

Your Honours, I have pleaded unequivocally as guilty. My guilty plea was an expression of sincere remorse concerning the events in Prijedor, and especially the Keraterm camp. I gave an interview about my role in this to the investigators of the Tribunal. Today, I wish to add only the following: My arrest and transfer to The Hague, as well as that of my brother, was something I experienced with great fear, mostly because the propaganda was always that The Hague was a place for the quiet murder of the Serbs. Fortunately, very soon, I came to the conclusion that this propaganda was a lie. Through the proceedings up to this point, I have experienced enlightenment. I have gathered the strength to face the truth and myself.

This is why I made the decision to change my plea. I deplore the period of war and hatred, and I regret that I did not find a way to avoid mobilisation and my role in the camp. I feel sorry for all the victims, and I curse my own hands for having inflicted pain in any way on innocent people. I wish my sincere words to be understood as a balm for those wounds and as a contribution to the reconciliation of all people in Prijedor and the restoration of the situation that existed before the war.