Was dit aan u oorgedra vanuit die kantoor van kolonel Gouws dat daar berigte aan hom gemaak is van gerugte in die Vaaldriehoek dat daar moontlik moeilikheid die aand kon ontstaan? -- I cannot say that the rumour that there might possibly be something taking place in the Vaal Triangle, which message might have come through from Colonel Gouws.

Sluit u antwoord in spesifiek die moontlikheid dat daar iets vanaf kolonel Gouws oorgedra was? -- (He says he does not understand this question quite well. He would like it repeated). (10)

Ja, seker. Die vraag gaan nou spesifiek of enige boodskap van kolonel Gouws u eenheid bereik het die aand van 17 Junie? -- I received no messages that were coming from Colonel Gouws. It might have been my commanding officer who received it and if he did, then arrangements would have been made between them.

Maar as hy wel so 'n boodskap ontvang het, was dit nie aan u oorgedra nie? -- If this message was conveyed to him, it was not conveyed to me, but then if it would have had anything to do with me, it would have been conveyed to me, and if any arrangements had been made pertaining to this, I would have known about it.

Sersant net 'n paar vrae in verband met die algemene beheerstruktuur. Eerstens Victor Zero is die kode vir die A.B.S.? -- The code Victor Zero is the internal stability unit control room code.


Did is nou die normale uniform-tak van die polisie, is dit? -- Now these are the normal uniform branch of the police.

Nou in die geval as daar 'n onluste-situasie ontstaan, is dit/ .....
dit so dat die senior lid van die A.B.S. teenwoordig daar, in bevel sou wees? -- If there was to be an unrest situation in an area, then the senior officer of that area would be in control.

En dit volg natuurlik dat u as seksiehoof ten tye van die 17de in Boipatong in staat sou wees op opdragte aan die weermag te gee? -- I would not be in a position to give instructions to the Defence Force people, but the senior member of the Defence Force who does come to us, would then have a discussion with me. We would then together take decisions and he would then give instructions to his men.

Sersant Schlebush het melding gemaak van dat daar in u radiobeheerkamer 'n lid van die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag teenwoordig is. -- It is correct that a member of the Defence Force is present in the radio control room.

Is dit op 'n 24-uur basis so gereël? -- The arrangement is that this would be on a 24 hour basis.

Baie kortliks sersant, kan u net vir ons beskryf wat die doel daarvan is en hoe die twee nou saamwerk, die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie en die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag? -- According to my information, this Defence Force member has been posted there so that he would be in a position to convey to his people, to his control room any unrest-related situations.

En sou dit ook wees dat hy radioboodskappe tussen lede van die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag sou monitor? -- I, I have not heard that there was ever any monitoring of messages of the military or the Defence Force people in that radio, but whenever he has to convey messages there, there is a sign that was to be, that is to be signalled through and then he would be in contact with his radio control.

Maar in geval daar 'n weermagpatrollie is wat voel dat
daar iets is wat moontlik die polisie se aandag sou nodig hê dan kon hulle direk met die persoon in kontak tree en hy sou dan in die beheerkamer wees? — It is correct that in case the military people would want to contact him, they would be able to do that. If they were to contact him and need the assistance of the police, they would then be able to contact him.

En natuurlik in geval hulle iets opmerk wat moontlik die aandag van die polisie sou verg? — The same would apply if they were to notice anything that would require the attention of the police.

Sersanat ek wil nou oorgaan na die inligting wat u tot u beskikking gehad het ten tye van dat sersant Schlebush deur u opdragte gegee is. -- Sê net weer?

Ja ek wil net oorgaan na die inligting wat u tot u beskikking gehad het ten tye van dat u sersant Schlebush sy opdragte gegee het. (End of tape). ... dat u Boipatong toe moet ry? -- The information I had when I gave Sergeant Schlebush instructions to go to Boipatong was that attacks were being launched at houses in Boipatong.

Ek wil dit net weereens vra. In die voorvalleboek van die A.B.S. is daar melding van dat die berig waarskynlik vanaf Boipatong in Quebec, perhaps Mr Chairman, het u die voorvalleboek daar? -- Ek het die voorvalleboek ja.

