
    criticism about how they behaved in relation to scene 2,
6
                                                                     6
                                                                         exhibit. No, I understand that, Ms Pillay wants to know
    which is what, the scenario described by the Chair.
                                                                     7
7
                                                                         which exhibit it is, but I'm afraid - I think let him carry
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
8
                                       Chair, you must look to
                                                                     8
                                                                         on and if it turns out that he's wrong you can deal with it
                                                                     9
9
    the whole picture. From the 13th onwards up to until
                                                                         in re-examination. But the question was which of those, if
10
    December there were a lot of incidents in and around
                                                                     10
                                                                         he's correct in saying where those various POP units came
11
    Marikana where people gathered together. In Nkaneng there
                                                                     11
                                                                         from, which are the ones that you say would be covered by
12
    was incidents where police have to disperse group of people
                                                                     12
                                                                         your criticism?
                                                                     13
13
    and at that specific incidents I observe some faults that
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            Chair, at the 13th the
14
    the policemen made and that is why I worried about that and
                                                                     14
                                                                         only people that I maybe can think of is KwaMhlanga. The
    I, that is why I brought it under the attention of the
15
                                                                     15
                                                                         other people of Gauteng -
    Provincial Commissioner.
                                                                     16
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
16
                                                                                                         No, there are mines in
17
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 On this note I think we can
                                                                     17
                                                                         Mpumalanga. What do you mean? They've got coal mines all
18
    take the tea adjournment and we'll resume this topic, if Mr
                                                                     18
                                                                         over the place there.
19
    Semenya wishes to persist in it, after tea.
                                                                     19
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            No, that's correct, but
20
            [COMMISSION ADJOURNS
                                          COMMISSION RESUMES]
                                                                     20
                                                                         have you ever seen on the news that there's any problems?
21
    [12:21] CHAIRPERSON:
                                    The Commission resumes.
                                                                     21
                                                                                MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        Sorry?
    Colonel, you're still bound by the affirmation.
                                                                     22
                                                                                COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            There's never ever that
22
           SALMON JOHANNES VERMAAK:
                                                                     23
23
                                                 (affirms
                                                                         I can remember that they are exposed to the same strikes as
24
    further)
                                                                     24
                                                                         we have here in the North West province.
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                 Mr Semenya.
                                                                    25
                                                                                CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                      The point was it isn't just
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                                                                                                                           Page 27695
    provinces where there are mines, it's provinces, as I
                                                                        during unrest?
                                                                    2
    understood his evidence, where there is mine unrest of the
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         Chair, I stay with my
2
                                                                    3
3
    nature of the mine unrest experienced in the North West,
                                                                        answer.
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
4
    and his answer is that that's not his understanding of what
                                                                    4
                                                                                                     Okay. Let us look at
5
                                                                        what you have at 11.2. You say, "Commanders don't know or
    happens in Mpumalanga.
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                    6
                                                                        have the legislation" -
6
                                        That's correct, Chair.
7
                                  Whether all the coal
                                                                    7
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                   Could we have it back on
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                    8
                                                                        the screen, please? 11.2, "Members don't have commanders
8
    mineworkers in Mpumalanga all act entirely properly as
9
                                                                    9
    officers and gentlemen entirely I'm not sure, but that's
                                                                        with experience" - sorry, that's 1. 11.2, "Commanders
10
    his impression and it's certainly mine as well.
                                                                    10
                                                                        don't know or have the legislation under what they can
11
                                                                    11
                                                                        act." Now to which commanders were you referring?
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                     Okay, tell us, Colonel,
                                                                   12
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        Chair, that we have
12
    as a POP section commander in a mine unrest situation what
13
     tactically do you do different than any other section POP
                                                                        experience through the time that there is, and I've write
14
    commander?
                                                                    14
                                                                        it in some of my letters, the different standards that
                                                                    15
15
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                        there is. At one stage they want to act against people who
                                        In the first place if
                                                                        is marching illegally. The next time they leave the people
16
    you can just go back what we sit with in Marikana, all this
                                                                   17
                                                                        to march -
17
    serious dangerous weapons that the people have, the people
18
    that have been killed for how many days, that is not a
                                                                    18
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                   No, that's 11.3. We're
19
    normal thing that you see with service delivery. So you
                                                                        busy with 11.2. Here you're dealing with commanders, in
20
    must prepare for that sort of situations and you must have
                                                                    20
                                                                        the plural, who either didn't know the legislation under
21
    preferably experience of that.
                                                                    21
                                                                        which they could act, or didn't have copies of it available
22
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                    22
                                     Colonel, what tactically
                                                                        to them. That's the point made in 11.2 and I think Mr
23
    does a section commander do differently, whether they are
                                                                   23
                                                                        Semenya wants to know who the commanders were to whom you
                                                                    24
                                                                        were referring.
