

**NRM-Executive Meeting
Unterolberndorf - Lower-Austria
Saturday 15th – Tuesday 18th June 1985**

I. Background Information to the Meeting

1.1. The PRF/PRA-UFF Alliance to Found the NRM/NRA

Between June 1981 and June 1982 talks leading to the amalgamation of the **PRF/PRA (under Museveni)** and **Lule's UFF-forces** were held and in early 1982 the two groups merged and founded the **NATIONAL RESISTANCE MOVEMENT (NRM)** and its military wing the **NATIONAL RESITANCE ARMY (NRA)**. This is how the name NRM came into existence.

1.2. Uganda Activists in Austria

Among the very active members of the Anti-Apartheid Bewegung (AAB) in Austria were two African Students from Uganda by the names of Robert Sande KITAVUJJA and Peter-Julian JJUMBA. Because of their involvement in the AAB-Activities in Austria the two students were able to meet and acquaint themselves with Austrian Africa Politics groups. They then came into contact with useful groups and platforms to sell information about Uganda.

Platforms like the "Österreichische Institut für Entwicklungspolitik" (ÖIE) were one of the best ways to inform the Austrian Public about events in Uganda. This too was a slow process. The students were joined by insider-member of the NRA-External Committee Mr. ALI KIRUNDA-KIVEJINJA in October 1982 and from this time the group made a breakthrough. Another prominent member of the Uganda Human Rights Group in Europe Dr. John Patrick KABAYO who was posted to the UN-Atomic Energy Agency in Seibersdorf, Lower-Austria, as a Biochemist arrived in Vienna in late September 1982.

1.3. The Emergence of NRM - Evidenz Working Group on Uganda in Vienna 1982

Kirunda-Kivejinja arrived in Vienna on the invitation of the Mr. Erwin LANZ, who was the Minister of Internal Affairs of the last Kreisky cabinet. The two had first met in Algiers on the occasion of the celebration of 20-Aniversary Algerian Partisan Independence War (1956-60) victory against France Occupation in 1980.

No sooner did the two (Kirunda-Kivejinja and Kabayo) arrive than **EVIDENZ-NRM Working Group on Uganda** was formed in late October 1982. This group was soon recognized by the NRM/NRA Secretariat for Diplomatic Affairs, headed by Eriya KATEGAYA as the leading Unit in Central Europe. Evidenz-NRM Working Group was to cover all German speaking territories, Italy, Yugoslavia and the countries for the Warsaw Pact.

Peter-Julian JJUMBA became the Chief Coordinator of NRM-Evidenz while Kitavujja took the Finance Coordinator responsibility. Kirunda-Kivejinja became the Coordinator with NRA-Fighting Forces in Uganda.

1.4. The Contacts with Austrian Press

In order to make an effective breakthrough the group planned to win the favours of Austrian journalists. Many journalists were contacted. Among those contacted was also an ORF-journalist, one Dolores Bauer.

A call by KK (Kirunda Kivejinja) to the journalist was followed by an appointment with the same in the ORF-Studio in the Argentinierstrasse. The events that followed this historical meeting form the backbone of the current Uganda-Austria relationships to date. To the surprise of the members of NRM-Evidenz Group, Dolores Bauer seemed well informed with events in Uganda.

1.5. The First Contacts with Austrian Leaders

Dolores Bauer had very close ties with the late Prälat Dr. Leopold UNGAR, who was at that time the very influential President of Caritas. Prälat Ungar and the Austrian Chancellor – Bruno Kreisky were also political intimate friends.

The other member of that Kreisky-Inner-International-Relationship-Network NRM-Evidenz met soon was the former Austrian UN-Ambassador Dr. Peter JANKOWITSCH.

