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PROSECUTOR V. GENERAL THORN

— BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT —



ASIA-PACIFIC IHL MOOT COURT
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ROUNDS
— 2026-2027 —



ICRC

SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF PALLAVON
PROSECUTOR V. GENERAL THORN

Instructions

1. Proceedings: The hearing takes place in the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court ('ICC') at the "confirmation of charges" stage pursuant to Article 61 of the 1998 Rome Statute of the ICC ('Rome Statute'). At this stage, the Prosecutor must "support each charge with sufficient evidence to establish substantial grounds to believe that the person committed the crime charged." The Accused may "object to the charges" and "challenge the evidence presented by the Prosecutor".
2. Facts and evidence: The case is entirely fictional. The Statement of Agreed Facts includes all the facts supported by evidence that have been transmitted by the Prosecutor to the Defence, as well as facts and evidence presented by the Defence. Teams should confine themselves to the facts supplied. Neither the Prosecutor nor the Defence may introduce new evidence or facts at the hearing (Article 61(6)(c) of the Rome Statute is not applicable). Teams may nonetheless draw reasonable inferences from the facts. They may also question the credibility or weight of the evidence.
3. Procedure: The problem is not intended to raise questions of procedure other than the rights of the Accused pursuant to Articles 66 and 67 of the Rome Statute. Any other procedural questions should be ignored.
4. Jurisdiction and admissibility: Counsel may, if relevant, address issues of conflict classification or gravity. Any other issues of jurisdiction and admissibility should be ignored.
5. Applicable law: In accordance with Article 21 of the Rome Statute:
 - a. *The Court shall apply:*
 - I. *In the first place, this Statute, Elements of Crimes and its Rules of Procedure and Evidence;*
 - II. *In the second place, where appropriate, applicable treaties and the principles and rules of international law, including the established principles of the international law of armed conflict;*
 - III. *Failing that, general principles of law derived by the Court from national laws of legal systems of the world including, as appropriate, the national laws of States that would normally exercise jurisdiction over the crime, provided that those principles are not inconsistent with this Statute and with international law and internationally recognized norms and standards.*
 - b. *The Court may apply principles and rules of law as interpreted in its previous decisions.*
6. Teams are encouraged to look at the case law of international and national courts. If teams rely on decisions of national courts, these should be leading decisions and teams should expect to be asked for copies of the head note and the portion of the transcript or judgment referred to in their argument.
7. Participation to treaties: at all material times, the treaties listed in **Annex III** were in force for the Republic of Pallavon and the Republic of Damaroi.

Indicative Authorities and Research Material

International Criminal Court

- a) Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (1998): [http://legal.un.org/icc/statute/english/rome_statute\(e\).pdf](http://legal.un.org/icc/statute/english/rome_statute(e).pdf)
- b) Elements of Crimes under the Rome Statute: <https://www.icc-cpi.int/Publications/Elements-of-Crimes.pdf>

Basic IHL Documents

- a) IHL Treaties: <https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/ihl>
- b) Customary IHL: <https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/customary-ihl/>
- c) ICRC Commentaries to the Geneva Conventions and its Additional Protocols: <https://ihldatabases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/vwTreaties1949.xsp>

Cases

- a) International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia: <http://www.icty.org/en/cases/judgement-list>
- b) International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda cases: <http://unictr.unmict.org/en/cases>
- c) International Criminal Court: <https://www.icc-cpi.int/cases>
- d) International Court of Justice: <https://www.icj-cij.org/en/decisions>

