

Dag Hammarskjöld and the fatal air crash

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In 1961 UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld was killed in an air crash leading to decades of speculations on what really happened.

00:31 Swedish radio reporter September 18 1961

All at the UN are waiting for further reports but hope is lessening every minute with no message on whether the Secretary-General has been found alive. Nobody wants to discuss what will happen to the UN and its work if Dag Hammarskjöld has perished.

00:47 Karin Hållsten

When civil war broke out in the Congo in 1961, for the whole world peace was at stake.

00:52 Dag Hammarskjöld

The problem facing the Congo is one of peace or war, and not only in the Congo.

00:58 Karin Hållsten

In the center stands the UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld.

1:04 Swedish radio reporter, September 18 1961

He can be described as the most important man in the world right now.

1:07 Mama Kankasa

Because when I expected Hammarskjöld to come and save us.....

1:12 Karin Hållsten

But on his way to the peace talks, his plane crashes.

1:16 Swedish radio reporter, September 18 1961

In a Reuter telegram from Ndola in Northern Rhodesia only a few minutes ago, we are told Secretary-General Hammarskjöld has perished ...

1:26 Karin Hållsten

... a crash that is going to puzzle the whole world for decades.

1:30 Susan Williams

There was no question in my mind that there was a cover up regarding what happened about Hammarskjöld's death.

1:36 Bengt Rösiö

It is most peculiar. If a plane disappears during landing, then they have to do something.

1:47 Karin Hållsten

You are listening to P3 documentary about Dag Hammarskjöld and the fatal plane crash. My name is Karin Hållsten.

1:57 Karin Hållsten

September 17 1961, a DC6, *Albertina*, readies for take-off from the capital of the Congo, Leopoldville. The plane will take UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld to Ndola to mediate peace in a war where both the USA and the Soviet Union are about to be involved.

2:17 Björn Virving

It was a very risky flight, they knew that, which explains why they were not willing to say where they were going.

2:26 Karin Hållsten

Björn Virving has written the book "*Termitstacken*" in which he develops his theory on what happened to the DC6 *Albertina* and those on board on that September night. For this, he refers to a unique collection of documents and maps collected by his father in Ndola in the sixties.

2:40 Björn Virving

These are pictures from the crash site, my father's negatives.

2:49 Karin Hållsten

Aircraft in the Congo had often been shot at. *Albertina* had itself been hit during a recent mission and the crew keep the route secret, deliberately giving wrong a destination and not flying on the most obvious route. They also want to avoid the much troubled Katanga where a jet plane, a Fouga Magister, had been attacking other planes.

3:11 Björn Virving

The reason for flying this route is because they did not dare fly over Katanga territory. They knew about the Fouga over Kamina but there were other planes there too. So they took this big detour.

3:25 Karin Hållsten

On the hot tarmac in Leopoldville, journalists are waiting for Dag Hammarskjöld by the wrong aircraft as UN staff and the plane's crew members enter through the rear door. From archive footage, we can see them entering SEBDY *Albertina*. The experienced Captain Pär-Eric Hallonquist with his crew, secretary Alice Lalande in a floral-patterned summer dress and UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld in a light suit and wearing sun glasses. In total six persons.

4:00 Björn Virving

1550 SEBDY *Albertina* takes off and then, we can't be sure but most reckon they flew towards Lake Tanganyika and then straight south.

4:17 Karin Hållsten

They are flying on radio silence for hours, not revealing where they are. Only when approaching Ndola does Captain Pär-Eric Hallonquist call up the control tower, confirming his altitude reading and then receiving clearance for landing.

4:31 Björn Virving

And there are a number of witnesses seeing *Albertina* coming in over the runway, passing the airfield, and then pass over the forest area over here. And it never returns.

4:51 Swedish radio reporter, September 18 1961

It was night at the UN Headquarters here in Manhattan when the first messages from the UN Command in Leopoldville come in saying that they have no information about where Dag Hammarskjöld's plane has gone.

5:06 Karin Hållsten

Dag Hammarskjöld is the Swede that eight years previously had unexpectedly been appointed UN Secretary-General.

5:12 Swedish radio voice, 1961

He was at that time unknown on the international arena. A forty-eight year old, quiet and respectable bachelor from neutral Sweden, a diplomat and technician acceptable to both West and East.

