

STATEMENT

Before the war, I lived with my family in the village of Međe, where I was also born, which is now called the village of Karno, Srebrenica municipality. In our household, my wife Cvijeta and my son Milun lived alongside me, while my daughter Mirjana got married in 1986, and she lived in Vladimirci municipality with her husband. My wife and son left the village on 8 May 1992, and I stayed to guard the house. Besides me, there were 17 others who stayed in the village. Our village was surrounded mostly by residents of Muslim nationality. Different Muslim military formations came to the village and constantly searched us looking for some weapons. I cannot remember the exact date because it has been a long time since that event, but I remember well that Hakija Meholjić, and persons named Velid and Nurija, whose surnames I do not know, came to the village and guaranteed us our security right there in the village. Hakija Meholjić told us not to be afraid of anything and that nothing would happen to us. After a while, on 15 May 1992, Muslim armed formations attacked our village, and we were in the village because we did not expect the attack at all.

They shot at us from firearms from all directions. Us Serbs who stayed in the village started running towards the nearby forest called Gradac. That day, Subotić Vidoje was wounded and I saw that personally in a place called Surduk, and I saw Andrić Petrija murdered in a place called Diljke. Subotić Vidoje now lives in Bajna¹ Bašta. I remember that Gagić Miloško was arrested and taken away towards an unknown location, and I saw that personally as did Gagić Mileva and Gagić Anđa, and all of that happened in the afternoon, on which occasion there were 7 soldiers of then Army of BiH and in front of them walked Gagić Miloško, with his hands behind his back, handcuffed, while blood dripped both from his left and right temple, and behind him walked Šaban from the village of Prohići, pointing a rifle at his back. As far as I could see, Gagić's face was all black with fear visible on it, and while he was walking he was looking only at the ground. From that day, I personally did not see Gagić Miloško again, nor am I familiar with his fate, and later I heard that he was murdered, and that a few years ago he was exhumated and buried again in Vladimirci, SCG², by his son Milija. While I was in the neighbouring Muslim village of Greben, I heard that our neighbour Subotić Radivoje was also murdered and was also led through the village, and I was told that by late Andrić Milovan. In the village of Greben, I stayed together with Subotić Mladen, Gagić Danica, Gagić Mileva, Gagić Anđa, Gagić Ljubica, Simeunović Radojka, Simeunović Velimir, Gagić Cvijetin, and Gagić Milovan, for about a month, and then one night, Nedžad Bektić, who was a commander in the village of Karačići, came for us and ordered us to climb on a truck which stood by the store next to Karačići hill, and drew specifically stressed out the fact that if anyone were to jump out of the truck, we would all be murdered, and then some of his soldiers sat with us in the truck. That truck brought us to Srebrenica sometime during the night, and we were imprisoned in territorial defence premises located behind the Basic court building in Srebrenica. Before we were locked up in one small room, we were searched by Nedžad Bektić himself, but no one searched the women. I forgot to mention, while we were staying in the Muslim village of Greben, the Muslims from neighbouring villages, and probably the army also, took all our living livestock away, and took everything they wanted from the houses, killed the pigs, and threw the lard on the street next to the houses. I saw the houses burning; all the houses in the village. I also forgot to say that prior to my imprisonment in Srebrenica, I was taken from our village to the village of Crni Vrh by Bekir and Nurija Alić to bury 4 Serb civilians who were killed during the attack on the village of Crni Vrh, which was also mostly populated by Serbs. Hakija Meholjić told me that those people in Crni Vrh should be buried in accordance with Serb customs. The men were Petrović Krsto, whose body I found in the stable, Jevtić Radoje, Đurić Vojislav, and Novo, Vojislav's son who was an invalid that couldn't hear and wore a hearing aid in his ears. I found the three of them piled one on top of another, and they were there for several days already, which made them more difficult to bury. They wanted to bury them in one grave, but I insisted that they be buried by two; father and son in one grave, and Krsto and Radoje in the other, and we buried them half a meter under, and on that occasion I recognized a person nicknamed Mrki³, from the village of Grujičići, who was present at that burial. I remember that the daughter of murdered Vojislav Đurić came to see me in Vladimirci and asked that I show her the place where they were buried and, as far as I remember, the aforementioned men were exhumated.