Statement of Agreed Facts

1. The Targa continent is a vast and diverse landmass situated on the equator, defined by its rugged mountain ranges, and dense tropical rainforests. At its heart lies the Targan Tropics, a region of equatorial states, where the Republic of Damaroi, Republic of Bhumara and Republic of Pallavon are located.
2. For centuries, Targa was a battleground between two dominant powers, Damaroi and Bhumara. From the 18th to the early 20th century, these wars left an indelible mark on the region, claiming countless lives of soldiers due to fighting and the unforgiving natural environment. In 1905, a Declaration of Peace was signed between the great powers, creating a new landlocked buffer state, Pallavon, in the place of historically contested territory fought over by Damaroi and Bhumara. It marked a turning point for Targa with former adversaries committing to resolve their differences through diplomacy rather than war.
3. The Republic of Pallavon is located to the north-east of Damaroi, with the Targa River creating a natural frontier. To its north is Bhumara. Pallavon's territory is 39,400km² and is located in the basin of the Targan ring of fire, surrounded by extinct volcanos which create a dramatic natural wall from its neighbours. The Damaran Gap is a dense rainforest following the Targa River, and is renowned for its abundant biodiversity and low-lying terrain with several swamps and rivers. Due to dramatic and dense landscape, aerial transport is the only means for persons and goods to enter Pallavon, with the exception of two tunnelled railways lines through the mountains to Bhumara.
4. Despite its small size and population of approximately 14 million, Pallavon is a highly developed nation with a robust economy driven by advanced technology, agricultural innovation, and sustainable energy production. Its fertile volcanic soil supports a thriving agricultural sector, while hydroelectric power generated from its abundant waterfalls and heavy rainfall provides a surplus of renewable energy. Pallavon has also established itself as a hub for eco-tourism and adventure travel, attracting high numbers of international visitors.
5. Since the 1905 Declaration, peace has persisted in Targa. As a token of confidence in the region's peace, the new state of Pallavon did not develop offensive military capabilities, and instead invested its spending in sustainable, subsistence living. It maintains purely defensive capabilities including a world class close-in missile defence system and an advanced firewall, with defence personnel comprising mostly of technicians and engineers. It relies strongly on natural fortifications as ground deterrence. Pallavon retains close cultural, political, and economic ties with Bhumara, which have contributed to stability and growth in both countries.
6. Damaroi has a land mass of 550,370km² and a population of 40 million. Unlike the rugged and fertile landscapes of Pallavon and Bhumara, Damaroi's terrain is relatively flat and less fertile. Damaroi's capital city is called Como, with Damaroi recognised for its world-class science and medical institutions, and exports medical supplies across Targa. The coal industry has fuelled the economy since the industrial age, however, concerns have been raised by local scientists regarding the finite resources remaining in Damaroi. As of 2010, other States began scaling back their coal imports from Damaroi, instead, importing sustainable power from Pallavon, resulting in significant damage to Damaroi's economy.

7. Despite harmonious relations within the Targa region, Damaroi harbours deeply rooted nationalist sentiment, driven by public dissatisfaction with economic challenges and a desire to restore the country's historical prominence.
8. Emerging first in the 1980s as a grass-roots activist movement, the National Reclamation Party (NRP), gained popularity and gradually developed into a major political force in Damaroi in the early 21st century. The NRP's platform centres on the belief that the creation of Pallavon in 1905 was an unjust act that stripped Damaroi of its rightful territory. Many members of the NRP also resent Pallavon's economic success, gained from the fertile volcanic soil and abundant water resources designated to Pallavon in the Declaration of Peace.
9. NRP's long-term leader and party member, Aran Veyar, publicly pledged in 2023 that if victorious in the presidential elections, his paramount priority would be the reintegration of Pallavon by "any means necessary", to support the economic futures of all nationals and restore Damaroi's rightful claim to the territory.
10. On 20 October 2024, the NRP secured a decisive victory in Damaroi's national elections, with Aran Veyar assuming office as President. Following the elections, Ms Selina Han, President of Pallavon, extended her formal congratulations to Veyar, expressing her desire to "*maintain a harmonious and prosperous region*".
11. On 3 February, Veyar tasked General Roger Thorn, Chief of the Damaran Defence Force, with a mission to dismantle Pallavon's aerial defence systems, with the objective to leave Pallavon vulnerable for Damaroi to take control of the country. A platoon of 50 elite soldiers hand-picked by Thorn planned and prepared a stealth mission called Operation Titan, to infiltrate Pallavon territory through the Damaran Gap. The Operation, to reach and neutralise the close-in missile defence system, was expected to take 1 month to achieve. To mark themselves as a unit, each member received a 'T' tattoo on their upper arm, visible beneath the hem of the khaki t-shirts of the Titans.
12. On 10 March 2025, General Thorn led the soldiers (dubbed the 'Titans') to the Gap, where they began advancing through the rainforest. The dense, swampy terrain, heat, and swarms of disease-carrying mosquitoes made their progress slower than expected, and by the end of their first day, they had only walked 8 kilometres. After the fifth day, the squadron crossed the River Targa into Pallavon territory.
13. By 17 March, over half of the platoon was experiencing high fevers and debilitating fatigue, stalling the Operation - with five soldiers dying from disease. On 19 March as more soldiers fell sick with the illness, including General Thorn, the General instructed the five healthiest soldiers to bury the deceased and continue through the Gap, instructing them to make contact with him once they reached the clearance. General Thorn and the remaining soldiers retreated back to Damaroi in desperate need of medical attention. As they retreated, Thorn set fire to the Pallavon bank of the River Targa for 'easier access next time'.
14. The fire in the Damaran Gap was lightly covered by news broadcasters across Damaroi and Pallavon, however was brushed off as a natural fire due to its remote location. No investigation of its cause was undertaken.
15. Veyar visited Como City Hospital on 26 March, where many surviving members of Operation Titan were treated in the intensive care unit. Medical records indicate that all 40