5:22 Karin Hållsten

He is an economist, having worked at the National Bank (Riksbanken), the Department of Finance and the Foreign Ministry and as a non-political state advisor to the government. When the UN's first Secretary-General Trygve Lie openly supports the USA in the Korean War and so falling out with the Soviet Union, his position becomes untenable. He resigns and the UN starts searching for a neutral civil servant to take over, the SF-journal reports.

5:52 Swedish radio voice, 1961

Idlewild Airport, New York. The new Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dag Hammarskjöld, has landed on American soil to take up his important post. Former Secretary-General Trygve Lie, a police protection unit and a hoard of photographers and journalists are waiting.

6:08 Karin Hållsten

Sture Linnér, diplomat and close friend and colleague of Dag Hammarskjöld. He died in 2010 but was interviewed by P3 Dokumentary's Fredrik Jonson 2007.

6:18 Sture Linnér

I think the big powers regarded him as colourless enough and not much of a danger from their point of view, being easy for them to manoeuvre. They would take care of the big political game and Dag would be the bureaucrat, the senior civil servant who would follow their orders. But it didn't turn out that way.

6:47 Dag Hammarskjöld

"I want to do a job – not to talk about it. Not even afterwards."

6:54 Karin Hållsten

Dag Hammarskjöld regards his mission as to make the UN as efficient as possible. The SF journal follows his first period in New York.

"To me, it seems a challenging task, to try to develop the UN administrative organization into the most efficient instrument possible."

7:12 Sture Linnér

He showed a quite different independence to what any could possibly have imagined. And he introduced a new dimension, not just what the European big powers and the US were thinking but to allow for what smaller countries around the world wanted to do.

"I, Dag Hammarskjöld, solemnly swear.."

7:38 Karin Hållsten

Dag Hammarskjöld started by going from floor to floor in the UN building in New York, shaking hands with all the staff.

".....to exercise in all loyalty, discretion and conscience.."

7:51 Karin Hållsten

And he sets out to co-ordinate and increase the efficiency of the organization

".....not to seek or accept instructions in regard to the performance of my duties.."

7:57 Karin Hållsten

He learns the UN Charter by heart and carries it always with him.

".. from any government or other authority external to the Organization."

8:07 Karin Hållsten

Soon it will be clear that his predecessor Trygve Lie was correct when he passed on the world's most impossible job.

".. Dag Hammarskjöld, I wish you from the bottom of my heart welcome to New York and the United Nations headquarters. You are going to take over the most impossible job on earth but I wish you all the luck and all the best .."

"Thank you so much for your kind words!"

8:37 UN HQ New York and Vice UNSG Jan Eliasson

8:42 Karin Hållsten

Jan Eliasson is working in New York, Deputy Secretary-General at the UN, a social democrat and former Foreign Minister. To him, Dag Hammarskjöld has always been a role model.

8:53 Jan Eliasson

He was a unique personality and left his mark on the secretariat here. He was a dominating personality but one with full integrity and was met with great respect by all. First of all, what made him special was this enormous interest and engagement in cultural matters. He could sit down with a sculptor over a weekend, he could listen to music for a whole evening, silently with guests round the dinner table. He could translate French poetry for the Swedish Academy. He could sit down with the philosopher Buber in Jerusalem for several days.

9:38 Karin Hållsten

Dag Hammarskjöld was a member of the Swedish Academy. He translated books and, from the age of twenty, he kept some kind of diary with texts, thoughts and poems which he called 'negotiations with himself and God'. The book was published after his death with the title "*Markings*." But he was also a devoted photographer and outdoors person, enjoying walking in the Swedish mountains.

(From a Swedish radio documentary)

Dag Hammarskjöld: "My mountaineering has been exaggerated by all this publicity frenzy. I am simply attracted to the Swedish mountains!"

Radio voice: "After lunch, a press conference was held in the Hotel Vaccona where Hammarskjöld with conventional diplomacy answered all questions. His pipe which under stress he would turn between his fingers was that day replaced by a pen.

10:29 Karin Hållsten

We listen again to UN Deputy SG Jan Eliasson.

10:33 Jan Eliasson

Looking at his actions, and reading his speeches which he usually wrote himself, you can ask yourself: 'How on earth could he have found time to do all this?'