24
    from a mine unrest environment or a non-mine unrest
                                                                    25
25
    environment?
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        Chair, I've mentioned
                                                       Page 27694
                                                                                                                           Page 27696
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       Chair, it depends from
1
                                                                        it in broad. If you go and look at every situation where
    situation to situation. The training is more or less to
2
                                                                    2
                                                                        there was a crowd management situation, normally you will
3
    all the POP members, but it depends on decisions of
                                                                    3
                                                                        see that people only open one case and that's for illegal
4
    commanders how they're going to approach it.
                                                                    4
                                                                        march, while there's other cases you can also open against
5
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                    5
                                                                        the people and not only just go for the easiest one.
                                    No, no, no, I want to
                                                                    6
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
6
    understand this criticism that you are mentioning here. I
                                                                                                         So you don't speak about
7
                                                                    7
    want to know what a section commander in North West does
                                                                        any particular individual?
                                                                    8
8
    that is different to that a section commander would do in
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            That's correct.
9
                                                                    9
    KwaZulu-Natal.
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                         You're just saying all of
10
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                    10
                                       Experience.
                                                                        them?
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    What in the experience do
11
                                                                    11
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            I didn't say all of
12
    they do differently? If they have 10 years' experience,
                                                                    12
                                                                        them. I said I identified that there can be a problem, or
13
    they have 10 years' experience the other way, what
                                                                    13
                                                                        there is a problem with the people out of experience that
14
    difference in their experience is there?
                                                                    14
                                                                        we saw and we experience it in the North West province
15
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                    15
                                       Chair, throughout South
                                                                        specifically.
                                                                    16
16
    Africa we are challenged with different situations. The
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                         What legislation are you
17
    people for instance in Gauteng who have very big marches,
                                                                    17
                                                                        referring to?
18
    they are exposed, they have experience of it and if you
                                                                    18
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            Public Road Act for
                                                                        example, if they're blocking the roads, I never saw that
19
    take the Northern Cape policemen and you put 30 000 people
                                                                    19
    there in a march, that will, for them to handle for the
                                                                    20
                                                                        they open such a case.
21
    first time will be really a challenge.
                                                                    21
                                                                                COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                                                                 Do I understand
22
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Is that your answer to
                                                                        that you're saying that the commanders don't have enough
    what tactically is done -
23
                                                                    23
                                                                        knowledge of the law to lay charges, criminal charges
        COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       That's correct.
                                                                    24
                                                                        against the protesters or the strikers -
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   - what tactically is done
                                                                    25
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            That is, that is
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1	Page 27697 correct, Chair.	1	Page 27699 does it work, this docket was Marikana CAS119/08/2012.
2	COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ: Is that what that	2	Your statement was A16, so it was the 16th statement filed
3	criticism relates to?	3	in the docket. Now who would have opened, who would have
4	COLONEL VERMAAK: That's correct.	4	caused the docket to be opened?
5	COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ: Thank you.	5	COLONEL VERMAAK: Chair, I haven't got an
	,		•
6		6	idea. Brigadier Van Zyl was on the scene. CHAIRPERSON: Yes.
7	statement that you made on the 16th of August – triple L –	-	
8	CHAIRPERSON: Do you want this one put up	8	
9	on the screen now?	9	gave instruction to go and open the case –
10	MR SEMENYA SC: No, no, no, not –	10	CHAIRPERSON: Somebody opened the docket.
11	CHAIRPERSON: No?	11	You're not sure –
12	MR SEMENYA SC: OOO8, the one that was a	12	COLONEL VERMAAK: I don't know who it
13	statement you gave to Brigadier Van Zyl.	13	was, Chair.
14	CHAIRPERSON: Ja.	14	CHAIRPERSON: Now what's the mechanism
15	MR SEMENYA SC: In relation to the	15	when a docket is opened? Does the person who's opening the
16	matters of the 13th.	16	docket, causing the docket to be opened specify what the
17	CHAIRPERSON: Alright, it looks as if	17	charge is in respect of which the docket is to be opened,
18	we're getting it on the screen.	18	or how does it work?
19	MR SEMENYA SC: You remember that	19	COLONEL VERMAAK: Yes, Chair, if you open
20	statement?	20	a docket you will put all the complaints that you have in
21	COLONEL VERMAAK: That's correct.	21	front of the docket. There's a specific area where you
22	MR SEMENYA SC: Neither you mention all	22	write down all the complaints, and then the docket is being
23	this contraventions of the Road Traffic Act and the	23	given to an investigating officer.