of the returning platoon members contracted an unknown disease and exhibited severe symptoms similar to that of Typhoid. Four soldiers were admitted to the hospital in a critical condition, and subsequently placed in induced comas to aid their recovery.

16. Security footage from the hospital recorded a conversation between Veyar and Thorn:

Thorn: *The jungle was just too much. I made sure we got the strongest soldiers in the country but we didn't stand a chance. When we go back in, we need to be stronger.*

Veyar: *I hear you General. Let me see if I can pull some strings to get you and the crew a boost to get you back on your feet even mightier than last time.*

Thorn: *We'll take any help we can get. I don't care what it takes.*

17. A few days later, Veyar visited Starr Institute, Damaroi's top biomedical university and research centre, requesting their expertise for a "top-secret matter of national security". During the visit, Veyar and head scientist Dr. Nora Loff discussed using an experimental drug "Jaku" on the incapacitated soldiers. According to Dr Loff, Jaku could help restore their health and enhance their immunity from future disease. Dr Loff noted the Jaku should also increase the muscle strength and endurance. Despite it being in early stages of development, she assured Veyar that Jaku was ready for human trials and if it worked, would put Damaroi back on the map as a leader in biomedical sciences. Later that day, Veyar called General Thorn to pass on all the information received from Dr Loff. The General agreed to the proposal without hesitation, saying "*if the Doc says it's good to go, then it can't be wrong. Some of the guys are holding on for their lives. If it you think it'll help, I say we give it to the whole group. Their conditions... *coughs*... their conditions aren't getting better with the regular stuff*".
18. On 2 April, Dr Loff began administering Jaku in half-doses through injections to all platoon members, including General Thorn. Four soldiers remained in comas and were treated without their consent, while the conscious soldiers verbally agreed to the treatment. Injections continued daily and after three days, the four soldiers woke from their comas. Reports on recovery of the soldiers were varied: some soldiers reported a full recovery, while many others reported severe headaches, disorientation and episodes of paranoia.
19. Dr. Loff assured General Thorn that these symptoms were temporary and suggested increasing the dosage for optimal results. General Thorn, having experienced newfound strength himself from the Jaku, gave Dr Loff his approval on behalf of the Titans. Dr Loff increased the dosage to full injections without notifying or obtaining further consent from any of the soldiers.
20. Following the increased dosage, the recovery was miraculous with all 40 soldiers regaining full health and demonstrating performance levels in medical exams that exceeded expectations. Their physical capabilities continued to improve, surpassing all initial predictions, and their combat readiness was assessed as exceptional. Headaches subsided, however the soldiers continued to experience sporadic episodes of disorientation and paranoia. Despite the persisting side-effects, on 10 April the group was deemed fit, and no further injections were administered.
21. Under General Thorn's leadership, the squadron resumed training and preparation to re-enter the Damaran Gap for Operation Titan 2.0. During this time no contact had been made

by the five soldiers who continued through the Gap during their initial mission, and no news had been heard suggesting their success in carrying forward the Operation.