10:43 (From a Swedish radio documentary)

"The Soviets next. No break, no rest for Mr. Hammarskjöld ..."

10:46 Karin Hållsten

.. noted the SF-journal.

10:54 Karin Hållsten

In 1953 Hammarskjöld writes in "*Markings*":

'Benevolence is simply to always be there for others, never seek oneself.'

The same year he becomes the new Secretary-General of the UN.

11:08 Jan Eliasson

Back in 1953, the UN was very different when he took the post. We were in the middle of the darkest part of the Cold War. The tension between the western bloc, the USA, and the eastern bloc, the Soviet Union was deep. This influenced work at the UN, with such strong differences between the USA and the Soviet Union.

11:40 Karin Hållsten

The Cold War and the great tension between the USA and the Soviet Union makes the work of the UN SG very difficult, putting Hammarskjöld to the test many times. With his diplomatic strengths, he succeeds firstly in releasing fifteen captured UN pilots and when Israel, Great Britain and France attack Egypt in 1956, he succeeds in forcing through a resolution for a peacekeeping force to solve what was called the 'Suez crisis'.

12:08 Radio commentator

'Hammarskjöld, as announced, has received the full support of Egypt in his attempts to establish an international force representing the UN which will not only be used in the crisis in the Middle East but anywhere in the world where peace is threatened.'

12:22 Karin Hållsten

This effort marks great progress by the UN and for Dag Hammarskjöld.

12:28 Radio commentator

'Countless people worldwide are now depending on Hammarskjöld's success. He can fairly be described as the most important person in the world right now.'

12:41 Karin Hållsten

At the end of the 50s and early 60s, many European colonies in Africa gain independence. This leads to the UN growing fast.

12:51 Radio commentator

'Fifteen new African states this year have become members of the United Nations.'

12:55 Karin Hållsten

Swedish Radio reports: 'They are former colonies that have freed themselves from dependence of their European masters.'

13:04 Karin Hållsten

This puts the UN to the fore in new tasks, says Jan Eliasson.

13:08 Jan Eliasson

During the 60s, many African states achieved their independence. This led to bloody and difficult conflicts, especially the Congo.

13:19 Karin Hållsten

That the conflict in the Congo would be difficult, and a lot was at stake, was realized early by Dag Hammarskjöld:

'The problem facing the Congo is one of peace or war. And not only in the Congo.'

13:38 Karin Hållsten

The Belgian colony of the Congo becomes independent in 1960. But chaos breaks out at once. Dag Hammarskjöld appoints the diplomat Sture Linnér as head of the UN Civil Program and sends him to the capital of the Congo, Leopoldville.

13:54 Sture Linnér

Dag said to me, when we were saying goodbye, this mission officially will last for a week or two but ..hm-hm.. he pondered and said 'if I was you, I would bring a couple of extra suitcases as it might take some time!' As I had already said in Liberia, it will be good to have you on the spot and that you can stay there' and it turned out to be several years.

14:28 Radio voice

'And now to the chaotic Congo where our correspondent Åke Sparring reports from Leopoldville. Some hours ago, Leopoldville was still quiet but a quiet that you can feel right before a bomb blasts.'

14:42 Karin Hållsten

To Leopoldville also where Bengt Rösiö arrives as Swedish ambassador in 1961.

14:47 Bengt Rösiö

The country was impossible to govern. It was too big, a problem you often face in Africa where a handful of Europeans had been running the country and when they leave, it becomes a free-for-all.

15:11 Radio voice

The situation here is incredible. Civil war could break out any minute.

15:18 Bengt Rösiö

Congo was a rich country – and still is – and the most valuable thing was the copper, mostly in Katanga, down south.

15:28 Karin Hållsten

In Katanga, in the South East, there were mines with valuable copper and uranium.

15:34 Radio voice

It must be mentioned that Katanga earns four fifths of Congo's national revenue.

15:42 Karin Hållsten

In practicality, everything here is run by the Belgian company 'Union Minière' with its head office in Brussels and with strong ties with Great Britain. But the mines are also extremely important to the USA. It was from here the Americans got the uranium for the nuclear bombs they dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki during WW2. Now they don't want anybody else to have access to the minerals, certainly not the Russians. Many believe that the leader in the region, Moïse Tshombe, is complicit with Belgium and Great Britain, a sort of marionette. And when he declares independence for Katanga, the civil war becomes a reality. A civil war that involves the world's big powers.

