

she had been raped by a Congolese soldier while she was alone. Mrs. A found her home looted. Mrs. A was at Camp Hardy at the home of Mrs. B with Mrs. C, where all three of them were raped by Congolese soldiers in the presence of the children. The soldiers also scratched and hurt a baby of nine months old.

Mrs. A was raped 10 to 15 times during two consecutive nights. Mrs. B was at Camp Hardy at Thysville. She was pregnant. When she came home, two Congolese soldiers were waiting for her, and, menacing her with their weapons, pushed her into a room. One of them raped her once, the other twice. While one of them was raping her, the other was pointing his gun at her. Mrs. C is in danger of miscarriage.

On the 11th of July, toward 8 p.m., in the Thysville military camp, 5 or 6 soldiers searched the house of Mrs. D. The first one who raped her, had previously taken her by the throat. She was raped by 4 soldiers. The fourth stayed with her all night to protect her against new assaults.

Mrs. E was at Camp Hardy, Thysville, on the 11th of July. Toward 9 in the evening, Congolese soldiers of the transport unit broke into her house. They hit her with rifle butts, put an automatic gun in her neck and a bayonet on her chest. Three or four times attempts were made to rape her. Soldiers pulled hair from her pubis and tried to make her swallow it. A soldier thrust his fingers, covered by something rough like sand-paper, into her. She was severely torn and fainted without recovering until the next day. She presumes that they continued their acts of torture. The scene took place in the presence of her son aged eleven.

Mrs. F is still under medical care. Mrs. G was raped at gunpoint in Camp Hardy, Thysville, on the 11th of July, toward 6 o'clock at night, immediately after the arrest of her husband.

Toward 8 a.m. on the same day, the Congolese soldiers returned and again raped Mrs. H, as well as a neighbor, threatening them or their children. The scenes often took place in the presence of the children, among whom two boys of 17 and 13 and a girl of 12.

The sentries, who were posted by a non-commissioned Congolese officer for the protection of the women, were the first to break into the house. Mrs. I was at Camp Hardy, Thysville, when her husband was

These scenes continued from dusk till dawn. Six of the European women living in the same street had been raped in the same circumstances.

The following day, the soldiers came back, but they found the house barricaded by the women. They set fire to the curtains, but a Congolese sergeant-major stopped them and chased the soldiers away. On the 13th, the soldiers again penetrated the house, but, despite the menace of weapons, Mrs. Z fled to the house of a neighbor where her children were able to join her.

The child of 11 who was raped was not questioned by the Commission. Her state of health does not permit it for the moment.

On the 11th of July, Mrs. Y, accompanied by her husband and two children, left Malanga-Gare, from a point known as Bloc 110. They were arrested by civilians of the ABAKO, searched, imprisoned and beaten all night. They were taken to Thysville, where they arrived on the 12th toward midnight. Mrs. Z was alone in a cell with her children aged less than 7, when a group of about ten soldiers arrived. One of them held her by the arms, another by the legs, a third held his hand on her mouth to prevent her from screaming, a fourth pulled her hair and slapped her face. She was raped a dozen times in the presence of the children who huddled in a corner together. This scene lasted from 2 till 4:30 in the morning. The family was saved by a white doctor.

As told already, Mrs. W who lived at the Hardy Camp at Thysville, was beaten twice by Congolese soldiers on the 6th and the 11-12th of July. His wife was the victim of acts of violence committed by four African soldiers. On the 11th, toward 6 p.m. two soldiers attempted to rape her. A third soldier succeeded. This lady said that nine tenths of the white women at Camp Hardy were the victims of similar brutalities.