22. On 20 April, *Targa Today!*, a regional media outlet, published a leaked story claiming that Damaroi was developing “super soldiers” to take over Pallavon’s land, sparking rumours and disbelief among commentators. President Veyar denied the allegations claiming the treatment to be “for rehabilitation only”.

23. In a public statement on 22 April, President Han stated

“I am surprised and concerned by the report. We have always maintained good relations with Damaroi. While I would like to believe this is a misunderstanding or exaggeration, we are not blind to the NRP’s intentions to steal our land. I must send this message to Veyar: our land is impenetrable. We have world-class defence systems, and formidable natural fortresses. Even more valuable than that, our people’s allegiance to Pallavon is unshakable. You will never break us, and we will never cede.”

24. On 1 June, General Thorn led Operation Titan 2.0 back into the Damaran Gap, this time making fast progress and with the squad seemingly unaffected by the mosquitoes. Notwithstanding their improved resistance, the conditions were testing, but the Titans proceeded to reach the Gap within one week, and by 8 June had reached the clearing on the other side. After resting at the clearing for only a few hours, the Titans continued towards Santo, a small city in the south of Pallavon.

25. Upon seeing the armed soldiers approaching on foot in the distance, the residents of Santo frantically organised a make-shift defence effort. They armed themselves with hunting rifles, machetes, and other tools commonly used for farming and protection against wildlife. Improvised barricades of vehicles, furniture and other sturdy materials were erected at key entry points to the town, and villagers took positions along vantage points at the outskirts and from apartment windows, prepared to repel the advancing force.

26. When the Titans arrived, the townspeople opened fire. The Titans responded to the confrontation with manoeuvres using military-grade explosives, rifles and brute force to counterattack and effectively dismantle the barricade. The confrontations at the barricade resulted in the deaths of 45 villagers and the injury of 30 more. Despite receiving bullet wounds and other lacerations, the Titans were only momentarily set back and proceeded to enter the town. The remaining residents of Santo put down their weapons and fled into their houses for refuge. One resident live-streamed their reaction during the incursion on social media, however the video showed only fragments of the fighting in low quality.

27. Following the clash, the Titans took control of the town, confiscating all personal mobile devices to prevent the spread of information or the identity of the Titans. They occupied several abandoned houses to set up base, reconnect with Damaroi and rest and recover. All other towns people were too afraid to leave their houses in fear of coming across a Titan.

28. By nightfall, news quickly spread about the invasion and capture of Santo by “ferocious Damaran fighters”, and President Han issued an urgent address to the nation. On a live broadcast, President Han stated

“Today, Damaroi has launched an unprovoked and barbaric attack on Santo, violating international law and imperilling our sovereignty. This is a call to action for all

Pavallons. Under my executive order, all able-bodied men aged 18-30 must report immediately for conscription, and women are also encouraged to join the fight. For those unable to serve, your support on the home front is vital. I solemnly ask you to help arm our defences, support our soldiers, and strengthen our communities. Together, we will defend our homeland and show the world that Pallavon will never fall. Long live Pallavon!"