Dolores Bauer made it possible for KK to meet a number other influential Austrians in the **development** politics of the country. Soon the topic Uganda was to be mentioned in Parliament. All parties agreed with Dr. Jankowitsch that the crisis needed mediation between the warring parties. Arrangements were made to send Dolores Bauer to Uganda to meet the different parties in the conflict. Though no mention was made of the plans by the journalist to visit the LUWEERO-Triangle - the main location of the major military conflict - the journalist was already making arrangements with NRM-Evidenz to get access to all NRM-NRA secret locations in Uganda. (see also the book written by Dolores Bauer)

1.5.1 Eriya Kategaya's Visit to Austria

In November 1982, Eriya Kategaya the NRA-Second in Command and NRM Secretary for Diplomatic Affairs flew to Austria and met several notable politicians and made arrangements for Dolores Bauer to accomplish her assignments in Uganda. Due to protocol difficulties, the NRM- envoy could not meet Chancellor Kreisky. But he had very useful meetings with all Austrian Parliament Parties' dignitaries dealing with African affairs.

1.5.2 Princess Elizabeth Bagaya visits Austria in December 1982

Arrangements were also made to send other NRM-dignitaries to Vienna and move from here to other European destinations with Austrian backing. The promotion of the role of women and youth in the struggle was identified and adopted as the major component of the NRM-information campaign in Europe. It was decided that a senior woman-member of the NRM-external committee Princess Elizabeth BAGAYA visits Vienna during the Christmas holidays of 1982.

Elisabeth Bagaya arrived in Vienna just before Christmas of 1982. During her stay in Vienna she held private and official meetings with all prominent Austrians who had had meetings with Mr. Kategaya. She met with Dolores Bauer before her departure for Uganda on Christmas Eve.

1.5.3 Princess Elizabeth Bagaya of Toro comes for a second visit

Princess Elizabeth Bagaya came back in January 1983 to meet the Chancellor and to continue talks initiated in December 1982

1.6. Some other Important Austrian Contacts between December 1982 and June 1985

a) Dr Helmut Ornauer in liaison with the Austrian Catholic Auxiliary Bishop of Linz Diocese Dr. Alois WAGNER – arranged a meeting between the Archbishop of Kampala Diocese, the Late Emmanuel Cardinal NSUBUGA and the Special NRM Envoy. This took place in Rome in late November 1982.

b) University Guest Professor DDr. Charlotte Teuber-Wackerdorf?

Towards the End of 1983 Prof. DDr. Charlotte Teuber-Wackerdorf arrived from Cambridge in Massachusetts USA to join the faculty of Political Science of the University of Vienna as a guest Professor. When NRM-Evidenz learned of her presence at the University, the group approached her. She was very forthcoming to assist. She also had good contacts with the former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky's team on foreign policy.

From the first meeting with NRM-Evidenz onto the end of the war, the University Professor became very much involved in the activities of the NRM in Austria. Only 18 months after her first meeting with the NRM-Evidenz group in late November 1983, the University Guest Professor was to be the patron in the registration of the NRM-External Committee Executive Meeting at Hotel Leopoldine in Unterolberndorf (heute Gasthaus Zum Grünen Jäger)

c. MOZ (Monatszeitschrift)

Through Prof. Teuber, the NRM-Evidenz team was introduced to the MOZ-team in October 1984. The MOZ team composed of Wolfgang SCHMIDT, Toni PIEGLER and Sepp AUER. The MOZ-office was later to become the main service centre for NRM-Evidenz. The Office facilitated NRM-Evidenz with space and means to publish and disseminate its war propaganda in Vienna, the rest of Austria and onto other mainland European destinations. MOZ-editors also provided NRM-activists with free telephone and fax communication facilities. An offer that improved the group's working capability in Central European Countries.

Toni Piegler is also one of the Founder Members of the Project Group (Austrian Project Group for Rehabilitation of Uganda), which later was transformed into "Austrian Ugandan Friendship Association".

II. NRM-External Committee-Consultative Meeting in Unterolberndorf Lower-Austria Saturday 15th – Tuesday 18th June 1985

2.1 The Choice of Austria

The choice by the NRM-Executive to recommend a location in Austria as the most suitable for holding the meeting of the NRM-External Committee did not come as a surprise. It was the result of the long-standing trust the leaders of the liberation movements had put in the efficiency and the suitability of the point of location in Vienna. Any Location in Sweden, another neutral European State with a relatively larger number of Ugandan exiles, compared to the very little group in Vienna and in Austria in general would have won the day. However, Sweden had become very unsafe for Ugandans.