24	Dangerous Weapons Act or these other in relation to the	24	CHAIRPERSON: And when that happens, as
25	events of the 13th. All you're talking about is that –	25	far as I can remember from the days when I was a
1	Page 27698	1	Page 27700
1	COLONEL VERMAAK: I –	1	prosecutor, is you don't just open the docket. There's
2	COLONEL VERMAAK: I – MR SEMENYA SC: All you are talking about	2	prosecutor, is you don't just open the docket. There's always an A1, in fact at one stage the A1 used to be on the
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Page 27701
                                                                                                                         Page 27703
                                                                       must do is incorrect, Brigadier.' You didn't say that to
     afternoon -
 1
                                                                   2
 2
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                        It was in a period when
 3
     we refuelled that he asked that.
                                                                   3
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         I explained to the
 4
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                   Yes, during a refuelling
                                                                       Chair now the circumstances under which the Brigadier asked
 5
     stop.
                                                                   5
                                                                       me for the statement.
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   6
 6
                                        That's correct.
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                      No, I don't understand.
 7
                                                                   7
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                   And you wrote the statement
                                                                       The Brigadier comes to you because you are the eye-in-the-
 8
     down in your own handwriting.
                                                                       sky, to speak about whether or not there was a notice in
 9
                                                                   9
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                        That's correct, Chair.
                                                                       terms of the Regulation of Gatherings Act.
10
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                   In English.
                                                                   10
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         I don't know why did he
                                                                       approach me for a statement. I think that is a question
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                        That's -
                                                                   11
11
                                   And this is the statement
12
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                   12
                                                                       that must be put to Brigadier Van Zyl himself.
13
     we have, exhibit -
                                                                   13
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                      No, I'm asking from you
14
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                        That's correct.
                                                                   14
                                                                       as a witness. Are you saying that the evidence that the
                                                                       Brigadier wanted from somebody who is the eye-in-the-sky
15
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                   - 0008.
                                                                       was to talk about whether or not there was compliance with
16
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                        That's correct, Chair.
17
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                   17
                                   I see. Now the question
                                                                       the act?
18
     you were asked is why didn't you in that statement also
                                                                   18
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         You know my
                                                                   19
19
     include a whole lot of other charges that the Brigadier
                                                                       experience -
20
     didn't refer to, which may not have been on the front part
                                                                   20
                                                                              MS PILLAY:
                                                                                                Chair, the witness has just
21
                                                                   21
                                                                       indicated that he doesn't know why Brigadier Van Zyl
     of the docket and may not have been included in the
                                                                   22
22
     founding statement, A1?
                                                                       approached him for the statement.
23
                                                                   23
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                        Chair, I haven't got
                                                                                                    No, no, we know that, but
                                                                   24
24
     the docket in front of me, so I wasn't aware which cases
                                                                       the question relates to something else. When he was
25
     was opened already on the docket, and as I said, Brigadier
                                                                       approached for whatever reason - he may not know what it
                                                      Page 27702
                                                                                                                         Page 27704
    Van Zyl approached me and asked me I must mainly just
 1
                                                                       was - the question is why didn't he say, 'By the way, there
 2
     concentrate for him, give a broad explanation what happened
                                                                       are a lot of other offences as well that I should cover in
 3
     on that day and as far as I know if the people have
                                                                    3
                                                                        my statement'. That's the question Mr Semenya is asking.
 4
     authority to have a march or not.
                                                                   4
                                                                        I don't see any problem about that. I don' know what the
 5
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                Now if a docket had been
                                                                        answer is - or I think I do know the answer. I think he's
    opened to your knowledge on a murder charge and you were
                                                                   6
                                                                       given it already, but maybe the witness cares to repeat his
 6
     able to contribute evidence about the murder, but you also
                                                                   7
 7
                                                                        answer.
    knew that the accused was guilty of negligent driving on
                                                                   8
8
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          Chair, as I said,
 9
                                                                   9
     the same day he committed the murder - accused or suspected
                                                                        Brigadier Calitz - ag, Van Zyl asked me to concentrate only
                                                                       for him on that specific incident. It's easily for me from
10
    of committing negligent driving on the day he allegedly
                                                                   10
11
     committed the murder - and you were asked to make a
                                                                   11
                                                                        the eye-in-the-sky to know that is an illegal gathering
12
     statement to be filed in the murder docket, would you have
                                                                   12
                                                                       with all those dangerous weapons, so the whole thing was
13
    included the negligent driving material as well?
                                                                   13
                                                                        about the illegal march and as far as if I know that those
14
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   14
                                      Chair yes, if, in
                                                                        people have any particular approval for that sort of march.
