

Voorbeeld Treatment Dealing and Wheeling in Small Arms

By: Joosty Schrickx in cooperation with director Sander Francken

Cambodia, Flame of peace

A happy crowd is attending a flame of peace somewhere in Cambodia. Hundreds of rifles that have been collected among the local population have been piled up in a structured way. Many of the guns appear to be military-style semi-automatic and automatic guns, with significant killing power. Some of the EU ASAC people, including the tough-looking Adrian Sprangemeijer, are sprinkling the pile with fuel.

V.O.

A voice over explains that thanks to this weapons collection and destruction program in Cambodia more than 154,000 small arms and light weapons have been collected and destroyed since 1998. The Cambodian government's efforts to rid the country of the vast quantities of weaponry - left over from 35 years of civil war - has been heavily supported first by the European Union and now by the Japanese government as well. The collection and destruction campaign is accompanied by a complimentary public education effort against guns and gun violence, encouraging people to hand in their guns or disable their guns themselves.

Cambodia, art atelier

Craftsmen are welding pieces of art and furniture from parts of guns and rifles, producing exotic, beautiful, and peaceful creations.

V.O.

Over the last few decades, initiatives of this kind have led to the collection and destruction of approximately 4 million small arms worldwide. These projects were enhanced by financial and human assistance of a number of developed countries and international organisations such as the EU, the UN Development Programme, and individual donor nations.

Cambodia, Flame of Peace

The crowd cheers when the pile of arms is put to fire. Among the Cambodian audience we see an American and his wife: Jim and Kate Sullivan. They are clearly impressed by the ceremony

of peace. In a matter of a few hours, the long guns will be reduced to worthless scrap metal and wood.

Conference sequence: New York UN meeting

At a UN conference on small arms in New York, the results of various disarmament projects are presented to an optimistic audience of governmental representatives, NGO members, and journalists from all parts of the world.

Phoenix, Arizona

Jim Sullivan, a renowned small arms designer who lives in Prescott, Arizona, is proudly showing the different components of one of his latest improvements on the M16, the famous American assault rifle, that was designed by Eugene Stoner and himself. While he puts the parts together again and then shoots at a target with an unexpected precision for a man of his age, he explains that the ancestor of this weapon - the AR10 - designed by Eugene Stoner, was produced in the Netherlands. His wife Kate looks at him with admiration.

A montage sequence about the passion for guns

Shots of shooting clubs, a proud arms collector, examples of gun violence in the entertainment industry, such as computer games, a movie sequence, children running after each other with fake guns...

Amsterdam, a film studio

Arthur van Oest and Kees Witte, two Dutch special effects experts on guns, are on a film set. A Russian video clip is being shot in which child soldiers occur. As soon as the film shooting has been finished Arthur collects his Kalashnikovs, M16's, Heckler & Kochs, Herstalls, etc. among the children. He counts to see if none is missing.

Amsterdam, ware house

Arthur and Kees are at home in their huge warehouse filled with guns, rockets and all kinds of military equipment. They have a meeting with a film director who is working on a cinematic reconstruction of the assassination of Theo van Gogh by Mohammed Bouyeri. The director of the film project explains that Bouyeri used a HS2000. According to Arthur the HS2000 is a high quality pistol available in calibre 9mm luger, .40 S&W and .357 Sig. Kees Witte immediately shows a pistol made in Austria, a Glock 17, that 'almost looks exactly like the gun used'. But the director is not content and explains that the gun of the killer came from Croatia. He says he wants the true

type of gun, the Croatian one. Van Oest tells him not to worry. Come back next week...

Production sequence

Employees enter a plant, which is located in the Croatian city of Karlovac. It's the start of a new day. The factory looks like any other industrial complex, with a car park and a modern main entrance. Somewhere at the factory gate, the company's name and logo are visible: IM Metall.

Conference sequence: Former Yugoslav Republic, introduction of SEESAC

(At a conference) the mission statement and results of SEESAC are presented to an enthusiastic audience: In cooperation with the new Yugoslavian governments, UNDP and the European Union are engaged in a widespread operation to assist the new governments in the region with the collection and destruction of illegal weapons among the population. The slogan of the project is: "Serbia free of weapons - Croatia free of crime."

Belgrade, van Oest meets Wilkinson

Van Oest and Kees Witte meet with Mr. Wilkinson, manager of the SEESAC project. Van Oest explains that he has heard about the collecting of weapons among the population and asks whether he could buy some of them for his profession. According to Wilkinson this is unfortunately not possible. When Van Oest asks about the numbers and kind of weapons that have been collected - the results from SEESAC - Mr. Wilkinson becomes very vague and uncooperative. Disappointed, Van Oest and Witte leave.

Former Yugoslav Republic, Croatia, IM-Metall factory

Since they don't want to return with empty hands - which will cost them a job - Van Oest and his partner Witte visit IM-METAL. Here the HS2000 that has been used in the Van Gogh assassination is being produced. Van Oest and Witte admire the HS2000 pistol and its ancestor the HS95.