Austria, unlike Sweden had only a few dozens of Ugandans and most of those opposed to the Obote II regime where under the NRM-Evidenz political control and surveillance. The NRM enjoyed a quasi-operational monopoly within Austria. ***Hence the choice of the NRM/NRA leadership in Uganda to hold the Secret Consultation Meeting with Leading NRM-External Committee Members before the final assault on Kampala in a safe and secure place for the Movement which in this case was Austria.***

Therefore, the NRM-External Committee Consultative meeting in Unterolberndorf was called to discuss the logistics of the imminent assault on Kampala and what would have been the consequences of such an assault.

2.2 The Unterolberndorf Deliberations between Saturday 15th and Tuesday 18th June 1985

NRM-Evidenz Vienna was informed one week before the meeting and within this time they had to prepare for the meeting.

2.3 The choice of “Gasthaus Leopoldine Baier” at Unterolberndorf

During the consultations a decision was made to use the auspices of an elderly Ugandan lady Aunt Ruth NAMULI who resided and worked in Wolkersdorf at Gasthaus Wolkersdorf (*Wolkersdorf Inn*). The location is also North of Vienna in the same Mistelbach District of Lower Austria. When contacts were made with Namuli, she informed NRM-Evidenz that the said Gasthaus was under renovation and could only be used for meals but not for overnight stay. She however had requested the Lady-manager of Wolkersdorf Gasthaus to look for another quiet place in the area to house the meeting.

It was therefore the manager of Gasthaus Wolkersdorf who contacted ***Gasthaus Leopoldine Baier in Unterolberndorf*** and requested her business colleagues - on behalf of her part-time employee Ruth Namuli - to make arrangements to host the African guests for three days. The reservation for the expected Ugandan (African) guests was made from Saturday evening and was to last until Tuesday morning of the following week. This is how NRM-Evidenz came across Gasthaus Leopoldine Baier in Unterolberndorf.

2.4 The Attendance List of the NRM-External Committee

By mid-week of the week of 9th-15th June 1985, the Nairobi NRM-External Committee clandestine Headquarters had issued a list of 14 NRM-External Committee members, who were expected to attend the meeting in Unterolberndorf. The list included all members of the External Committee except those from the British Isles.

Invited Members were;

- (i) Dr. Samson Kisseka (London)
- (ii) Eriya Kategaya (Nairobi)
- (iii) Grace Bakulumpagi Wamala (Ottawa-Canada)
- (iv) Sam Male (Nairobi)
- (v) Mathias Rukikaire (Nairobi)
- (vi) Zakaria Kaheru (Nairobi)
- (vii) Getrude Njuba (Luweero Triangle)
- (viii) Kakwano (Nairobi)
- (ix) Ruhakana Rugunda (Uppsala Sweden)
- (x) Kirunda-Kivejinja (Vienna)
- (xi) Sam Wapakhabulo (Papua New Guinea)
- (xii) Sam Njuba (Papua New Guinea)

Due to different reasons some people could not attend the meeting. Only Members below attended the meeting in Unterolberndorf:

Yoweri Museveni (Luweero Triangle)
Eriya Kategaya (Luweero & Nairobi)
Sam Male (Nairobi)
Zakaria Kaheru (Nairobi)
Mathias Rukikaire (Nairobi)
Ali Kirunda-Kivejinja (Vienna)
Ruhakana Rugunda (Uppsala)

Also at the venue were Peter-Julian Jjumba and Robert Sande Kitavujja both activists of NRM-Evidenz Vienna. The two NRM-Evidenz activists with Kirunda-Kivejinja were responsible for the arrangements that made the consultative meeting a success

2.5 The Role of Ten-Point- Programme at the Unterolberndorf Meeting

The three days consultative meeting was never intended to discuss the NRM-Ten-Point-Programme. All the attendants were prominent members of the NRM who had full knowledge of that programme. The significance of that Unterolberndorf meeting in the history of Uganda struggle spearheaded by the NRM should be regarded as the final consultation meeting between Yoweri Museveni on behalf of the fighters in Luwero Triangle Uganda and the high ranking members of NRM-External Committee.

The issue of Ten-point programme was just for justification of the cause of the war in Luwero Triangle in the foreign press and media.