As u kyk na die inskrywing van 22:10, daar is 'n klagte ontvang vanaf Q dat 'n groep Inkatha-lede in Boipatong besig is om eiendom te beskadig. 5I2 sersant Kruger gee aandag. Sien u dit? -- I have received the information about the group of Inkatha people that were said to be attacking houses. This information was given to me by the man in the control room. He might have put it into, into the, into the occurrence book but then I (30) gave/ .....
gave instructions to Sergeant Schlebush that he should proceed to Boipatong.

Nou die melding van Inkatha-lede wat besig is met hierdie aanval, het dit nie by u kommer laat ontstaan nie, laat ontwek nie? -- Receiving messages or information that Inkatha people are busy attacking people or people are busy attacking Inkatha people, or that groups are busy attacking one another, are but regular incidents or things that happen. We have on a regular basis been hearing this. The massacre in Boipatong was an exceptional thing that so many people died.

Maar .. (tussenbei).

CHAIRMAN: I think we will take the adjournment at this stage?

MR TIP: Certainly Mr Chairman.

COMMISSION ADJOURNS

DEON KRUGER: s.u.o. (through interpreter)

CHAIRMAN: Before we proceed I would like to mention that the committee has discussed the question of further witnesses with our counsel, Mr du Toit and Mr Pretorius, and our view at this stage, and it is subject to obviously any submissions from the legal representatives is that the only two further witnesses that we feel should be called are Captain Roos and Constable Kanye who was the driver of the municipal Caspir that evening. We thought we would mention it now before the weekend. If any other parties feel that further witnesses, other witnesses should be called, please to let Mr du Toit know as soon as possible, obviously by Monday morning and if there are such witnesses and we agree they should be called then so be it, we will call them. If there is any disagreement about the relevance or necessity, then obviously we will hear argument before making any decision.
May I ask for some clarity Mr Chairman, does that relate now to the first issue of the .. (intervenes).

It relates to all the issues.

To all the issues?

All the issues. I mean what ..? Yes Mr Mostert?

May I ask a further question? Making the assumption and it seems to me to be a fair one, we complete the evidence on Tuesday, when would you want to hear argument?

Well as soon as possible and here I must be guided by what is reasonable in the circumstances, but if we finish on Tuesday, certainly a matter of two days should be sufficient and we would be looking at Thursday and Friday. If anybody would want thereafter to put in any written submissions, we would be happy to receive them. If we can finish on Thursday or Friday, obviously that would suit everybody's convenience.

I understand from this Mr Chairman, that you do not expect written submissions?

Not necessarily.

Necessarily for us to present written submissions?

Obviously if they would be helpful, but obviously with that sort of time available, I think it would be unreasonable to expect written submissions. So it certainly would not, they would not be expected, but they would be gratefully accepted if they are available, in point form or any other form.

They might be helpful.

Mr Chairman, might I continue on the basis that I put my questions in English?

Yes, they are being translated anyway.

It will cut out one leg. I understand through my learned friend Mr Hattingh that Sergeant Kruger will take my questions/
U het geen beswaar nie? -- Dit is net as ..

CHAIRMAN: U het geen beswaar nie? -- Mnr. die Voorsitter net indien ek nie die vraag ten volle verstaan in Engels nie, dan net vir my oorgedra word in Afrikaans dat ek dit ten volle verstaan.

In Afrikaans ja, dit was die veronderstelling.

MR HATTINGH: The question need not be interpreted from English to Afrikaans either Mr Chairman.

MR TIP: And then if there are any difficulties, I can rephrase myself in Afrikaans. You just indicate Sergeant. -- Ek maak so.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR TIP (CONTINUED): I just asked you about the message you had received before Sergeant Schlebush went out and I want to ask you this. When you heard that Inkatha was involved did you not think that this meant that people from Kwa-Madala had crossed over into Boipatong and that you were dealing with a serious situation? -- The death of people is a serious situation if people lose their lives, but I had only been told that it had been a group of people. No people had been identified and I had not identified any person. The, my primary task was to stabilise the area. It was not to go and search for suspects, to go and search for suspects.