29. Following the mass conscription order, over 2 million soldiers made their way to town halls to register themselves for the national defence force. For the first time, Pallavon began building its offensive fighting capacities. Using the railway lines, Bhumara provided Pallavon with funds and resources, including weapons, ammunition and experienced trainers. Training camps were quickly established across Pallavon to prepare the new recruits, with town halls converted into such training camps, where recruits were taught basic combat skills, tactical manoeuvres, and survival techniques. Efforts were also made to fortify defences surrounding the major cities.
30. The Sky-2-Rock System (S2R System) is Pallavon's close-in missile defence system. This system relies on an extensive network of satellite sensors, ground-based radars, infrared detectors, and electro-optical systems strategically positioned across the country to ensure rapid detection and interception of incoming threats. Since the S2R System was acquired over a decade ago, it has served as a military deterrence and was integrated into the civilian air-traffic control systems to provide altitude, range, and azimuth data of aircraft passing through or landing in Pallavon territory. Aviation is the primary means of transport in and out of Pallavon, and these sensors support the safe travel of approximately 800 passenger and cargo flights per day.
31. On the night of 1 July, the Titans entered Sun Valley, a rocky escarpment where one of Pallavon's ground-based tracking radars is located. Swiftly, the Titans scaled the escarpment without detection, their training and enhanced strength paying off. Once at the radar installation, they neutralised the soldiers on guard and surrounded the site. They then proceeded to sever the support cables and destabilise the foundation of the installation. The radar collapsed rendering the infrastructure damaged beyond repair. No deaths or injuries of civilians were recorded during the operation.
32. As had been calculated by General Thorn, the destruction of the tracking radar created a critical blind spot in Pallavon's sensor network, leaving a portion of its airspace unmonitored. While the remaining sensors in the S2R System compensated for most of the lost coverage, the gap allowed some aerial vessels to go undetected, particularly when flying at lower altitudes. On 2 July, this lapse in air traffic monitoring led to a mid-air collision between two civilian planes over the Sun Valley, resulting in the deaths of all 300 passengers and crew. The devastating loss of life sent shockwaves and disbelief through Pallavon. The incident grew grief and solidarity among Pallavons, and when the attack on the installation was discovered, deepened the nation's determination to stand against Damaroi.
33. To prevent further mid-air collisions, President Han ordered an immediate halt to all aircraft operations in Pallavon. This decision placed immense strain on the nation's ability to import essential goods and resources. The suspension disrupted supply chains, leaving the population vulnerable to shortages of externally sourced foods, medical supplies, and other critical necessities.

34. General Thorn relayed the success of the Titan's Operation to Veyar. Seizing the opportunity presented by the compromised radar network, Damaroi forces launched a barrage of missiles from Damaroi territory against Pallavon. Whilst the remaining sensors in the S2R System intercepted 90% of the missiles, several cruise missiles penetrated the defence system, striking several training facilities, incapacitating the new troops, and destroying infrastructure and some weapons stocks. The strikes also inflicted significant damage to the homes located on the perimeter of the facility.
35. A phone call between General Thorn and President Veyar was recorded on 4 July:
- Veyar: Stunning work General. You've made Damaroi proud of what you've become and what you've accomplished.*
- Thorn: All thanks to you. I admit though, I can feel the benefits of Jaku is wearing off.*
- Veyar: Well the Jaku got you through the hardest part, just stay focused on the work. You gave us the break we needed and we are stinging them where it hurts. You're my man on the inside, meaning you are our eyes and ears. Gather the Titans, get me some sound intel and a plan. I'll leave it with you to figure out what that looks like.*
- Thorn: I won't let you down.*
36. The airstrike on the training facilities was a blow to Pallavon. Hospitals across the country became inundated with wounded soldiers and civilians from the attacks. Medical resources quickly became scarce and without air transport no new supplies could come into the country.
37. Minutes from a crisis coordination meeting held by Pallavon's Cabinet on 5 July reveal that President Han, with counsel from her Ministers, decided to repurpose "*schools of an area greater than 2 hectares and within 1 kilometre from the train network as new sites to train recruits and prepare operations.*" The minutes also note that "*the decision was made to make full use of their expansive grounds, 'fit for purpose' classrooms, and proximity to the railway to receive military equipment.*" Of the 20 schools across the nation that fit this description, 12 were suspended from educational activities and converted into military facilities.
38. The Titans drove stolen vehicles around the country collecting images, recordings, coordinates, time of activity and other relevant details on the repurposed schools. Titan intelligence also observed a suspicious pop-up charity called 'Farmers for Freedom', a group of farmers and community volunteers wearing brown farm clothes who provided door-to-door donations of fresh produce to members of the community. While the charity service appeared genuine, the Titans were suspicious of ulterior motives due to the long conversations observed between the deliverer and the clients.
39. On 11 July, the following data was conveyed directly from Thorn to Veyar:
- Over 300 images and videos identifying newly recruited Pallavon military personnel arriving and departing various school premises' and conducting combat drills on the sports fields, as well as photographs of personal vehicles parked at and near school entrances, including licence plates and markings;