16:24 Radio voice

'Since the 12th of July, the Congo crisis has dominated the UN scene. The Security Council has arranged a series of meetings and accepted a number of resolutions which led to firmer UN engagement in the Congo. Dag Hammarskjöld has been back and forth between Leopoldville and Elisabethville and UN headquarters in Manhattan.

16:45 Karin Hållsten

The Prime Minister of the Congo, Patrice Lumumba, turns to the UN which sends a peace-keeping force but in frustration he also asks the Soviet Union for help. And now

the Congo becomes a new playground for the Cold War. America's CIA has agents on the spot and regards the democratically elected Lumumba as an enemy and sees that he is removed in a military coup in September 1960. Susan Williams is a researcher at the University of London and the writer of the book "*Who killed Hammarskjöld?*"

17:19 Susan Williams

There were many reasons for being interested in the role of the CIA in that part of Africa at the time, including the fact that we have evidence that the CIA was very busy in Katanga. It was also trying to bring about Patrice Lumumba's death and we have documentation that shows they wanted him dead. And they had sent over plans which said 'Kill Lumumba'. I mean, even stories about getting toothpastes with poison in them and so on.

17:56 Karin Hållsten

The CIA had for so long planned to kill the Soviet-friendly Prime Minister that they prepared poisoned toothpaste. That he is removed is a serious setback for the UN, having thus failed to protect democracy and unite the country. Dag Hammarskjöld is under heavy pressure in the UN General Assembly and the Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev demands his resignation, reports Swedish Radio from New York.

18:21 Radio Voice

"He was not satisfied just calling him a tool for American colonialism and imperialism – but went further suggesting that the Secretary-General's post should be abolished."

18:41 Karin Hållsten

UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson.

18:44 Jan Eliasson

The most famous moment shown on film and TV was when the Soviet leader Khrushchev insulted him in front of the General Assembly, hammering his fist.

18:56 Radio Voice

After Nikita Khrushchev's attack, only one question was hanging in the air in UN corridors: Will Dag Hammarskjöld resign?

19:04 Jan Eliasson

And Hammarskjöld's cool but clear answer was that he was elected by UN member states, especially small and medium sized states. And as long as he had their confidence, he was not going to resign.

19:17 Dag Hammarskjöld

I shall remain in my post during the term of my office as a servant of the Organization in the interest ...

19:28 Jan Eliasson

He dismisses that challenge in a way that is now a part of UN history.

19:39 Dag Hammarskjöld

I shall remain in my post during the term of my office as a servant of the Organization in the interest of all those other nations, as long as they wish me to do so. In this context the representative of the Soviet Union spoke of courage. It is very easy to resign. It is not so easy to stay on. It is very easy to bow to the wishes of a Big Power. It is another matter to resist.

20:15 Karin Hållsten

On TV, we see UN delegates applauding and standing up. But in the middle sits Nikita Khrushchev, hammering his fists on the desk.

20:28 Radio Voice

The Soviet leader started hitting his desk with both hands. Asked what this gesture meant, we were told this was a Russian way to show disapproval.

20:41 Karin Hållsten

In January 1961, Prime Minister Lumumba was arrested by the military. He is seriously abused, dragged into a car in the capital, Leopoldville, before being flown to Katanga where he is executed. Even today, despite uncertainties on issues, it is clear that Belgian officers took part in this. Even the American CIA played an important role. Eight months later, Hammarskjöld is doing his fourth and final trip to the Congo as peace broker.

21:18 Karin Hållsten

You are listening to P3 Documentary about Dag Hammarskjöld and the fatal crash – my name is Karin Hållsten.

21:26 Karin Hållsten

On September 13 1961, Hammarskjöld is flying to the Congo. The country has only been independent for a year but is about to collapse. The democratically elected Prime Minister has been removed and assassinated. In the rich mining region of Katanga, which had declared independence, there is total war. UN peacekeeping forces have met strong opposition and forced to take to arms. Dag Hammarskjöld is needed on the spot.

21:54 Radio Voice

The same day Hammarskjöld arrived in Leopoldville, the UN authorities in Katanga started what was believed to be the final action against the Katanga gendarmerie's foreign officers. The campaign met unexpectedly hard resistance and led to UN forces becoming involved in the war.