15
    normal instances you will include all that information, but
                                                                   15
                                                                        I did between the 13th and the date that I made the
     due to the fact that Brigadier Van Zyl knew that we is the
16
                                                                   16
                                                                        statement, did take knowledge that those people didn't have
17
     eye-in-the-sky, he asked me only to concentrate on that
                                                                   17
                                                                        any permission to have a march.
18
    specific points.
                                                                   18
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       But you do accept that if
19
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                  I don't understand -
                                                                       you had included all other transgressions, the Public
20
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      He said we will at a
                                                                       Prosecutor who was going to formulate the charges would
21
     later stage obtain a full statement from my side.
                                                                   21
                                                                        have had the benefit of real evidence based on your
22
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                  No, but mindful of this
                                                                   22
                                                                       statement to include those charges as well?
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24

very criticism you have, you would have said to him, 'But

24 that's precisely why we keep complaining, that commanders

must include all transgressions. This thing that you say I

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COLONEL VERMAAK:

not the investigating officer. I didn't put the A1

statement in the docket. I only gave Brigadier Van Zyl the

Chair, as I said, I was

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                                                                                                                         Page 27707
    information that he quickly - and I put it to you, quickly
                                                                       referring to you. I'm saying as a matter of practice if
    needed from me, because why he said to me he's on his way
                                                                       you're a member of the JOCCOM and you have a view to
2
                                                                    2
3
    to the court for the application.
                                                                    3
                                                                       contribute, you don't have to be invited to do so. Am I
4
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                   So if I looked at OOO8 I
                                                                   4
                                                                       right?
                                                                   5
5
    can say that this commander doesn't know the legislation
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          That's correct, if your
    under which they are acting?
                                                                   6
                                                                       meetings is being handling properly, if there's agendas
6
7
                                                                   7
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       Chair, I don't know
                                                                       being distributing, if there's proper minutes being taken,
    what complaints were opened. If I've got the docket before
                                                                   8
                                                                       if the following day those minutes were distributing to the
8
                                                                   9
9
    me I believe I can comment on that.
                                                                       members to make any amendments if needed, that is normal
10
                                                                   10
                                                                       procedure and I think that is also official procedures,
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    On 11.4 you deal with the
    senior officers do planning without any experience in
                                                                   11
11
                                                                       then you will have a chance under "General" to make inputs.
                                                                   12
12
    serious incidents. Let me start here; in Marikana at least
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       If all those things are
13
    we know according to your evidence the planning happened
                                                                   13
                                                                       not there you don't make an input as a member in the JOC?
14
    with you being present, right?
                                                                   14
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          Chair, you refer to
15
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       No, I wasn't present.
                                                                   15
                                                                       overall if I was a colonel in circumstances. Now you said
16
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    I thought you said you
                                                                   16
                                                                       "me."
17
    were in the JOCCOM throughout, without fail.
                                                                   17
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       No, I'm saying if you are
18
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       Chair, in the afternoon
                                                                   18
                                                                       a member of the JOCCOM and all those things are not
    at 1 o'clock or half past 1 when they finalised the plan I
19
                                                                   19
                                                                       present, you don't make a contribution?
20
    was not part of it.
                                                                   20
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          I might make
21
    [12:41] MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                  21
                                                                       contribution. Chair.
                                      Well, I'm really talking
    from the 13th onwards. Those plannings, you were part of
                                                                   22
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
22
                                                                                                      So there's nothing
23
    them?
                                                                   23
                                                                       precluding you from making a contribution?
                                                                   24
24
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       I was not - I was
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          Excuse? Just repeat?
    present. I did give my input and the plan was drawn up by
25
                                                                   25
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       There is nothing
                                                      Page 27706
                                                                                                                         Page 27708
    Colonel Scott and I believe it was approved by General
                                                                       precluding a JOCCOM member from making a contribution when
1
                                                                       they are sitting in a JOCCOM that is not that -
2
    Annandale and General Mpembe.
3
            MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Was it discussed with the
                                                                   3
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        Volgens, according to
4
    POP members with experience being present there?
                                                                   4
                                                                       structure?
                                                                   5
5
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     Ja.
                                       They were briefed about
                                                                   6
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
    the plan. They were not asked specifically inputs.
                                                                                                        No, you can make a -
6
7
                                                                   7
                                                                       if, Chair, if you have the confidence to stand up and make
            MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Neither were you asked
                                                                       a contribution you will do it, and that is what I've done.
8
     specifically to make inputs?
                                                                   8
9
                                                                   9
                                                                       I stand up, I make my contribution, and if it is ignored by
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       No. Out of my own, I
10
                                                                   10
                                                                       the chairperson and the planner, I cannot stand in for
    made my own input.