- b. Activity logs of deliveries to the 12 schools, including deliveries of computers and electronics, crates carrying rifles and ammunition, Farmers for Freedom boxes labelled as fresh produce, and military uniforms and boots;
- c. On the nights of 6-7 July, lights were observed in several classrooms with silhouettes pacing by the window frequently, suggesting late-night planning sessions or operational briefings;
- d. Hand-drawn maps showing the layout of each school converted into training camps, including entry points, guard positions, and locations of key structures like barracks, storage areas, and training zones;
- e. Reports of fuel rationing at gas stations, with long queues stretching for several blocks, indicating logistical strain and potential resource shortages in Pallavon.

In addition to the operational intelligence, an update on the health and morale of the Titans was also provided:

- f. Several Titan squad members were experiencing increased physical fatigue and exhaustion each day, despite the initial strength gained from the Jaku injections;
- g. All Titans reported varied degrees of paranoia and uneasy feelings, with many concerned that their identities and mission were no longer covert. During reconnaissance missions, several members reported feeling as though they were being followed or watched by members of the local community.

40. In light of the intelligence gathered, Thorn provided Veyar with the recommendation to attack the schools while the intelligence was up to date. Over 13 to 14 July, heavy missile strikes hit the sites, killing and injuring hundreds of training soldiers and reducing the classrooms to rubble. Hospitals were already overwhelmed by the influx of casualties from previous attacks and were forced to ration remaining medical supplies. As a result, patients with minor to moderate trauma injuries were turned away due to constraints on medical resources.

41. A pattern then emerged: each time a facility was targeted, another school of the same size and location was evacuated and converted into a military base. After the attacks on 13-14 July, five other schools that satisfied the given criteria for training facilities were suspended and repurposed. These movements were observed and monitored closely by the Titans, and following the confirmation of their conversion, strikes were carried out on the premises.

42. On 20 July, the remaining three schools were then dismissed from teaching, however no positive action had yet been taken to use the premises for military purposes. Having closely observed the pattern of re-establishing schools as training facilities in the past, General Thorn gave the order to target all remaining schools fitting the criteria, and provided strike coordinates.

Veyar: Are you sure we should strike them? We don't have any confirmation the schools are actually being used as facilities...

Thorn: The pattern is obvious, every school of that size is being converted. Even if they are not being used now, their purpose is clear. Plus, the grounds have already been evacuated. Our best course of action would be to destroy them before Pallavon has the

chance use them against us. But to minimise risk of harming civilians, the operation should be carried out at night when there is no one there.