22:15 Karin Hållsten

In the capital Leopoldville, Dag Hammarskjöld and Ambassador Bengt Rösiö met.

22:22 Bengt Rösiö

We met at a big bloody "jippo" (event sic) and something had gone wrong in the Congo and he had, one way or another, to get the situation right again and find out what could, should and had happened.

22:39 Karin Hållsten

And in the air, there was an uneasy feeling.

22:41 Bengt Rösiö

In Leopoldville, there was this scary feeling that something could go wrong.

22:50 Karin Hållsten

The situation in the secessionist state, Katanga, gets more and more critical and the UN starts operation 'Morthor' in an attempt to arrest the leader Moise Tshombe and the mercenaries he had hired. But the resistance is harder than they had expected and the operation becomes a fiasco.

23:05 Radio Voice

"One hundred and fifty Irish soldiers were overpowered last night by Katanga forces and taken as prisoners" reported a spokesman for the UN in Leopoldville today.

23:16 Karin Hållsten

Dag Hammarskjöld feels that the only way to get a truce and peace is to fly personally to Katanga and negotiate with the leader Tshombe. But friend and colleague Sture Linnér disagrees. On the night to 17 September they talk for hours.

23:34 Sture Linnér

My main argument was that I knew Tshombe in a completely different way than Hammarskjöld was able to. I knew very well that he could sign agreements in the way that Hammarskjöld wanted. But I also knew that at that very moment, separate signed agreements had zero and no value for Tshombe. He had no respect for oral or written agreements. He had only one interest, money-power, money-power, power-money and I therefore thought that this was not only dangerous but also a waste of effort. But he played with his last card, as he said. "I have one major card which nobody else has. I am the Secretary General. I have the prestige of the office and I am going to use that! My decision is taken" he said at around 4 o'clock in the morning. "We go!"

24:36 Karin Hållsten

In SVT (Swedish Television) Sture Linnér tells us that, 50 years later, he still has nightmares about those nights in September 1961. He often thinks about his secretary Alice Lalande.

24:50 Sture Linnér

She participated during Dag's and my last night. In the middle of all of this, when the voices were very excited, he said "Has Alice got anything to eat and drink?" She sat in a corner writing the protocol – the Secretary-General of the United Nations thought about my secretary, not I – and I apologized later on. I had to compensate for this. She said she had a request "Can I come along to Katanga?" And I said I can arrange that – and sent her to her death. I still dream about this. Alice Lalande!

25:50 Karin Hållsten

The decision is taken! On September 17 Dag Hammarskjöld, Sture Linnér and the secretary Alice Lalande fly to meet the Katanga leader, Moise Tshombe. The meeting will take place in the neighbouring country of Northern Rhodesia at the airport at Ndola. The pilot is Captain Pär Hallonquist. His First Officer and navigator had had a long night the night before but he himself is well rested. All three are well qualified and experienced and Captain Pär Hallonquist is in good spirit before departure and eager to go. *.. He was rarely at home .. so we cannot say that we knew him very well ...*

26:29 Karin Hållsten

This is Sven-Göran Hallonquist ...

26:32 Sven-Göran Hallonquist

I am the son of Captain Pär-Erik Hallonquist ... one of three brothers.

26:38 Karin Hållsten

In 1961, he was ten years old and lived in Malmö. He remembers his father as handy and a clever person, dreaming of building his own house.

26:48 Sven-Göran Hallonquist

There were a number of air plane models and he had built kayaks too. Home, in our apartment in Malmö, he was also constructing a model of the future villa. He always brought back from journeys various pieces of furniture and other things .. we probably still have items of African bamboo furniture. He brought home from the Congo and other parts of Africa several items and also from Asia and Japan for the new home.

27:37 Karin Hållsten

Captain Pär-Erik Hallonquist knows that it is dangerous to fly in the Congo and deliberately gives an incorrect destination to minimize risk. He decides to take a detour to avoid flying over Katanga and he knows that he will have to fly low before landing to avoid being shot down.

It is after three o'clock when the DC6, SEBDY, is ready for start. On board is Hammarskjöld's colleague and friend Sture Linnér.