                                                                   11
                                                                       that.
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                  As far as you could see was
11
12
    any attention paid to your inputs? Were your inputs
                                                                   12
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     We'll deal with the
13
    incorporated into the plan in any way?
                                                                   13
                                                                       ignoring part. I'm just trying to understand, so when
14
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   14
                                                                       Colonel Merafe is there, is the planning happening with an
                                       Nothing, Chair. It was
                                                                   15
                                                                       experienced POP commander in the JOCCOM?
15
    not even used as a plan B. There was a plan A, but no plan
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
    B if something went wrong.
                                                                   16
                                                                                                        Chair, I cannot comment
16
17
            MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    I would have thought that
                                                                   17
                                                                       on Colonel Merafe's whereabouts.
18
    if I'm a member of the JOCCOM and we're discussing a plan
                                                                  18
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     No, you were in the
19
    and I am a colonel with a view different, or with a view to
                                                                       JOCCOM, man. So you would have known whether there are or
20
    improve the plan, you don't have to be invited to do that,
                                                                   20
                                                                       there are not people with the POP experience in the JOCCOM
21
     do you?
                                                                   21
                                                                       deliberations.
22
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      I did gave my input and
                                                                   22
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        The, Brigadier Calitz
    if they didn't want to use my input I cannot force the
                                                                   23
                                                                       was there and Colonel Merafe was there and at a later stage
23
    people who draw up the plan to make use of my inputs.
                                                                   24
                                                                       Colonel Pitsi was also there.
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                  No, no, no, I'm not
                                                                  25
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     That's precisely my
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Page 27709
                                                                                                                         Page 27711
     point. I'm saying when the planning happened, it happened
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                   1
                                                                                                        So you're saying the
    in the presence of POP-experienced individuals -
2
                                                                   2
                                                                       overall commander's idea will prevail for the day?
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   3
3
                                       That's correct.
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            No -
4
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    And they did not find
                                                                   4
                                                                               MS PILLAY:
                                                                                                  Chair, the evidence was that
5
    anything untoward about that plan as a plan for the
                                                                   5
                                                                       the operational commander would -
    operation that was to be conducted.
6
                                                                   6
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        The operational
7
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       That is their view. I
                                                                   7
                                                                       commander, sorry. Are you saying the operational
    cannot stand in for how did they feel about the planning.
8
                                                                   8
                                                                       commander's opinion will prevail on the day?
                                                                   9
9
     That is my, when I feel that the planning might have some
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            No. Together with the
10
    shortcomings I bring it under the attention of the people.
                                                                  10
                                                                       overall commander. I said -
11
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                  11
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Colonel, you know I don't
                                                                                                        Okay, but we know the
12
    understand this. In police operations if you have eight
                                                                  12
                                                                       operational commander holds a different view from the
13
    individuals to do a particular operation, what happens?
                                                                  13
                                                                       overall commander as part of the eight. Which idea will
14
    Surely one view would prevail, no? Or do you have to
                                                                  14
                                                                       prevail?
    implement each and every of those eight individual ideas
                                                                  15
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
15
                                                                                                            Chair, it is not for me
16
    about how that operation should unfold?
                                                                       to decide. That is for those people in that situation that
17
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       No Chair, if it is
                                                                  17
                                                                       will make that decision, not me.
18
    being done properly each and every member will give his
                                                                  18
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        I understand. If you're
    input. It will be documented and it will be discussed.
19
                                                                  19
                                                                       the overall commander there in that JOCCOM, which idea
20
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                    Wasn't the plan about
                                                                  20
                                                                       would prevail? I just want to understand police practice.
21
                                                                  21
    addressing Marikana unrest discussed in the JOCCOM?
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                           Well, I've explained it
22
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                  22
                                                                       now several times, Chair, and I'm, really, I don't think I
                                       It was discussed there.
23
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                  23
                                    Now I would understand,
                                                                       must -
    just help me understand a different issue now. If there
24
                                                                  24
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                        Okay.
                                                                  25
25
    are eight ideas about how that operation must unfold, what
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                            - again do it.
                                                      Page 27710
                                                                                                                         Page 27712
    happens then?
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     The point I'm making,
1
                                                                   1
2
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                     Plan is being drawn up
                                                                       Chair - Colonel, is this; you cannot if you were part of a
3
    and it will be -
                                                                       JOCCOM and a JOCCOM that comes to a particular operational
           MR SEMENYA SC:
4
                                  Now which of the eight
                                                                       strategy then say that you were ignored.
                                                                   5
5
    ideas is going to be implemented by the police?