Mrs. X was on the 11th of July at the home of Mrs. B at Camp Hardy, Thysville, with a small child, while her husband had been put in prison by Congolese soldiers. The latter broke into the house, where, besides the aforementioned ladies, were Mrs. C, A. was taken back to her house. Soldiers started a fight to know who would have Mrs. A, who finally was handed over to two of them who belonged to the transport unit of Camp Hardy, and who both raped her. Later, she was taken back to Mrs. D's home, where she met Mrs. E, F, and G, who told her that they had also been raped. In the evening of the 12th of July, these ladies were taken back to their respective homes, except Mrs. B who later told Mrs. A that

been maltreated. He himself had been beaten, his shoes stolen and he was bound hands and feet. He was also beaten by members of the ABAKO.

He heard the cries of women, he recognized the sound of his wife's voice and realized that she was being raped.

Also at Camp Hardy, Thysville, in the night of the 11th of July, a group of about ten soldiers, some of them drunk, came to the house of lieutenant A. where they found his wife, Mrs. B. and a family of friends C.

The soldiers got hold of Mrs. A and Mrs. B, and took them to the room where their children were sleeping. Mrs. B was raped, even though she was pregnant for five months, by two soldiers in succession, who had threatened her children aged 5 and 3 so that she could fear for their lives. Mrs. B is at present receiving medical treatment. In the same room, Mrs. A was raped by soldiers on the bed in which the children slept. Mrs. C, who was taken to another room, was raped after soldiers had begun to hit her baby 9 months old.

Mrs. A the wife of a Belgian officer at Camp Hardy, Thysville, gave life to a baby on the 2nd of July and left the hospital to return home. On the 11th, her husband and other Europeans were arrested by Congolese soldiers. She stayed at her home with three ladies and four children. Congolese soldiers came to search the house. They told Mrs. B. and Mrs. C. to go home. One of them slapped Mrs. B. in the face, and tightly pressed her throat with a muffer, before taking back Mrs. C.

Mrs. A. heard loud cries and learned that the soldier had tried to rape Mrs. C. Around midnight, after several attempts by Congolese soldiers to enter the house, six soldiers broke the window panes and penetrated into the bedroom where they found Mrs. A. and her children, and Mrs. C. and her child. They took away the child from Mrs. C. and gave it to Mrs. A., dragged the mother in the living room from where loud crying could immediately be heard. While Mrs. A. was in bed with two children, the soldier made four attempts to rape her, even though she was still torn and had several stichings following her recent confinement.

Even though the act could not be fully perpetrated in view of the state of the victim, rape remains an established fact. Mrs. A. said that during the night soldiers slapped her little boy aged 3½ because he cried. Meanwhile, Mrs. C., had come back, she went to sleep with Mrs. A., and lost consciousness. Later she declared that five or

arrested on the 11th of July by Congolese soldiers. They searched the house and attempted to rape her in front of her son, aged 4, saying: "We are going to beat up your husbands and have a good time with you". She was hit with a rifle butt, and one of the children bit a soldier's leg. Three soldiers slapped the boy and put a bayonet to his heart, menacing him with their rifles, ready to shoot. They tried to rape Mrs.

The soldiers burnt the hand of the mother with a lighted cigarette to show the child what they would do if she continued to put up resistance.

The boy was finally taken to another room. Mrs. was raped continually from 6 till 8:30 p.m. At least a dozen Africans abused her. They left when they thought she would die.

On the 11th of July, Mrs. and her family were in a convoy of seven cars with people being evacuated towards Angola. At 8 in the evening, the last four cars were stopped at Sensikua (Songo). The captives were taken to the ABAKO offices. All of them were beaten by civilians with belts, feet and fists. Mrs. was dragged by the hair from one room to another. The following day they were taken by Congolese soldiers to Camp Hardy, Thysville.