28:08 Sture Linnér

When we sat in the plane and I saw how tense and worried he was, I finally said "Dag, we have had different opinions during the night and we discussed all kinds of terms but why are you now so tense?" He said "Is it very wise that both of us are leaving Leopoldville at a time when the Central Government can fall at any moment? Anything can happen!" I said "If you prefer that I stay and as you know I still think this is a fruitless operation, I will gladly stay!"

He said "Oh, thank you very much! That would be safer!"

We had already fastened our seat belts – the engines were warming up – so that was really in the last moment!

He followed me down the stairs to the tarmac and we talked for a while.

Interviewer: This was the last time you saw him climb the stairs?

That is what happened.

29:21 Karin Hållsten

When *Abertina* took off towards Ndola at 1551, there were altogether 16 people on board. And left at Leopoldville airport was Sture Linnér.

29:33 Sture Linnér

Why was I saved and not Dag?

29:41 Karin Hållsten

At the airport in Ndola, in the British colony of Northern Rhodesia, no blacks were allowed to enter. Outside, a group with placards, waiting to welcome the UN General Secretary. They wanted to show their appreciation for his work for a democratic and united Congo. They see him as a saviour, a hero!

The freedom fighter, Mama Kankasa, in an interview in 2011 with former Archbishop KG Hammar and private investigator Hans Kristian Simensen who were collecting statements about what happened to *Albertina* and the people on board.

30:15 Mama Kankasa

When we heard about Dag Hammarskjöld coming to peace talks, we were very happy. We saw him as a peace maker. We were expecting Hammarskjöld to come and save us.

30:40 Karin Hållsten

But the white population saw Hammarskjöld differently, says former Congo Ambassador Bengt Rösiö.

30:46 Bengt Rösiö

There was a hostile atmosphere. Hammarskjöld was regarded as a threat to their peace and therefore as a threat to world peace. He turned everything upside down. The improvements were only a little better than during the period of slavery.

31:12 Karin Hållsten

It is midnight in Ndola. The temperature is 21 degrees plus and the control tower has just reported to SEBDY *Albertina* that visibility is good and the wind moderate. Captain Hallonquist reports later that he sees the airport lights and gets ready for landing. Private researcher Björn Virving says that the control tower ...

31:34 Björn Virving

.. gives them clearance to go down to 6000 feet and he gets no reply .. they are supposed to report when they have reached 6000 feet.

31:44 Karin Hållsten

And then the Air Traffic Controller makes a number of strange decisions, explains Björn Virving.

31:50 Björn Virving

He knows that the plane has flown over and then it doesn't come in for landing. He should then sound an alarm, indicating that the plane has not landed. This is not done until one or two hours later, very late! I think it was not before 3 o'clock in the morning that the alarm is raised – INCERFA - no plane is coming in and he turns off the landing lights and goes home.

32:24 Karin Hållsten

There is no recording of the radio conversation with *Albertina*, only the Air Traffic Controller's own notes. There are many indications that the notes are not consistent, says London researcher Susan Williams.

32:37 Susan Williams

He did not produce the transcript until the following day, I think it was the day after that. We have more grounds for not believing it than believing it, certainly there is nothing to check it against.

32:59 Karin Hållsten

The DC6 *Albertina* SEBDY has crashed among Acacia trees, 10 km outside Ndola. The Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld has been thrown out of the aircraft, lying a short distance away with his chest crushed. He probably died instantly.

Inside the burning wreckage, there are 14 other persons dead.

But one person is alive, the bodyguard Harry Julian. He is seriously burned with a broken leg but succeeds in getting out of the plane and away from the fire.

At Ndola airport, however, the rumour is spread that the plane must have gone somewhere else and it will take a long time before the wreckage is found and bodyguard Julian gets help.

33:49 Radio Reporter

A heavy atmosphere is hanging over the UN building. Right now, it is not the political crisis and regular news telegrams on the minds of all at the UN secretariat. A much appreciated and admired executive, an extraordinary human, a good friend, is reported missing.

34:07 Karin Hållsten

On September 18 1961, the world is asking where Hammarskjöld's plane has gone? At UN Headquarters in New York, the atmosphere is sombre, Swedish Radio reports.

34:19 Radio Reporter

Hammar skjöld's colleagues in the UN are sitting, waiting for further reports but their hope diminishes every minute, without any information about the Secretary General being found alive. They don't discuss what will happen to the UN and its work if Dag Hammar skjöld has been killed.

