

DECISION ON CASIMIR BIZIMUNGU'S MOTIONS IN RELATION TO CONDITION (B) REQUESTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Office of the Prosecutor:

Mr. Paul Ng'arua Mr. Ibukunolu Babajide Mr. Justus Bwonwonga Mr. Elvis Bazawule Mr. Shyamlal Rajapaksa Mr. Olivier De Schutter Mr. William Mubiru

Counsel for the Defence:

Ms. Michelyne C. St. Laurent and Ms. Alexandra Marcil for Casimir Bizimungu Mr. Ben Gumpert and Mr. Jonathan Kirk for Justin Mugenzi Mr. Pierre Gaudreau and Mr. Michel Croteau for Jérôme-Clément Bicamumpaka Mr. Tom Moran and Ms. Marie-Pierre Poulain for Prosper Mugiraneza

THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA (the "Tribunal"),

SITTING as Trial Chamber II, composed of Judge Khalida Rachid Khan, presiding, Judge Lee Gacuiga Muthoga and Judge Emile Francis Short (the "Trial Chamber");

BEING SEIZED of

"Casimir Bizimungu's Confidential and Extremely Urgent Motion in Relation to Condition (B) Requested by the United States Government", filed on 29 January 2007 (the "29 January 2007 Motion"); and

"Casimir Bizimungu's Confidential and Extremely Urgent Motion in Relation to Condition (B) Requested by the United States Government", filed on 30 January 2007 (the "30 January 2007 Motion") (together, the "Motions");

CONSIDERING the

"Prosecutor's Urgent Response to Dr. Casimir Bizimungu's Motion in Relation to Condition (B) Requested by the United States Government", filed on 31 January 2007; and

"Justin Mugenzi's Written Submissions in Support of Casimir Bizimungu's Motion in Relation to Condition (B) Requested by the United States Government", filed on 2 February 2007;

HEREBY DECIDES the Motion.

INTRODUCTION

1. On 24 January 2007, this Chamber granted in part a Motion brought by the Defence for Casimir Bizimongu requesting an order that the provisions of Rule 70 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence shall apply to information provided by a former official (the "Witness") of the Government of the United States of America (the "U.S. Government") during his testimony.

2. At the behest of the U.S. Government, the Defence also requested that the order stipulate:

(a) That two representatives of the U.S. Government be present during the Witness' testimony for the purpose of monitoring the evidence and that they be allowed to address the Chamber should they object to any question put to the Witness;

(b) That the scope of direct examination shall be limited to that authorized by the U.S. Government, and that cross-examination shall be limited to the scope of direct examination;

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That inquiry into the credibility of the Witness be permitted, with the (c) proviso that the Witness not be required to reveal confidential information provided under Rule 70; and

That the Chamber limit its discretion, pursuant to Rule 90, to question a (d) witness and to permit enquiry into additional matters, so that, if exercised, it is done so in conformity with Rule 70.

3. The Chamber ordered that Rule 70 would apply to the Witness' testimony and granted conditions (a), (c) and (d), but denied condition (b). The Chamber's reasons for denying condition (b) were (i) that it must retain the authority to resolve any disputes as to the proper scope of questioning that may arise during the Witness' testimony; and (ii) that without having received any indication of the scope of testimony authorized by the U.S. Government, the Chamber could not grant the condition.¹

4. By its motions of 29 and 30 January 2007, the Defence for Casimir Bizimungu has provided the Chamber with further information regarding the scope of the Witness' testimony, and requests that the Chamber now grant condition (b) on this basis.

DISCUSSION

5. In its 29 January 2007 Motion, the Defence for Casimir Bizimungu claims that the scope of the Witness' testimony is expected to follow the will say statement, disclosed by the Defence on 9 June 2006. In its 30 January 2007 Motion, the Defence submits (i) that the scope of examination-in-chief is the will say statement; (ii) that the U.S. Government has received the will say; and (iii) that the U.S. Government agrees that the scope of the will say "provides the subjects on which the Defence for Casimir Bizimungu will ask questions" of the Witness. Annexed to the 30 January 2007 Motion is an e-mail from an agent of the U.S. Government to the Defence that is consistent with the Defence submissions.

6. The Prosecution argues that the scope of the Witness' testimony remains unclear because the Defence Motions do not state to what extent the will say statement is commensurate to the scope of examination authorized by the U.S. Government. The Chamber agrees that the scope of examination authorized by the U.S. Government remains unclear. For example, it is not clear from the Defence submissions that the U.S. Government has authorized the parties to question the Witness on all topics discussed in the Witness' July 2005 testimony before another Trial Chamber of this Tribunal.

7. While the Chamber is not in favour of making an order limiting the direct and cross examination of the Witness to what is authorized by the U.S. Government, the Chamber recalls that in its 24 January 2007 Oral Ruling it granted the U.S. Government significant protections that will ensure no confidential information is revealed. By its terms, Rule 70 prevents the Chamber from ordering the production of additional

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¹ T. 24 January 2007, pp. 45-47 (closed session).

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evidence or front compelling the Witness to answer questions he declines to answer on confidentiality grounds.² The same limitations apply to inquiry into the Witness' credibility and to any direct questioning by the Chamber. Moreover, as a further precaution to avoid unwitting disclosure of confidential information by the Witness, the Chamber has allowed the U.S. Government to send two representatives who will be present during the Witness' testimony, and authorized them to address the Chamber should they object to any questions put to the Witness. The 24 January 2007 Oral Ruling maintains the proper balance between protecting the legitimate confidentiality concerns of the U.S. Government and the Chamber's authority over the proceedings.

8. The Prosecution also objects to the content of the Witness' will say statement, which it claims contains "opinion evidence". This complaint is premature. The appropriate time and method of dealing with such admissibility issues is by contemporaneous objection during the Witness' testimony.

FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, THE CHAMBER

DENIES the Motions.

Arusha, 8 February 2007 Khalida Rachid Khan Lee Gaeuiga Muthoga Emile Francis Short Presiding Judge Judge Judge una1] ıe.

² Rule 70 (C) and (D) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.



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