In the night of 12-13th of July, Congolese soldiers attempted to rape Mrs. A, as well as Mrs. B and Mrs. C in the sentries' room, in the presence of their children. Some of them held the women, while others attempted to rape them. One of the soldiers threatened Mrs. A. with his bayonet. Mrs. A.'s resistance was broken and she was finally raped by one soldier, and taken to a cell with her two young children who witnessed the scene. The soldiers returned to take away the children, whom, it seemed to her, she heard crying in the sentries' room. In the cell she was raped again by two soldiers. One held her by the throat, while the other abused her. At one moment, six soldiers were surrounding her. One of the soldiers who raped her, violently grasped and twisted her right breast. She was shouting at the top of her voice. Later, her children were brought back to her. She could hear her neighbor crying loudly, Mrs. B, who was the victim of the same acts of brutality.

A soldier returned to the cell, and exhibiting himself, demanded that Mrs. A. yield to him. He threatened to take her little girl away, if she did not consent. Nevertheless, she resisted, but was slapped repeatedly in the face.

Mr. confirmed that part of his wife's statement relating to the scenes they experienced together, and said that the men had

six soldiers had raped and beaten her. Mrs. D., told her later that although two months pregnant and under medical care, three soldiers had raped her. Mrs. A., heard from Mrs. E., that this woman had been raped countless times by the soldiers.

Mrs. X., was at Camp Hardy at Thyssville, when 17 women and children were evacuated by train on July 7. On the 11th, her husband was arrested. She was alone with her two children and was harassed several times by the soldiers. Her window panes were broken, soon a soldier crashed into the room, threw her on the floor and raped her. Another soldier came to the house the same day and raped her too. About noon, five soldiers arrived. They pointed their bayonets at her chest, threatening to kill her. All five raped her. She was thus raped by seven soldiers.

On July 11, at about 6:30 p.m., Mrs. X., at Thyssville, received soon after the arrest of her husband, the visit of soldiers who searched the house and took away the money. One of her friends who was present was raped by a soldier under threats. This person was raped twice more between the 11th and the 13th of July. Mrs. X., herself was raped on the morning of the 12th, although she was the mother of a six weeks' old child.

Mrs. X., lived with her husband, an officer, and her two children, 7 and 10 years of age, at Thyssville. On July 11th, five soldiers rushed into the house. Three of them pushed her into the bedroom and each one raped her. They stole \$300, in Belgian francs. On July 12, Mrs. X., went to Mrs. B., where she found Mrs. C. Five soldiers broke the door down with their bayonets. Mrs. A., was raped by 2 soldiers, one of them was among those who had raped her the day before. She heard that Mrs. C., was raped also. She thinks—as nearly all the victims state—that a very great number of white women in Camp Hardy were raped. They are at present under medical care.

On the 12th, the civilians were released thanks to the intervention of Minister Ganshof van der Meersch and Mr. Diomi, Congolese Cabinet Minister.

On the 13th, the officers were released thanks to Minister Bom-boko and to a newspaper man—a German, it seems. A convoy reached Leopoldville the same day. On the road, the refugees were injured and stoned. The soldiers first tried to send the men back to Thyssville: a little further, they attacked the convoy and shot at it. The refugees were able to reach the airport thanks to the Belgian paratroopers.

II—Kasai Province.
Lulubourg.

In the afternoon of July 9th, the soldiers of the Force Publique at the General Gilliard Camp, seized the munitions dump; they dismantled the officers and the non-commissioned Belgian Officers and pushed them all, with their families, into the mess hall. Some of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers were molested and beaten. A lady and an adjutant who were driving to the camp, their car full of children, were subjected to gunshots.

Early in the evening of the 9th, a Belgian civilian who was inside the camp, was seriously wounded by a shot fired by a Congolese soldier. Taken to the hospital of Lulubourg, he was on the operating table when the soldiers attacked the hospital twice with machine guns. The surgeon who was operating on the wounded man could not give him the necessary care. A little later, about 20 men who were under siege in the Imokasai building, rushed out and succeeded, under the fire of soldiers, to evacuate the sick and the personnel of the hospital. After they left, it was completely ransacked. The wounded man died soon after his transfer from the hospital to the Imokasai building.