Sergeant my question really comes to this, but let me ask you this first. You have indicated in your answer now that you were simply told that there were a group of people attacking, is that right? -- The message through radio control was that it was a group of Inkatha people. When I got to Sergeant Schlebush, he told, the people standing by, the bystanders had said that is wat a group of Inkatha people.

When you sent Sergeant Schlebush out to Boipatong, did you/ .....
you indicate to him that he should move with some urgency? --

Any, any matter is treated with urgency or with seriousness and
one would move as fast as one can to whatever place where there
has been reports of attacks, although we do sometimes, on many
occasions receive false alarms, such as it had taken place on
that day, because it had been said that there was an incident in
Sharpeville, which was found not to have been the case.

Sergeant in the occurrence book of the South African Po-
lice of Vanderbijlpark there is against 22:00 the following en-
try:

"Klagte, algemene rapport. Verskeie lede van die publiek
kontak telefoonies dat verskeie skietvoorvalle plaasvind
en Donges en Playfair Boulevard. Klaarblyklik vind dit
plaas vanuit Boipatong en Sharpeville. Victor Zero, sta-
biliseringseenheid is gekontak vir aandag."

-- Kan u net vir my, kan u net vir my die tyd se?

22:00 die aand. (Complaints are received and this is an
entry made into the occurrence book in Vanderbijlpark which is
that complaints have been received that there has been shooting
incidents near Frikkie Meyer Boulevard .. (intervenes).

Mr Interpreter sorry, Mr Chairman perhaps if I could just
give a translation? I have got it in front of me if that would
be acceptable. There is a complaint that a general report from
various members of the public who contacted telephonically that
various shooting incidents are taking place in Donges and Play-
fair Boulevard. Apparently it is taking place from out of Boipa-
tong and Sharpeville. Victor Zero stabilisation unit has been
contacted for attention.

MR ROSSOUW: Mr Tip just repeat the two boulevards, the names of
the two boulevards?
C15.371

MR TIP: Donges and Playfair.

MR ROSSOUW: D.o.n.g.e.s and the other one?

MR TIP: Playfair.

MR ROSSOUW: Playfair?

MR TIP: I believe that those are in Vanderbijlpark, on the outskirts of Vanderbijlpark. -- I did not see that occurrence book at all. The information that was, that was conveyed to me was conveyed at 22:10 and that was to the effect that houses were being attacked in Boipatong. Donges Street is a street outside Vanderbijlpark. It is just the last street outside Vanderbijlpark very close to Boipatong. It is possible therefore that people living in Donges Street could have heard shooting in Boipatong.

Now Sergeant the point of my question is simply this, although .. (intervenes).

MR BAGWATHI: Sorry what did he say? Could you repeat that last answer? -- Donges Street is a street in Vanderbijlpark. It is the last street outside Vanderbijlpark, very close to Boipatong.

MR TIP: Sergeant, the point is really this, although Vanderbijlpark has written here Victor Zero has been contacted for attention, that did not in fact reach you? Is that what you are saying? -- That is correct.

I want to refer you also to a statement, the person has not been called as a witness, but it is a Mr de Jager and if I can just summarise what he says in his statement. He was an employee of Cape Gate. He says that he was travelling to work and at about 21:45 he saw a number of people crossing over from KwaMadala to Boipatong and he turned back and went home. He says that at about 21:55 he then contacted his work to say that he could not come because of this. He also says he contacted the police/
did you hear anything about a report from Mr de Jager about people crossing? -- No I did not hear about this at all.

If these two reports had reached your attention, namely that people were reporting shooting from Boipatong, that Mr de Jager had seen a number of people crossing before 22:00, would that have changed your understanding of what might be going on there? -- I think the information about that incident had indeed been conveyed to Victor Zero, which is our base and that is the reason why the, that is why I had given an instruction that there be proceeded to Boipatong and also why I also went out to Boipatong.

You went out later, after further reports were received? -- Yes this is, I did go out later, much later. The first information that was received, had made no mention of shooting.

Well let me just put it on a very narrow basis Sergeant, if at 22:00 you had heard from Vanderbijlpark police station that there was shooting going on in Boipatong, would you have set off immediately at 22:00 to Boipatong to see what was happening? -- If this had been the first complaint that was received, I would still have sent Sergeant Schlebusch to go out.