43. At 1:10 am on 22 July, a barrage of missiles was launched from Como City to coordinates provided by Thorn. Most missiles were intercepted by the S2R System, however, some broke through. Two schools were hit once, causing partial damage the facilities. The third school received multiple strikes, obliterating the buildings, killing cleaning staff employed by the school, and severely damaging surrounding workplaces and roads.
44. Online rhetoric within Pallavon included significant online support to boost the morale of fighters and encourage community members to donate their time and goods to strengthen Pallavon. A social media post by the Farmers for Freedom page said *“Volunteers Needed! Join us on 28 July at the Barna Depot to pack boxes for our heroes. Every box you pack is a lifeline for the families of our brave soldiers defending our country, our freedom, and our dignity. Let’s stand together to show what Pallavon is made of.”* It was later reposted by the official account of President Han.
45. The Farmers for Freedom deliveries continued to rouse concern amongst the Titans. The delivery boxes were increasing in size, and some houses received multiple deliveries per day.
46. On the morning of 28 July, General Thorn entered the warehouse on foot, joining a flood of volunteers, to take a closer look. He bore no weapon and wore his regular Titan khaki uniform, which blended seamlessly with the clothing of the farmers and volunteers. He inconspicuously entered and joined the many volunteers packaging the goods without introducing himself as a volunteer. He observed that beneath the fresh produce in the boxes lay neatly packed items such as small arms ammunition, walkie talkies, medical kits and first-aid guides, and instructions to assemble improvised explosive devices.
47. Volunteers who have since come forward as witnesses recall a conversation occurring that day in the presence of Lucien Baxter, a former Pallavon TV personality, since recruited to the Pallavon military who, along with a handful of other military personnel, was patrolling the depot as an exceptional crowd control measure. During the conversation, volunteers shared rumours about a purported military operation from Bhumara to assist Pallavon. Thorn also contributed to the conversation with a fake Pallavon accent, sharing that he had heard rumours that “the Titans would attack the Barna hydro-generator that night”. After the conversation, Thorn then left the warehouse. Throughout the remainder of the day, other Titans jammed several communications frequencies with a range of barely intelligible mentions of the Barna hydro-generator and 28 July.
48. At 21:00, approximately 200 Pallavon soldiers closed in on Barna hydro-generator, with noticeably advanced weapons, armoured vehicles and sophisticated equipment. The Titans launched an assault from behind, though quickly realised that they had grossly underestimated the Pallavon forces. Thorn ordered a retreat. The bloody confrontation killed 40 Pallavon soldiers, including Lucien Baxter, and several Titans. Only Thorn and four other Titans survived the retreat.
49. President Han triumphantly shared news of the Titan’s defeat in a press conference on 29 July.

“Thanks to the bravery of our community and volunteers, we finally uncovered the Titans’ identities and thwarted their cowardly attack. This victory belongs to all of us. Our volunteers can take pride in knowing that their vigilance helped weaken the terrorists who dare to call themselves Titans. I encourage every citizen to continue contributing with all their might to keep the pressure on these enemies of our nation.”

50. In the days following the press conference, images of the Titans’ faces taken from the recent battle began circulating on social media, exposing their previously concealed identities. These images, captured during reconnaissance missions and shared by Pallavon citizens and volunteers, spread rapidly across social media platforms.

51. Convinced that the Farmers for Freedom volunteers were operating as an intelligence network and collaborating with Pallavon’s military, the five remaining Titans decided that the volunteers posed too great a threat to their mission to be left unchecked. The circulation of their images on social media only deepened their fears, as the Titans believed they were being tracked and identified by the community. In a call with Veyar, General Thorn notified that he was coordinating “one ‘final’ attack on Barna Depot to neutralise the encroaching danger”.

***Thorn:** it’s a necessary measure to eliminate the threat that is creeping up on us more and more every day. After this we will leave the larger fight against Pallavon to you.*

***Veyar:** General, respectfully, I ask you to think rationally. This doesn’t sound like you. We will send reinforcements and get you and the Titans out of there in a few days. Just stay put and keep a low profile.*

General Thorn ended the call without responding.

52. On 31 July, the Titans stormed the Barna Depot, led by Thorn, and opened fire on the volunteers. Many frantic volunteers took cover while some clearly scrambled for weapons hidden in the produce boxes. Using the weapons and resources available in the depot, several volunteers managed to return fire and others distracted the Titans. Outnumbered, the Titans were ultimately disarmed and held down by the volunteers until they were handed over to Pallavon military officers. The fight at the depot left dozens of volunteers killed and wounded.