Immediately after the first turmoil, about 1500 Europeans retrenched themselves in the Imokasai building; they soon were besieged by the Congolese troops who began to fire on them around 8 p.m. (July 9). The siege, with intermittent gunshots and machine gun fire, went on until the arrival of the paratroopers on the evening of the 10th. Some of the besieged were wounded. During the siege, the soldiers asked the besieged to surrender their arms but they refused. A few Belgian members of the Congolese Security Service and their families had taken refuge in the Building of the Service at 9 p.m. They also were attacked by gunfire. Other Europeans had taken refuge in the Pax hospital.

On July 10th, at 7 a.m., the doors were demolished and the place was ransacked by a Congolese military patrol. A non-commissioned soldier coming into a room where he found Mr. X., fired twice. Mr. X., was hit in the belly while he had his hands in the air and while he cried: "Don't shoot, we have no arms".

As for the families who could not reach the Imokasai building, many of them were subjected to grave maltreatment. At the end of the afternoon of the 9th, jeeps and trucks with soldiers had spread through the town; the soldiers shot at passing cars, they looted houses and maltreated Europeans.

At about 7 p.m., a European civilian who was standing on his

doorstep, was killed by two shots, fired by four soldiers in a jeep. Two families, comprising several children each, were molested and beaten. Mrs. Z., was raped under threats by two policemen, in her house. Then the two families were taken to the military camp. The cars stopped in front of the prison and a crowd gathered, the soldiers declared that the prisoners had shot at them. The crowd got excited, the two mothers were undressed, molested and beaten. They were imprisoned; the husbands were beaten, one of them still shows traces of the beatings. Mrs. Y., was taken out of her house and raped on the road, in the presence of her three children and her husband who had been beaten before. Other women, among them an old lady, were undressed, molested, and humiliated in public.

In the afternoon of July 10th, the Belgian paratroopers arrived in Luluabourg. The whites were evacuated partly that same day, partly the next day.

III—Equator Province.

Boende.

Boende was the end of the road for several government officials and settlers of the region. The sector seemed quiet until the 10th of July. On the 11th, as a result of the bad news from Ikela, the settlers and the officials tried to evacuate the women and the children. The settlers planned to come back, the officials wanted to remain at their posts. Their families left from Djoju, Befale, Bokutola, Befori and Lingomo, but the Congolese had already put up roadblocks at the instigation of the Force Publique (army) in order to prevent the whites from leaving. All those who were stopped on the roads, even if they tried to avoid Djoju by going to Bangui (former French Congo) by way of Libenge or Lisala, were sent to Djoju by the soldiers of the Force Publique.

As soon as they were arrested, they were searched and robbed of their money and valuables. The men were allowed to keep their trousers, their shoes and shorts were taken away. They were bound tightly. Women and children were separated from the men. The number of prisoners at Djoju increased steadily. All of them were severely beaten by rifle butts, they were slapped and kicked, they were spat upon and injured by the soldiers, and also by civilian Congolese incited by the soldiers. Finally, the soldiers had to protect the prisoners against the native population who wanted to torture the white men and abuse the white women. The Congolese had herded together 40 white men, as many women and at least 8 children.

Trouble started again on July 11, in the region of Djoju. In a mission post of that region, Father X received a number of refugees, among them a man seriously wounded by a shot from a Congolese soldier. On July 12, Father X was arrested by two soldiers; he was beaten on his back and knees. He was forced to lie flat and later on to run. The refugees and the nuns were forced out of the Mission. The same day, July 12, the nuns, according to the testimony of one of them, were put in jail with two ladies and a baby. Negro soldiers attacked one nun and after a fierce struggle, raped her. Later, they attacked the second nun. Two men trampled her under foot.

A few testimonies:

About 6 p.m., the prisoners were united by a Congolese commander, taken to Boende on the 13th and to Leopoldville on the 14th. arm.