And if you had learnt about this large group having been seen, might you have gone out with him at the same time? -- If there had been a shooting incident and it had been said that there is a large number that is attacking houses, then we would perhaps have gone out together.

Sergeant as far as you know, was any enquiry directed to Q or to the Boipatong municipal police to get any further details from them about what was happening? -- Ek kan nou nie verstaan wat u vra ..? Deur ons na hulle toe of deur ons radiokamer (30) na/ .....
na hulle toe?

Het u as gevolg van hierdie berig vanaf Q enige navrae gerig aan Q en/of die Boipatong munisipale polisie om verdere besonderhede te probeer inwin? — I did not personally talk to these people but then when messages are sent through, these messages are conveyed to us. If house addresses are given, then we also, we would go out to go and pay visits to the houses.

Now you said Sergeant that there were various other reports and that you then eventually heard about it that there was shooting and that led to you going out? — I went out to Boipatong after receiving the next message, which message was to the effect that there were still incidents taking place in Boipatong.

Can you remember what that report was? — The message that had gone through was that the police from Vanderbijlpark had contacted the base to say that there was shooting in Boipatong. There had also been a message that was, to the effect that there was shooting at Cape Gate or near Cape Gate.

Now just to get the times right, if you look at your occurrence book there, 22:30 there appears to be an entry by Constable le Grange. Now he was your driver, is that correct? — That is correct ja.

And he seems to have signed there at 22:30 that he is booking out the Nyala? — It is not to say that he signed at the time because we were in a hurry and he might have booked out the vehicle on the air and gave them the number of the vehicle and the kilometre .. sorry ek praat nou .. Now he could also have conveyed the kilometre reading to them over the air and then he would have made the entries in the following day.

Now if you would just look at that entry? Would he then over/ ......
over the air have said to people leave a line so that I can sign there? -- It is normal practice or procedure to sign for a vehicle, so the people who would make the entry would make, would leave a line for the person to append his signature.

Sergeant without trying to pin down any particular place, on your way over to Boipatong, you heard over the radio from Sergeant Schlebush that he had found a dead person and an injured person at a house, 761? -- I do not remember where I precisely was when I received the message that a person had died at house 761 and someone else was injured. I might have been at KwaMadala or near KwaMadala when I received this message.

Did you yourself contact Captain Roos at any time that evening? -- I contacted Captain Roos after I, after having arrived at the KwaMadala and after I had seen nobody. I had also then heard somebody else say all the residents of the KwaMadala hostel were in the hostel. I contacted him and told him that there was quietness at the hostel.

Now at that time, you knew that from the Defence Force person at the intersection, that a large group, the figure of 500 was given, a large group had crossed in the direction of KwaMadala? -- It is correct yes that I had received this information but then the person had made mention of a time period of about ten minutes.

Did you connect that large group with what had been reported to you about the attack in Boipatong? -- It is possible that these could have been the people.

Did you have any doubt that there might have been a connection between them? -- I did not see the people in the township itself. I had also not seen the people cross the road and I therefore cannot say whether those could possibly have been the people.

Sergeant/ ......
Sergeant I understand that. I am not asking you to try and give eyewitness evidence about this. I am asking you what you, as the man in charge, was doing with the information that was coming through, how you were putting it together? Now did you not think that perhaps this large group of up to 500 was in all likelihood the group that had been earlier reported to be carrying out attacks in Boipatong? -- We are a stabilisation unit. We are to stabilise an area. If I were to find attackers still busy with the attacks, then I would have acted against those attackers.

Alright, I think you wanted to add something? -- I had not seen anybody, I could therefore not follow anybody. It would have been very unwise to enter KwaMada­la at that stage with the number of people I had.

We will come to that in a moment, but let me try to make myself perfectly clear Sergeant. All that I am interested in at the moment is what information you had available to you at the intersection and how you were putting it together and how you were reading the situation? -- The information had been that people had been in the township, people had been seen crossing the road. Now I did not see these people, but then the people could have been inhabitants of KwaMada­la, it could also have been inhabitants of the township going to KwaMada­la.