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        Well, that's a fact. I
6
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                     Can I please - the plan
                                                                   6
                                                                       was there and they ignored me. Nowhere is any plan -
    will be drawn up with all the information on hand
                                                                   7
7
                                                                              MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                     No, no, no, if your
    stipulated in the plan and it will be given to the JOCCOM
8
                                                                   8
                                                                       opinion does not prevail -
9
    commander and the operational commander to approve it.
                                                                   9
                                                                              MS PILLAY:
                                                                                               Chair, I think it's only fair
10
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                  If there are eight ideas
                                                                       that the witness be giving an opportunity to complete his
                                                                  10
    ultimately held by eight individuals about how that
11
                                                                  11
                                                                       answers.
12
    operation must happen, tell us which idea will take, will
                                                                  12
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                   I think that's a good
    prevail, and why.
13
                                                                  13
                                                                       point, Mr Semenya. I uphold the point. Finish your
14
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                     The final decision will
                                                                  14
                                                                       answer, then Mr Semenya will ask you his next question.
15
    lay by the operational manager, or the operation commander
                                                                  15
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                        In this specific
    and the JOCCOM commander, and after they have done the plan
                                                                       operation, Chair, I did say that I'm not happy with the
16
17
    they will come back to the members.
                                                                  17
                                                                       plan. I made a suggestion. It wasn't taken up by the
18
                                                                  18
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                  No, no, no, I'm talking
                                                                       senior people who was there and as far as I know it was
19
    about the JOCCOM now.
                                                                  19
                                                                       also not minuted and also not write into the plan at any
20
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                     I'm also talking about
                                                                  20
                                                                       stage.
21
    the JOCCOM.
                                                                  21
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                   While we're on the subject
22
           MR SEMENYA SC:
                                  Which members are you
                                                                       of minutes, as far as I can remember the evidence indicates
    referring to, sorry?
                                                                  23
                                                                       that certainly minutes weren't considered, at the beginning
         COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                     The members in the
                                                                  24
                                                                       of these meetings there wasn't any consideration of the
    JOCCOM.
                                                                       minutes of previous meetings. Is that correct? You know
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                                                                                                                         Page 27715
    in a formally structured meeting one of the first items of
                                                                       and cordon and search the hostel and then I explained to
    business on the agenda is the minutes of the previous
                                                                       them why did I still suggest that it must be done.
2
                                                                    3
3
    meeting -
                                                                              COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                                                              I see, and there
4
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       That's correct.
                                                                   4
                                                                       was no support for this view from any of the other POP
5
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                  - which are then
                                                                   5
                                                                       commanders present at the JOCCOM?
    considered. If they are confirmed they are signed by the
                                                                   6
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                         No, from POP commanders
6
7
                                                                   7
    chairman. If there are corrections suggested these are -
                                                                       there was nobody who support me. It was only Colonel
8
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                   8
                                       That is correct, Chair.
                                                                       Isaacs from CIG who confirm that this people will not lay
9
                                                                   9
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                  Now did that happen in
                                                                       down their weapons and they are prepared to fight with the
    respect of the minutes of the JOCCOM meetings?
                                                                   10
                                                                       police.
10
11
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       No, Chair.
                                                                   11
                                                                              COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                                                              Yes, but you did
12
                                  Did the members receive
                                                                   12
                                                                       get a hearing. Your complaint is that they did not adopt
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                   13
                                                                       your plan of action?
13
     copies of the minutes -
                                                                   14
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
14
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       No, Chair.
                                                                                                         That is correct, Chair.
15
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                  - of the previous meeting
                                                                   15
                                                                              COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                                                              I understand.
                                                                       Thank you, Colonel.
16
    before they attended the next one?
                                                                   17
                                                                              CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                    It goes a little bit
17
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       Nothing at all.
18
            CHAIRPERSON:
                                  So did you know what was
                                                                   18
                                                                       further, does it not? Because though there were problems
19
    minuted in the minutes?
                                                                   19
                                                                       in relation to intelligence, the representatives of the
20
            COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                       No, Chair, it was not
                                                                   20
                                                                       CIG, as you call them, were at the meeting and consistently
21
                                                                   21
                                                                       reported, Isaacs and Engelbrecht - in fact Engelbrecht and
    distributed to anybody in the JOC.
                                                                   22
22
            COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                                                       Isaacs, I think Isaacs was there on the last day -
                                             I'm sorry to
23
                                                                   23
                                                                       consistently reported that the strikers wouldn't lay down
    interrupt, Mr Semenya. Can I just, can you help me
24
    understand something? At every JOCCOM meeting that you
                                                                   24
                                                                       their weapons and they would fight.
25
                                                                   25
                                                                              COLONEL VERMAAK:
    were present you held a view that was different to the
                                                                                                         That's correct, Chair.