53. In the wake of the Titans’ capture, President Han issued a formal communication to President Veyar, proposing a ceasefire in exchange for the safe return of the detained Titans. The bodies of the five Titans who continued in the initial operation were also recovered, with forensics placing their deaths in early April 2025. The communication, delivered through diplomatic channels, read: *“in the interest of restoring peace and stability to Targa, Pallavon is prepared to negotiate the repatriation of the captured and deceased Titans. In return, we demand an immediate cessation of all hostilities, a formal commitment to respect Pallavon’s sovereignty, and assurances that Damaroi will refrain from further acts of aggression. This is an opportunity to end the bloodshed and prevent further loss of life on both sides. We urge you to consider this pathway to peace for the sake of our nations and the people we serve.”*

54. In his response, President Veyar expressed a willingness to engage in dialogue, stating that *“Damaroi is prepared to discuss terms for the safe return of our soldiers. However, any agreement must ensure the protection of Damaroi’s interests and the security of our people. Let us meet at a neutral location to finalize the terms of this accord.”* The exchange marked

the beginning of a tense negotiation process. No prosecutions of any actors were negotiated during the peace dialogues, and to this day, Damaroi has refrained from investigating the conduct of the Titans.

55. On 1 of March 2026, the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (“ICC”) announced the opening of a preliminary examination into the Conduct of the Titans and on 10 March 2026, requested ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I to open a *proprio motu* investigation pursuant to Articles 15(3) and 53(1) of the ICC Statute and Rules 48 and 50(2) of the ICC Rules of Procedure and Evidence (“RPE”). On 28 April 2026, ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I authorised said investigation pursuant to Article 15(4) of the ICC Statute and Rule 50(5) of the ICC RPE.
56. On 20 May 2026, pursuant to an ex parte Prosecution application, ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I issued a summons to appear for General Thorn pursuant to Article 58(7) of the ICC Statute in relation to the charges included in Annex I and II. On 1 June 2026, General Thorn willingly travelled to The Hague, The Netherlands and made an initial appearance on 15 June 2026 pursuant to Article 60(1) of the ICC Statute and Rule 121(1) of the ICC RPE. He maintained that he was innocent of all the allegations levelled against him in Annex I and II, calling the allegations misconceived and asserted his conduct was wholly compliant with the rules of war.

Annex I: Charges (for National Rounds only)

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER I

Documents containing the charges against General Thorn

The Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (“ICC”) herewith submits the Document Containing the Charges against General Roger Thorn

At The Hague, The Netherlands

Count 1

In relation to the injections of Jaku on Titan soldiers between 2 to 10 April 2025

On the basis of individual criminal responsibility, for aiding, abetting or otherwise assisting in its commission or its attempted commission, pursuant to Article 25(3)(c) Rome Statute

The war crime of torture or inhuman treatment, including biological experiments pursuant to Article 8(2)(a)(ii) of the Rome Statute.

Count 2

With respect to the missile airstrike on the schools on 22 July 2025

On the basis of individual criminal responsibility, for ordering, soliciting or inducing the commission of such a crime which in fact occurs or is attempted as per Article 25(3)(b) of the Rome Statute

The war crime of intentionally directing attacks against civilian objects, that is, objects which are not military objectives pursuant to Article 8(2)(b)(ii) of the Rome Statute

Annex II: Charges (for Regional Rounds only)

- Charges for Regional Rounds will be released at a later date -

Annex III: Applicable treaties

TREATY	DAMAROI	PALLAVON	BHUMARA
Charter of the United Nations (1945)	✓	✓	✓
Geneva Convention I on Wounded And Sick in Armed Forces In The Field (1949)	✓	✓	✓
Geneva Convention II on Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked of Armed Forces at Sea (1949)	✓	✓	✓
Geneva Convention III on Prisoners of War (1949)	✓	✓	✓
Geneva Convention IV on Civilians (1949)	✓	✓	✓
Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions (1977)	✓	✓	✓
Additional Protocol II to the Geneva Conventions (1977)	✓	✓	✓
Hague Convention (IV) Respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land (1907)	✓	✓	✓
Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969)	✓	✓	✓
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (1998)	✓	✓	✓

Annex IV: Map



*Map created using AI technologies