Now let us go to the situation at KwaMada­la. You went there and you did not see any of this group outside the gates, is that right? -- Yes, I did not see anybody there.

So it must have been clear to you that there was not a group of 500 people from Boipatong that was attacking KwaMada­la hostel? -- Yes it was quite obvious that that had not been the position.
Now I just want to add up a few things and then to ask you whether you conveyed all this to Captain Roos when you spoke to him. The first thing is that you are told that there is a group of Inkatha people attacking houses in Boipatong. The second is that you hear about shooting in Boipatong. The third is that Sergeant Schlebush tells you there is a dead person and an injured person in Boipatong and the fourth thing is that the Defence Force member tells you that they have seen a group of about 500 going back to the hostel. Now did you convey all that to Captain Roos? -- There had been many reports going through to him and I am certain that all these points that you have just mentioned to me, must also have gone through to him. There had been reports going through to him. He was at all times in radio contact.

And what I want to put to you Sergeant at this stage is that it must have occurred to you at least as a possibility that this group which had been reported to be attacking in Boipatong was about 500 strong? -- I did not see them, but this is what I was told.

And if that was so, it would indicate that there must have been a very serious attack in Boipatong? -- That was the reason why immediately after I had been to the KwaMadala hostel, I went to join Sergeant Schlebush so as to be able to, to determine the extent of what had taken place together with him.

Now I want to come back to the question of your conversation over the radio with Captain Roos and to ask you specifically whether you as the man in charge at the time, conveyed to Captain Roos that there might have been a very serious attack here involving anything up to 500 people from the hostel? -- I had not been to the township at the time, but Sergeant Schlebush/ ...
Schlebush had already indicated that it had been, said that it was a large number possibly of Inkatha people, that someone had died, that houses had been attacked and that some bystanders had said it was a large group of Inkatha people.

Sergeant I want you to try and just answer the question directly if you can. Did you as the man who was in charge of the internal stability unit there in Boipatong and its vicinity, say to your commanding officer, Captain Roos, there could have been up to 500 people involved in an attack and we might be dealing with a very serious situation here? — I did not convey this to him.

Can you give any reason why you did not do that? — Sergeant Schlebush had already been in contact with him. He had told him about the people who had moved through this area.

Sergeant what specifically was your purpose in moving to the KwaMadala hostel? — When I got to the robots and I was stopped and told about the group of people that had been seen crossing the road, I wanted to know where the people might have come from and who they possibly could have been.

Now when you got to the gate or near the gate, you pointed out the place. We know where it is. You saw two army vehicles there, is that correct? — When I got to the entrance, there was only one.

Did you make any enquiries from the personnel in that Buffel as to what they had seen, what they could tell you? — I, when I got to the people I asked them if they had seen anything. They told me that they had not seen anything and that one of their members was busy finding out from the security member of Iscor at the gate.

Did you ask how long that Buffel had been at Kwa-Madala? (30)
And I understand your evidence that you did not yourself speak to the Iscor security man? -- When this man came back from the gate, he just stopped, got out of his van and then he spoke and said all the people are in the hostel. He got back into the van and he quickly drove away.

You really just overheard him telling that to the South African Defence Force man? -- Yes, he stopped at a distance as from where I am sitting to you. The military vehicle was parked there. He parked next to it, got out of the vehicle and then spoke to the military people, telling them that all the people are in the hostel. He then got into the vehicle and drove off.

Did you understand from that report which you overheard, that this large group of up to 500 had entered the hostel and were back inside there? -- No they did not give me any indication as to whether these people had gone out. All they said was that all the people were in the hostel. They did not say the people are back. I did not know whether the people had gone out and come back again.

You did not go to the man at the gate to make any enquiries? -- No I did not.

So you did not so much as find out whether these people had come out of the hostel earlier or whether they had gone back into the hostel? -- The person from the security had spoken to them and I had received the message that, the message that I got from him was that all the people are in the hostel. Now I thought it urgent that I go and join Sergeant Schlebush to go and be of assistance to them.