                                                      Page 27714
                                                                                                                         Page 27716
1
    common view held by the others?
                                                                    1
                                                                               CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                                                     And as far as - well, I
2
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                       mustn't put leading questions here. To what extent as far
                                      That's correct, Chair.
3
    That's why I said from the Sunday I discuss it with the
                                                                    3
                                                                        as you're aware was that information taken into account in
4
    senior members and I stayed with that view, also especially
                                                                   4
                                                                        the plans that were going forward?
                                                                   5
5
    due to the fact that Colonel Isaac and Brigadier -
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          Chair, I'm not aware
           CHAIRPERSON:
                                                                   6
                                                                       that those information was really write into the plan
6
                                 Engelbrecht.
7
                                                                   7
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      - Engelbrecht said they
                                                                        specifically. We never received a hardcopy of any plans.
    have a difficulty to get specific information. I stay with
                                                                   8
8
                                                                        Any operational commander who was there never received a
                                                                   9
9
    that view and I mention it every time that I'm worried
                                                                        plan in his hand. It was always put on a screen where
                                                                   10
    about the plan that they want to execute. To go and
                                                                       different stages were explained by Colonel Scott.
10
    challenge 3 000 people on a koppie with dangerous weapons,
                                                                   11
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       No, but the members from
11
12
    you know that on the Sunday people were killed, you know on
                                                                   12
                                                                        the Intelligence were not supporting you about the cordon
13
    the Monday people were killed. So it is, I think just
                                                                   13
                                                                        and search, they were supporting you about the nature of
14
    normal to know that this people is not going to be very
                                                                   14
                                                                        the threat. Am I right?
                                                                   15
15
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
    peaceful if you're going to approach them in such a big
                                                                                                          No, that's correct,
16
    group.
                                                                   16
                                                                       Chair.
17
           COMMISSIONER HEMRAJ:
                                           Yes, now Colonel,
                                                                   17
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       Yes, so most of the POP
18
    when you, your view, whenever you put it forward all the
                                                                   18
                                                                       commanders in the JOC did consider your opinion, if I
    others had a separate view. Now did they simply ignore
                                                                   19
                                                                        understood your answers now, and they told you why they
    what you said, or did they point out to you that there
                                                                   20
                                                                        think it is -
21
    might be certain difficulties with what you were
                                                                   21
                                                                               COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                                                                                          No, that's not how I
22 suggesting?
                                                                   22
                                                                       put it.
           COLONEL VERMAAK:
                                      Chair, there was only
                                                                   23
                                                                               MR SEMENYA SC:
                                                                                                       Alright, I can use your
23
24 once, I think it was on the 15th if I remember correctly,
                                                                   24
                                                                       words. Did they say to you that they don't have enough
25 where I was told that they haven't got information to go
                                                                       information to do a cordon and search?
```

19

20

21

of course the tactical operation ended as we know it did

you say isn't entirely correct. There was a decision to

know that, but that is the evidence we've had,

uncontradicted evidence.

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and so the cordon and search didn't take place. But what

take a cordon and search. The relevant documents were

prepared, signed by the Provincial Commissioner, with the