While van Oest and Witte watch the production process, going from design department to production department to testing department to export department, a voice over explains:

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Since 2002 IM Metall exports light weapons, military weapons, rifles and shotguns, pistols and revolvers and small arms ammunition for a total amount of 6,495,177 USD. The current international weapon

export embargo, in combination with the fact that small arms production became one of the main industries in former Yugoslavia since the war has ended, has led to a huge raise of illegal arms exports... etc.

At the end of their visit, van Oest asks the management of the factory whether it is possible to buy some of the species; the answer is that this is no problem - if they buy it in a quantity of at least 1000 pieces.

Former Yugoslav republic, Croatia, streets of Zagreb

Van Oest and Witte search in a gun shop. Here they are finally able to buy two used HS2000 pistols for the movie about the assassination of Van Gogh. To their surprise, they find out that some of the guns sold in the shop do not have a registration number.

A new problem arises: how are they going to take these weapons back to Holland?

Former Yugoslav Republic, Croatia, hotel bar

As Van Oest and Witte discuss the problem at the hotel bar, they are approached by an Englishman. A confusing conversation follows until it becomes clear that the Englishman assumes that Van Oest and Witte are arms brokers. The man turns out to be a journalist, named Brian Thomas, working for the London Observer, and an expert in suspicious arms deals. He explains how arms traffickers in the region export their illegal trade. In some cases, for example, factories produce two weapon-lines, one with a registration number, the other without. The ones without registration number are meant to 'enhance exports'... Brian Thomas is currently researching 'links between this country and Congo'. Both countries have one feature in common, namely that the embargo's imposed on them are being systematically violated. In Serbia, the leaks concern arms export, in Congo they concern arms imports. With his investigations, Brian says he is - unofficially - assisting a UN Mission, which has pledged to "bring before the courts" perpetrators of crimes committed in the Congo war. In this respect, Thomas is after a former airplane captain of suspicious flights..

Former Yugoslav Republic, Serbia, bar

Brian Tomas meets a man, called Sam - who orders one drink after the other. Sam talks about the flights that Ukrainian business people commissioned him for. He tells about flights to various countries in Africa and the 'green boxes' he was transporting. One day he found out that he was supplying guns

to both parties in an ongoing tribal war - and that he was therefore implicated in thousands of deaths. That day he decided to leave the job.

Congo, UN inspectors at Ituri

UN inspectors, among whom General Patrick Cammaert, acting MONUC commander in the region, fly in a private plane over the serene landscape of Ituri.

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The war that takes place in Congo for more than eight years has caused many people to become homeless, still more to be wounded and even more to die: 2.5 million are thought to have died so far, directly or indirectly. This war is continuously fuelled by large numbers of small arms and light weapons that are not supposed to be in this country.

In some parts of Congo peace seems to be settled and an UN embargo has been imposed to stop the illegal import of weaponry. However, in others parts there are still enormous amounts of weapons flowing into the country. Loads of weapons are imported, often in exchange for diamonds that are improperly harvested and smuggled out of the country.

Looking down at the landscape, General Patrick Cammaert discusses the horror that took place here, which is hardly imaginable now. There has been a massacre that took the lives of thousands of people in just a couple of hours. They fought and are still fighting in the context of the ongoing ethnic conflict between the Hema and the Lendu clan.

Congo, Kathi Austin

Ms Kathi Austin, a UN consultant on illegal small arms traffic, who cooperates with General Patrick Cammaert, describes how she is desperately trying to map the way rebels - who since years control civilians by means of terror and fear - attacked a certain region in Ituri and caused a real massacre with hundreds of deaths, using small arms that were produced in the from the former Yugoslav republic.

Serbia, Government building

Brian Thomas interviews the Serbian director of Arms Exports Control. The man keeps claiming to know nothing about illegal trade and Serbian mafia involvement.

Congo, Witnesses

Some of the survivors of the Ituri massacre are interviewed. There is a testimony of a man who fled with his family but was stopped by a group of rebels. He witnessed how his whole family was killed by rebels who used M85 submachine guns (a Zastava 'copy' of the AK-47). He shows pictures of his children and grandchildren who were killed. How could this happen despite the UN arms embargos?

Serbia, Brian Thomas Zastava factory

Brian Thomas visits the Zastava factory. He tells a representative of the management how a Serbian criminal - listening to the name Bistrov - has been arrested in Amsterdam. In his hotel room money, drugs, jewels and documents on small arms from the Zastava factories were found. Bistrov appeared to have a dozen of aliases and a large number of passports. He was member of the Serbian Mafia involved in drugs, money laundering and illegal arms trading. Also some used flight-tickets were found as well as labels with the registration number VP TLK, apparently of an airplane that belonged to Bistrov himself. According to a list of non-scheduled flights, the plane landed in Uganda several times. Brian asks the Zastava management what they know and think about this...

The representative of Zastava stresses that 'they are innocent and have nothing to do with it' of course. As a proof - and after a lot of waiting - they show Brian documents, amongst others user certificates which show that, around the date mentioned in the documents of the criminal, Zastavas cargo was explicitly transported to Chad and not to Uganda. The end user certificate is a guarantee that a cargo went where it was supposed to go. According to Brian they are falsified, and likely with the knowledge of government officials.