Sergeant very specifically you have a report from the South African Defence Force at the intersection that a group of
500 moved in the direction of the hostel about ten minutes before you arrived there, is that correct? -- Yes, that is correct.

Did you, while you were at the KwaMadala gate, understand that that group was now in the hostel or did you understand that they might still be somewhere outside the hostel? -- I do not, I cannot tell you what I was thinking at the time. I had not seen the people, I could not tell myself that there had been people moving here into the hostel. Now it is also possible that the people could have moved in without being seen by our people or by the Defence Force people.

While you were at the hostel, I understand your evidence to be, that you took no steps to try to find out where this group was? -- No I had to go and stabilise the area or go and find out if the area had been stabilised. That was my duty.

So the short answer to my question is that is correct? -- That is correct ja.

Now you saw another police Caspir, which you assumed was a municipal Caspir? -- Yes, that is so.

And your evidence is that you had no contact at all with the people in that Caspir? -- I was faced with an unrest situation and they are not part of the people, or the unit that was to handle an unrest situation.

Sergeant even within the framework of your duties, which is according to you primarily to be concerned with stabilising the area in which there is serious trouble, ought you not to have found out where these group of 500 was in case they were the attackers, and in case they were regrouping for another attack? Wasn't it relevant to your job? -- I would not say that .. ag .. I would not say that it was my duty to go and do investigations/ ....
investigations or the job of the investigators. The information that was at my disposal was conveyed to the investigation people.

MR ROSSOUW: But would they be able to control 500 people? Isn’t that a job for the stabilisation unit? -- The, in this, in this instance the area had been stabilised. There was no problem at the hostel. If they were to send a large investigation team to the hostel, we would then have to go and be, we will have to go and be of assistance to them.

MR BAGWATHI: Now when you see the municipal Caspir there, did you or did you not enquire how long it was there? Did you not enquire from the persons who were, occupants of the Caspir as to how long they had been there and whether they had seen any crowd coming and going into the hostel? -- The Caspir had not been there when I got to this place. The Caspir must have arrived while I was busy talking to the members of the Defence Force.

The Caspir was there at the time when you left the hostel gate? -- I cannot say. I did not pay particular notice about that. It might still have been there, it might have left before me.

How long were you there at the KwaMadala hostel gate? -- I was at this gate for about five minutes if not for a shorter period of time.

And during those five minutes you saw the Buffel there and that conversation which took place between the security guard and the someone from the Buffel? You heard it you said just now, that you overheard it? -- Yes that is correct.

And is it or is it not your clear recollection whether the municipal Caspir was there at the time when you arrived at the gate of the hostel? -- Ek weet nie of die Caspir daar was nie.
Mr Hattingh: Mr Chairman with respect, he said he came after, the municipal Caspir arrived after he arrived at the gate.

Mr Bagwathi: And do you recollect whether the Caspir left before you left? -- I cannot remember it.

Mr TIP: Sergeant just on this point of when this Caspir arrived, did you not say in your evidence-in-chief that you were not certain whether it had arrived before or after you? -- I was not sure as to whether it had left before me or whether it left after me.

I want to get back to the question of what your duties are, because I want to be certain that we do not misunderstand each other and speak past each other. I am not now asking questions that relate to an investigation of an offence. I am asking you whether it is not part of your job to ensure that an area is stabilised to establish where a group of 500 is who may have been involved in a murderous attack? -- I tried to find out whatever I could on the basis of the information that I had. The information has been that 500 had crossed the road, and at the hostel the security man said all the inhabitants of the hostel were in the hostel.

Well let me come back to a question I asked earlier. Did you then understand that this group of 500 people was in the hostel? -- I cannot say whether I thought they were the people.

Then wasn't it obvious and necessary for you to take the simple step of going to the security man at the gate and asking him saying: has a large group come through your gate into your hostel? -- It has happened on many occasions that at hostels people at the gate of the hostel would not want to communicate at all with a person. This is why I accepted what had been said by the man from the Iscor security which was that all the inhabitants/ ....
inhabitants of the hostel were in the hostel.

What did that satisfy you about? — That there was nobody of the hostel outside of the hostel.

Right, now .. (intervenes).