consequences I've explained. So I'm not sure why you don't

Page 27717 Page 27719 COLONEL VERMAAK: COLONEL VERMAAK: Chair, that was not 1 The only person who was confirming what I've said was Colonel Isaacs and the only shared with me at all. I was not aware of that latest one 2 3 person that said that there was already a plan on the table that was prepared and signed. 4 was Colonel Scott. MR SEMENYA SC: Chair -5 5 MR SEMENYA SC: Did they say to you that CHAIRPERSON: Mr Semenya, I know you want there was inadequate information to implement your plan? to round this off. We'll adjourn once you've finished, 6 6 7 7 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** They said they did not rounded off the point you want to make. 8 MR SEMENYA SC: 8 approve my proposal. Thank you. Thank you, 9 9 MR SEMENYA SC: And you were asked why, Chair. Colonel, did you in response to Commissioner were you not? Hemraj's question to you say that you were told that there 10 10 **COLONEL VERMAAK:** 11 is inadequate information to implement your plan? 11 I did ask them why and 12 COLONEL VERMAAK: 12 they said they already have a plan in place. Colonel 13 13 Moolman have already at that stage, and if I'm correct, MR SEMENYA SC: Okay, we'll start with 14 prepared on the Tuesday a search warrant for the Provincial 14 that on the record when we resume. Commissioner to sign, but unfortunately it was not being 15 CHAIRPERSON: Okay, do I have your 15 approved by the Provincial Commissioner. permission to adjourn now, Mr Semenya? Alright, we'll 16 17 17 adjourn until the morning of the 8th of May. The reason is MR SEMENYA SC: Colonel, did you just -18 CHAIRPERSON: I'm sorry, can I just that it seems an unnecessary expense to come back on 19 MR SEMENYA SC: Can I -19 Friday, regard being had to the fact that tomorrow is a 20 CHAIRPERSON: Sorry, I'll give you a 20 public holiday. As I've said before, the chamber will not 21 chance in a moment. That information what you now give us be available to us on Monday and Tuesday of next week. The doesn't accord with the evidence. The evidence we have is 22 Wednesday it will also not be available, and in any event 23 that Captain Moolman, as she then was - she later became a 23 that's the day of the election. So we will continue on the 24 24 8th. colonel, I said as she then was - came early as a matter of 25 25 fact on the Wednesday morning, I think it was, she came on We will then be continuing under the new Page 27718 Page 27720 the Wednesday and she drafted the papers, which is not a proclamation which has been issued by the President - I'm search warrant, it's an authorisation which dispenses with not sure if it's been Gazetted yet, but I've seen a copy 2 3 the need for a search warrant -3 and it's been the subject of a presidential press **COLONEL VERMAAK:** 4 That's correct. 4 statement. 5 CHAIRPERSON: - signed by the Provincial 5 [13:01] We are continuing only in respect of terms of Commissioner. She prepared the necessary documents, the 6 reference 1.1 to 1.4 - 1.5 has been deleted - and we'll be 6 actual authorisation plus the affidavits to be signed by I 7 continuing until the 31st of July, and we will announce on 7 8 think some senior officers. As far as we can tell from the 8 the 8th detailed procedural rulings we'll be making to deal 9 evidence the Provincial Commissioner didn't sign that on 9 with the situation thereafter. They will include time 10 the Wednesday, but on the Thursday she did. Captain 10 limits in respect of evidence-in-chief and cross-11 Moolman came back on the Thursday, compiled fresh documents 11 examination in respect of the witnesses. A plan is being 12 providing for a cordon and search for 36 hours from, I 12 drawn up by the evidence leaders as to which witnesses will think it was noon on the 16th until the end of the 17th. I 13 13 give oral evidence, but these matters will be discussed not 14 think that's right. This document was signed by the 14 in this chamber but elsewhere with the representatives of 15 Provincial Commissioner and, but it wasn't implemented 15 the parties, and so we will have a new way of working form 16 because the plan was to do that at a later stage. In other 16 the 8th of May, but this witness I suppose won't be covered 17 words the tactical option would be implemented first, and 17 by those, so he'll be the last witness under the old regime

> 19 fashion. 20 I would appeal to all the parties concerned to 21 appreciate the fact - I have said this often before, but as I have said it hasn't always been listened to, but I trust 23 it will be listened to now. There is no question about 24 getting an extension beyond the 31st of July and I appeal to everybody concerned to assist to ensure that this

and from then on things will be done in a different

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Marikana Commission of Inquiry Pretoria Page 27721 Commission is able to hear the necessary evidence and to 2 receive argument. I trust that in the meanwhile parties 3 are already preparing argument in advance. I hope we'll 4 have full argument. We will have a limited time for 5 hearing oral argument, but we will obviously enable parties to highlight matters and put difficulties to them, but we 6 7 have to finish the hearings by the end of July. The time thereafter will be spent to writing the report. It's very 8 9 important for the work of the Commission, and it's very important, I would suggest, for the country as a whole that 10 we should be able to finish our work and deal with the 11 important matters in respect of which we've been asked to 13 report. We will adjourn now until 9 o'clock on the morning 14 of the 8th -15 MR BIZOS SC: Chairman, I'm sorry, may I raise a matter which you have already made an appeal in 16 17 relation to admissions contained in the expert reports. I 18 ask, Mr Chairman, that you appeal to all of us to use the 19 period between now and the 8th to either agree that the expert reports are admitted, or which portions are 20 21 admitted, in order to avoid the calling of witnesses, of 22 expert witnesses, which of necessity if they have to be 23 called we will stand very little chance of finishing by the 24 end of July. 25 CHAIRPERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr Bizos. Page 27722 I may say the evidence leaders are already preparing a proposal to put before the parties in relation to the 2 3 manner in which the expert evidence can be received, and that comment that you've made will be conveyed to them and 5 they will be communicating with all the parties in regard to the proposals that they are going to make in that 6 7 regard. 8 MR BIZOS SC: Thank you, Mr Chairman. 9 CHAIRPERSON: We will now adjourn until 9 o'clock on the morning of the 8th of May. 10 11 [COMMISSION ADJOURNED] 12 13 14 15 17 18 19 20

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