The room where we were imprisoned in Srebrenica was small; we could just lie down in it, but we could not stretch completely; there was just linoleum on the floor and we had nothing to cover ourselves with. There were metal bars on the door which were always locked, and in front of the door there was an armed guard. The first three days we did not get any food, but instead we got a little bit of water once in a while, and after that we got a piece of bread each. I cannot remember the exact day Tursunović Zulfo, from the village of Sućeska⁴, Srebrenica municipality, came, who was a man of larger body size with moustache, who wore ammunition belts and carried an automatic rifle, and who immediately after entering the room started interrogating us one by one, asking Subotić Mladen where his son was, and threatened to kill us all, and after that he came up to me and punched me in the top of

¹ t/n: mistake - actual name of the place is Bajina Bašta

² t/n: Serbia and Montenegro

³ t/n: literal translation of the nickname is dark

⁴ t/n: mistake - Sućeska

my head with his fist, after which I fell, and I did not get up after that and did not dare to look at him, but I heard when he asked who was Gagić Ljubica, and when she got up, he immediately asked where was her ham radio devvice and where were her sons and her husband. That is when I personally saw

[signature in Cyrillic: Gagić Petar]

Tursunović Zulfo grabbing Gagić Ljubica's head and hitting her head against the wall several times. After that he spoke to us all who were there and said that he himself would come back another day and would slaughter us all because he would not waste ammunition on us. Immediately after Zulfo went out, out of fear, Gagić Ljubica took a vial of acetic acid which she had on her and started drinking it; Simeunović Velimir managed to take the vial away from her, and in that moment a guard came in and took the acetic acid vial from Velimir and said that we had talked her into poisoning herself and that that was our deal. We did not know that Ljubica had the vial of acetic acid in the bag with her personal belongings, and please note that women were not searched when we were taken into the prison. Gagić Ljubica suffered injuries in the neck region from the effects of acetic acid, and she could not even talk from those injuries, and she lied on her aunt Gagić Danica's lap; she suffered like that for 8 days, and died in great agony. During her suffering, no doctor came to prison to examine her, but Zulfo Tursunović came another day, and told her, "Get up, you pig," and again repeated that he would kill us all. When Ljubica died, Husein, former gamekeeper in the village of Bijele Vode, came and on that occasion and decided that the four of us, Subotić Mladen, Gagić Petar, Gagić Cvjetin, and Andrić Milovan, would bury the late Gagić Ljubica whom we wrapped up in some military blankets, and Danica and Mileva dressed her prior to that. Escorted by their army, we transported her with a truck to the town cemetery in Srebrenica where we buried her in a grave that was dug beforehand. Gagić Ljubica was exhumated from there several years ago and buried alongside her murdered husband Miloško in Vladimirci. While we were imprisoned, two other civilians were brought to the prison, and they were Avramović Miloš, also an older man, and a woman named Miloška, and right before we would be exchanged, two younger persons, who were also imprisoned by then Army of BiH in Srebrenica. I myself saw that woman, Miloška, being taken out of the prison, and I do not know why they took her out. On 14 August 1992, we were exchanged on Žuti most⁵ and we crossed over to the territory of Bratunac municipality, and no one stayed in the prison. Since I did not serve military service for health reasons, I suffered severe shock due to the aforementioned events, and I still feel the consequences; I wake up multiple times during the night, I am often anxious, and even today I feel some fear when I remember all those events. As an addendum to my statement, I deliver the confirmation on conducted exchange.

Will you read the record or should we read it out loud for you: There is no need.

Do you wish to state anything else? NO.

Do you have any objections to the record? NO.

Will you sign the record? YES.

Pursuant to Article 219 paragraph 4 of ZKP of the Republic of Srpska, the subject is instructed that he/she is entitled to submit a complaint to the Prosecutor's Office within 3 following days.

Collecting the statement ended at 19.12 o'clock.

[signature in Cyrillic: Gagić Petar]

⁵ t/n: Yellow bridge