At Mopono the men were again locked up. At the prison there was a colonist wounded by three bullets in the thighs and one in the arm. who often stopped the convoy, were forced to protect the prisoners. spat on them, threw sand and sticks. Finally the Congolese soldiers, 3 p.m. On the road, the native population insulted the prisoners, rived, he was driven away. They left for Mopono and arrived about condition: a doctor finally was authorized to help her. When he arrived, everybody was put on trucks. A lady suffered from a heart same day, everyone followed. They were beaten. The transportation was done in the following manner: a dozen men, tightly bound so that when one of them fell, all the other followed. They were beaten. The From the 12th of July, between 6 and 7 a.m., the transportation who wounded the eyebrow of the injured man.

Some people arrived who had been wounded by firearms: a lieutenant and an official. A doctor was prevented from taking care of the lieutenant; later he received permission to do so, he put on a bandage but this was immediately torn off by a Congolese soldier who wounded the eyebrow of the injured man.

At daybreak, the missionaries of Djoju who had also been arrested, arrived. There were three sisters, their clothes in shreds, their capes torn away, who had been maltreated. A special inquiry on this case is under way.

The wife of an official who resisted was knocked down by the children in order to intimidate the mothers.

Eight children were present, in tears, during these repeated rapes which went on the whole night of the 11th to the 12th of July, accompanied by armed menace; often the menaces were directed at the

The imprisoned women were publicly raped, several of them with civilians who all had penetrated into the cells.

The nun lost consciousness and another nun said the sister had died. The soldiers were frightened and fled while the other soldiers reproached the attackers for having killed, which was not allowed. At 5:30 a.m., the white prisoners, men and women, were taken to another prison. All of them were in the nude, the nuns and missionaries included, their hands bound in the back. They were locked up in a hut where already twenty women and children had arrived. The soldiers asked why the nuns were not members of the party of Lumumba and if they had sexual intercourse with the missionaries. They promised each sister a soldier for the night. Trucks brought the captives to Monpono under the insults of the black population.

On the 12th of July, Mrs. A., 4 months pregnant, was standing with her two young children, in a group of men and women: a number of drunken soldiers arrived. They bound the men, hand and foot, and beat them. There were five women and seven children. The women were taken to a dark room. All of them were raped several times. Mrs. A., was raped 10 times. 3 children, aged 7 to 9, were present at these scenes. Later, Mrs. A., met nuns whose clothes had been torn and who told her that they had been raped at the Mission.

When Mrs. A., was taken from Djola to Mompoka, the group of whites was attacked by an excited crowd. Several Europeans were wounded by the natives, armed with spears.

Mr. X., of the Djola district declares—his statement being confirmed by his wife—that his wife was arrested by drunken soldiers on July 11, locked in a jail, together with four other ladies, while 3 sisters were imprisoned elsewhere.

The five ladies were raped, each of them at least 20 times, in the presence of 7 children. Mrs. X., having resisted was horribly beaten with a rifle butt and with fists all over her body. One of her companions offered herself to avoid her daughter, age 8, being raped.

The soldiers came in relays. Black policemen joined the rapers. Meanwhile, Mr. X., together with 20 other men and two missionaries were imprisoned. The men were bound, lying on the ground. All of them were hit fifty times with rifle butts. Mr. X., witnessed the following scene: a Belgian officer was wounded. A doctor wanted to operate. In the midst of the operation, he was hit by a rifle butt. The officer howled in pain: the sergeant who had thrown the doctor to the ground hit the officer in the face with his rifle.

While the whites were taken by truck from Djola to Monpono, Mrs. X had a heart attack. A doctor tried to take care of her, a black sergeant threw her from the truck. She remained unconscious for a long time.

On the evening of the 12th, Mr. X., was allowed to visit his wife. She had lost her memory. Her memory returned partially when she returned to Belgium.

