United Nations Peacekeeping

AUDIO TAPE TEST # 9 «ILLEGAL MINING OF DIAMOND"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofpSVA-Wskw

You will hear an audio script concerning a mission-related topic. This script will be followed by a conversation between two persons. This conversation will relate to the script, you will hear the tape only once. You will make notes of the script and of the conversation. From these notes you will be instructed either to answer 10 (ten) questions or complete a written report of the incident.

On 14th of January 2006, Tony, the Chief of a small village, 200 kilometers east of Monrovia, left his home for Monrovia. He wanted to participate in the inauguration ceremony of the newly elected president of Liberia, which would take place on 16th of January 2006, in capital city. He had to walk 25 kilometers to reach the district center where he would get a bus for Monrovia. He started at 06.00 hrs. While he was passing by the destroyed railway bridge, Tony noticed 3 men aged approximately between 25 and 29 years, digging up the ground and putting some dug soil into big sacks. After they had filled the sacks, they carried them down to the river. He calmly followed them to the river and saw two other men within the same age range. They were standing in the river, with the water reaching up to their knees and washing the soil inside baskets in the flowing water. Tony realized that they were engaged in illegal mining of diamond. He recognized one of them, a 26 year old unemployed man from his village. He recalled that, five years ago, this man was wounded in the head when fighting was going on in Liberia. He had a long deep scar on his forehead. Tony had no difficulties recognizing him. He also knew that this man was a former member of the rebel group. He suspected the other men to be the same and decided to leave the place for fear of being attacked.

At 13.00 hrs, Tony got to the district center and went straight to the local police station and informed the duty officer about what he had seen. As a Village Chief Tony knew that no one in the district had a license for mining Diamond because there is an embargo on Mining Gold and Diamond in the Country. So he believed that these people's activities were illegal. The Duty Officer advised him to put down in writing, everything he has seen including the identified suspect's home address. Tony did as the Officer had told him and continued his journey to Monrovia. He advised that if they really wanted to catch these men in the act, they have to go there between 0600 hours and 1130 hours. The Chief of LNP informed the UN police Zone Advisor and requested for advice and assistance.

The next day at 0540 hrs, two UN Police officers accompanied by three local Police officers left in a Red and White Nissan Patrol Jeep, #877 to go to the railway bridge. On getting there, they saw three men carrying heavy sacks toward the river. Two other men were in the river doing exactly as Tony had told the Police. Among them was a man with a deep long scar across his forehead. The LNP officers ordered all the men not to move. The three men who were carrying sacks dropped the sacks and ran into the bush heading towards different directions. The ones in the river could not run and were arrested. The Officers then searched the bushes around and found several empty sacks, shovels and other equipment meant for washing earth. They also found four pieces of natural diamond in one of the sacks. When asked about their mining license, one of the men replied that they had no License, but had to do this because they needed money to feed their families. All the arrested suspects were transported to the district Police Station where they were placed in custody pending charge in court for Illegal Mining. The Team Leader of UN Police Zone Advisor Unit prepared and transmitted a situation report to the Radio room in Monrovia.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

The following is the telephone conversation between the Team Leader and the Duty officer in the Radio room.

TEAM LEADER: Hello. I am the Team Leader of LNP Advisor Unit in Station No. 10. May I submit the 'situation report' for the day?
DUTY OFFICER: Yes Good evening. Please go ahead, we have been expecting to hear from you.
TEAM LEADER: Two Liberian men were arrested today for being involved in suspected illegal mining of diamond.
DUTY OFFICER: How did the police learn about the illegal mining?
TEAM LEADER: Yesterday, 14 of January 2006 the chief of a village, about 200 kilometers south of Monrovia informed the LNP about the activities of these Illegal Miners.
DUTY OFFICER: How did he get the information?
TEAM LEADER: He stated that at 6.00 hrs of that day he was walking on the foot path leading to the district center. He has been walking for about 45 minutes, when he saw 3 men digging up the ground and putting the dug soil in to big sacks. After they had filled the sacks, they carried them down to the river. There were two other men in the river washing the soil with baskets inside the flowing water. He knew immediately that they were Mining Diamond.
DUTY OFFICER: What is the name of this Chief and what was his business in the district center?
TEAM LEADER: His name is Tony. He was going to the District Center to take a bus to Monrovia, to participate in the inauguration ceremony of the newly elected President of Liberia.
DUTY OFFICER: All right, why did Tony think that what these men were doing was Illegal?
TEAM LEADER: As a Village Chief, he knew that there is an embargo on all Mining activities in the Country and because of the embargo no one is given a License to mine.
DUTY OFFICER: How old were the suspects?
TEAM LEADER: The youngest of them was about 25 years and the oldest was 29years old. Tony was able to recognize a 26 year old man among them.
DUTY OFFICER: How did Tony recognize the 26 year old man?
TEAM LEADER: The man is from the same village with Tony and had a deep long scar on his head from an injury he sustained five years ago when the war was going on in Liberia. This made him to leave without being noticed.
DUTY OFFICER: Why did he leave without confronting the men?
TEAM LEADER: Tony decided to leave the place calmly, because he knew that this man used to be a member of a rebel group and he suspected the other men to be the same. He left for fear of being attacked.
DUTY OFFICER: Having received the information, did the police move immediately to the scene?
TEAM LEADER: No. As is the practice, the Chief in charge of the local police contacted the UN police Advisor for advice and assistance with transportation. You know that the Local Police here do not have any vehicle. We agreed to take off the following day.
DUTY OFFICER: Why did you have to wait till the next day?
TEAM LEADER: Tony had advised that we needed to go there between 0600 and 1130 hour to be able to catch these people in the act.
DUTY OFFICER: What happened the next morning?
TEAM LEADER: The next day at 0540 hours, two UN police officers in company of three LNP Officers in a Nissan Patrol Jeep, #877 to the Railway Bridge and met all the men doing exactly as Tony had reported. The also looked exactly as he had described them.
DUTY OFFICER: Did the police arrest all of them?
TEAM LEADER: No. The three men that were carrying sacks dropped the sacks and ran into the bush on different directions. However those who were in the River were arrested. Several empty sacks, shovels and other washing equipments were found in the bushes. Four pieces of natural Diamond were found in one of the sacks. The suspects who attributed their activities to poverty have been placed in Police Custody and will be in court the soon.
DUTY OFFICER: Thank you very much. A file shall be opened on this and please let us know the outcome of the court trial.
TEAM LEADER: Thank you. We are following up the case and will keep you informed about any development.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

QUESTION PAPER
"ILLEGAL MINING OF DIAMOND"

Family Name: ..... First Name: ..... CP.....
Country: ..... Date.....

Q1: What was Tony's occupation?

Q2: At what time and where did Tony see the men mining diamond?

Q3: Why did Tony decide to leave the place when he found out who one of the suspects was?

Q4: Why was Tony so sure that the mining was illegal?

Q5: On what day did Tony report the illegal mining to the police?

Q6: What was the make and registration number of the vehicle used by the UN police and LNP officers?

Q7: How many UN police officers went to the crime scene?

Q8: How many diamonds were found in one of the sacks?

Q9: What was the reason given by the suspects for committing the offence?

Q10: How many suspects escaped when the police arrived the scene?

LIVEWORKSHEETS