

Staff Sergeant
Radiša VUKADINOVIĆ
VP /Military Post/ 2977 Belgrade
25 December 2002

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Statement on unit's activities
between 27 and 28 April 1999

**TO THE COMMISSION FOR
COOPERATION WITH THE ICTY**
– To the Expert Team –

At the request of the Commission for Cooperation with the ICTY, I hereby give the following statement:

I was in the 2nd mtb /Motorised Brigade/ in Đakovica when the NATO aggression started. I held the post of Administrative Officer for General Affairs in the 2nd mtb.

Following the appearance of terrorists in the villages of Ramoc and Racaj, we were given the task of engaging part of the unit to seal off the general sector of Korenica village. Battalion commander Major VUKOVIĆ ordered me to organise the work at the command post regarding security and communications. The command post was in an abandoned house beside the road between the villages of Meja and Korenica. We set out from the sector of Brekovac village at around 0330 hours to perform the task. The command post was occupied and began operating at around 0500 hours. The seal-off line was taken at around 0600 hours. MUP /Ministry of the Interior/ units had the task of searching the terrain.

At around 0900 hours, 2nd Lieutenant MITIĆ reported that two of his soldiers had been wounded and he needed transport to take them to the military hospital. I was given the task of taking an ambulance and a soldier to the entry point of Korenica village, and transporting the wounded to the Đakovica Military Hospital. When we arrived at the entry point of Korenica village, we saw a group of soldiers carrying a wounded man through a field. Then fire was opened on us from houses in the village of Korenica. The fight was very brief, or rather we participated in it only briefly because we managed to put the wounded in the ambulance and drive them to the military hospital. 2nd Lieutenant MITIĆ and his group continued the fight with the terrorists. I did not see any civilians at that time.

I spent the rest of the day at the command post. Groups of civilians passed along the road from Korenica to Đakovica during the afternoon. The groups numbered about 20 to 50 people. We did not stop, search or check the civilians. I know that some of the soldiers gave them food and water.

There was no fighting during the night, but intermittent firing was heard from the direction of Ramac village. During the day, NATO aircraft attacked the general Đakovica sector a number of times. At around 2100 hours, the barracks in Đakovica were hit by a number of projectiles.

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On 28 April 1999 (the second day of the operation), the unit was located on the seal-off line along the Đakovica – Korenica stretch of road. The command post, where I was located, remained at the same location that day. At around 0200 hours, the platoon commander in the Kodra /e/ Kikes sector reported that that ŠTS /Šiptar /Albanian/ terrorist forces/ had tried to withdraw towards Đakovica, but his platoon had stopped them from doing so.

Early in the morning, several more groups of civilians passed along the road towards Đakovica. Since we were not given the task of checking them I do not know where they were from.

At around 1400 hours, the platoon commander in the Kodra /e/ Kikes sector reported that one of his soldiers had been wounded. An ambulance was dispatched and took him to the military hospital in Đakovica.

In the afternoon, the MUP /Ministry of the Interior/ unit conducting the terrain search reached us, so I was given the task of returning to the village of Brekovac, which I did. As far as I recall, one platoon remained in the Čabrat sector for two more days.

Concerning the alleged atrocities committed on 27-28 April 1999 in the sectors of Korenica and Meja, I first heard, or rather read about them in 2002 in the book "Kosovo as Seen, as Told" published by the Humanitarian Law Fund.

I hereby declare that my soldiers and I did not commit any kind of atrocity, neither did I see or hear that such a thing was done by any other unit.

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