An officer at Djola, was attacked by soldiers of the Force Publique. He came to the assistance of the white people and was shot at by an automatic gun. He was wounded in the thigh. He was kicked and wounded in the face by rifle butts. Notwithstanding his wounds, he had to walk for a while to the Dongo prison where he was bound and locked up. The black soldiers prevented the doctor from taking care of him. The women in the group (eight of them, 5 among them nuns) were raped by the soldiers. The men were brutalized.

Mr. X., states also that several whites he had seen had been tattooed by the Negroes: they had cut the white men with a knife, making a vertical mark between the eyes.

In the night of July 11th, the Djola post was evacuated by convoy. The convoy was stopped for a moment and the men were separated from the women. The women were brutalized and raped all night by the soldiers and the police. One woman who resisted was knocked down in the presence of her eight children. At dawn, three nuns joined the group. Two had been raped. Mrs. Y., declared that she had been raped at least 20 times. During that time, the men, bound hand and foot, were beaten.

Mr. Z., head of a plantation, states that on July 11th, he was taken to the prison of Bokokolo. Women and children were separated from the men. The men were bound, hand and foot, and then roped together: they were maltreated all night long. They heard the cries of the women and children, and of a lieutenant of Djola who was seriously wounded. The black soldiers prevented a doctor from taking care of him; they beat the patient and the doctor with rifle butts.

On July 12th, the nuns of the Mission arrived in a pitiful state. They had been raped. A missionary who was with them, had seen the soldiers enter a place where women were hiding and come out later boasting to the husbands that they had had intercourse with their wives. The same day, the prisoners were taken by convoy to Monpono: on the road, at all the villages, roadblocks were put up to permit the local population to beat and insult the prisoners.

On the evening of July 11th, Mrs. G. and her family left Djola. Arrested by negro soldiers, they were taken to the Djolu prison, men were separated from women. A hundred to a hundred and fifty negroes (soldiers, policemen and civilians) came to the prison. Mrs. G., was standing up with her 2 months' baby in her arms. In that

position, Mrs. G., held by negroes, was raped by others, all the while menaced by rifles. During that night, Mrs. G., was raped about 20 times. She was hurled on the floor, the negroes threw themselves on her. They tore her underclothes, tore at her pubic hair. The other women were also raped in the presence of their children. During the night of July 11th, several negroes tried to rape a seven year old girl. Then Mrs. G., was again raped. All that time, the prisoners were menaced by guns. Mrs. G.'s baby was so maltreated that the mother considers it a miracle that it is still alive. The negroes threatened to cook mother and eat them.

During that same night, Mrs. G., was authorized to look for food and care for the baby and for her husband who was locked up with other men in a special room. She saw there a number of men, bound hand and foot, roped together, their faces bloody, half naked. Several had broken teeth. In order to feed them, she had to put a bottle to their lips and she had to give them soaked bread. A lieutenant, wounded in the leg by gunfire, was lying in a pool of blood, his eyes and teeth bloody.

Mrs. G., came back then, under armed guard, to the place where the women were kept; the rapes went on; at dawn she was taken to another room where she was raped again.

A number of nuns joined the prisoners. Three among them said that they had been raped. On the 12th of July, at about 8 a.m., the prisoners were led to the camp of Monpono. On the road, they were attacked by natives who shot arrows at them, throwing spears and sticks. Three soldiers again raped her on the road.

Mr. X., states that on July 11th, a convoy of cars was organized in Djoia, in order to evacuate the women and children. The first car was able to escape. The second one was destroyed by gunfire and the driver was hit. The third one was halted. The soldiers stole everything that the occupants had in their possession. The men were hit with rifle butts, bound together, hands behind their backs. At regular intervals, the soldiers loaded their guns, menaced the prisoners and hit them. Civilian negroes did the same.

White women were locked up opposite the place where the occupants of the car were held. About 10 p.m., the men heard screams and shouts. Next morning, the white women declared that all night long they had been raped an undetermined number of times by soldiers and civilians. According to the testimony of every white woman, all of them were raped at least 20 times, in the presence of their children.



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