MR ROSSOUW: Did that not lead you to think that the 500 people that had been mentioned earlier, were in the hostel, or am I making a wrong inference here? — It could, it could possibly be that the 500 people that had been seen crossing the road be inhabitants of the hostel, but I had no information that the inhabitants of the hostel had gone out of the hostel. (10)

So you had no cause for inferring that the 500 people that had been reported to have been crossing, was anywhere near that hostel? They could have been somewhere else? -- They could possibly have been elsewhere other than the hostel. The information given to me was that the people had been seen crossing the road in the direction of the hostel. This is why I went to the hostel to go and find out there.

MR TIP: Sergeant is your evidence then that you left KwaMadala having in mind that there might be a group of up to 500 people roaming around somewhere in the area? — The Iscor gate, there(20) is also a gate, the Iscor gate there. There are many people working there. I could not say that I would have expected to find many people moving about there.

I am afraid I do not understand that answer. -- Yskor het .. (tussenbei).

Shall I repeat my question?

CHAIRMAN: I think so Mr Tip.

MR TIP: Sergeant what I am trying to establish is what you as the man in charge of the stabilisation unit at the scene, had in mind when you left the KwaMadala hostel? Are you with me? --(30)

Yes. And/ .....
And specifically I am now asking you when you left the KwaMadala hostel, did you have in your mind that there might be a group of 500 people who might have been involved in an attack in Boipatong, roaming around somewhere outside the hostel? -- It could have been yes because a message had gone through that the people had attacked the township and that they were, and that they were possibly Inkatha people.

MR BAGWATHI: But within ten minutes you were, immediately you went to the KwaMadala hostel, because you were told by the Defence Forces that the group was seen crossing the road just ten(10) minutes before you arrived, and you immediately went to the hostel. So within ten minutes, did you see the group anywhere else? -- No I did not at all.

Did it not intrigue you as to what had happened to the group? -- There might perhaps have been a little thought in me that they could have, they could possibly have been KwaMadala hostel inmates.

MR TIP: We will come back to that thought Sergeant, but dealing now with the apparently larger thoughts that they were not from the KwaMadala hostel, you took no steps to try to locate those(20) people in the vicinity of the KwaMadala hostel before you left it, is that correct? -- Yes that is so because I had the responsibility to go into Boipatong and go and determine what, to what extent the damage caused there was.

If we can just .. Sergeant let us deal with that, if we can digress for a moment. I understand that your primary job is to ensure stabilisation and not to go and find out who had been injured and to investigate the extent of what has happened. -- The area was to be stabilised and if it has been stabilised and there were people that had been injured and/or people that were killed/ ....
killed, these must be traced and the photographers must also be shown the places where there would be dead people.

Do I understand from that that you saw your priority at the time to go into Boipatong to trace and locate injured people and to basically establish the infrastructure for photographers and other investigators to come into the situation? -- Could you repeat that?

Certainly. I will repeat it in Afrikaans if I can. Het u op die stadium u prioriteit beskou as synde dat u in Boipatong sou moet beweeg met die doel om beseerde persone en/of oorledene(10) persone op te spoor met die oog dat daarna fotograe en ander speurders in sou beweeg om hul take te verryg? -- In this incident Sergeant Schlebush had immediately contacted the people, the photographers and the investigation team and we would then have had to escort them and give them protection.

Now I understand from that sergeant that your priority at the time was to facilitate an investigation at particular houses rather than to secure the area by locating the possible attackers and dealing with them? -- There was no sign of any continuing attack. The attack was over.

What made you so certain of that? -- The, according to the information I had received from Sergeant Schlebush, the group that had been, that had moved through the township, had moved through the township. They were nowhere to be seen and the inhabitants of the township had already been coming out of their houses.

Had Sergeant Schlebush conveyed that to you over the radio? -- This was an inference that I could draw. He did not actually convey that message directly to me. It was drawn on the basis of what I had heard from the radio control room.
CHAIRMAN: Are you going to be some time still?

MR TIP: Mr Chairman I had hoped to finish today, but it looks as if we will have to continue for a short while and then it may be convenient to adjourn then.

COMMISSION ADJOURNS