34: 35 Karin Hållsten

The researcher Susan Williams has collected documents and witness information showing that many the same night knew about the crash site.

34: 43 Susan Williams

There are so many different sources now, with no relation to each other, which show us that the crash and the crash site was known about long before, early in the morning!

34:56 Karin Hållsten

But it is at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, 15 hours after the crash, that the police and an ambulance arrive at the crash site.

35:04 Radio reporter

It took 15 hours for the Northern Rhodesian authorities to find the crash site even though the flames should have been visible in the middle of the night.

35:12 Bengt Rösiö (*old recording*)

This is very strange, very strange. If a plane disappears during landing then you have to do something.

35:18 Karin Hållsten

15 hours with bodyguard Julian lying severely burnt, awaiting help.

35:25 Susan Williams

Julian was left with injuries under the blazing sun of the Zambian sky in mid-September. His suffering must have been appalling!

35:39 Karin Hållsten

Former Congo Ambassador Bengt Rösiö remember that morning when he was informed that the plane with Hammar skjöld on board had disappeared, news that was paralyzing the entire world.

35:52 Bengt Rösiö

A UN officer came to my house and said Hammar skjöld's plane was missing and he probably was dead. All life was changed! The whole world changed when this happened.

36:17 Radio reporter

In a Reuter telegram from Ndola in Northern Rhodesia, a couple of minutes ago, reports that Secretary General Hammar skjöld perished when his plane crashed about ten kilometres outside Ndola in Northern Rhodesia.

A spokesman at a UN press conference confirmed reports from Rhodesia of Hammar skjöld's death.

As a sign of national mourning for Dag Hammar skjöld, the King has instructed the flag at the Royal Palace be flown at half-mast.

I have never before, as an experienced journalist, witnessed an incident where all the press corps showed their feelings, following the shock we had had. Those of us with tears in our eyes were not ashamed to cry in front of colleagues as we tried to carry on with our work.

37:03 Karin Hållsten

Dag Hammarskjöld is mourned by a whole world.

37:07 Ordinary people interviewed on the street by Swedish Radio

"I am not Swedish but (not audible)"

"I think there will be chaos down there – the beginning of a World War, I believe"

37:18 Karin Hållsten

Swedish Prime Minister Tage Erlander: Dismay! Unease about the future and a deeply felt personal sorrow.

37:25 Karin Hållsten

From the President of USA, John F. Kennedy: And I hope that all of us who recognize the heavy burdens that his passing faces upon us ...

37:36 Karin Hållsten

By UN soldiers in Ndola:

37:38 Radio reporter

In great contrast to the uniforms of the UN soldiers, there appeared the Katanga leader Moise Tshombe. He laid a wreath but did not move, staring at the church wall without bowing his head, then turning suddenly and in great haste, left the church out into the bright sunshine.

37: 58 Karin Hållsten

And by the friend and the diplomat Sture Linnér

38:03 Sture Linnér

I felt I was about to drown. We had spoken about the future and how we were going to cooperate, about his dreams, some private but mostly professional. Incomprehensible!

38:22 Karin Hållsten

UN Deputy Secretary General Jan Eliasson reminds us when he, as a 21 year old cadet, learned that Hammarskjöld's plane had crashed.

38:30 Jan Eliasson

We were on some kind of survival exercise on an island. I heard on a crackly radio line that Hammarskjöld had died. Unforgettable and tragic and that Sweden was in national mourning when he died. He was the hope for peace in this a time of threats and suspicion between the big powers. I will never forget that moment. I believe, though there is a risk of accusations of hindsight, it was then I decided I would work in the field of international cooperation.

39:10 Karin Hållsten

In the Congo also, the Swedish Ambassador Bengt Rösiö had learned the news. He puts on his dark suit before he boards a UN plane heading for Ndola.

39:19 Bengt Rösiö

I flew down to Ndola the morning after the crash, out into the dazzling sunshine. I had flown in my dark suit as I had had time to change. We circled once over the crash site and saw the wreckage. Then we landed and the only thing spoken about was this ..

Karin Hållsten: What did they say?

Bengt Rösiö: There was speculations for a while that the plane had been shot down by the Belgians. But it wasn't so.

40:10 Karin Hållsten

Silence is rare in Africa, says Bengt Rösiö, but this special afternoon, Ndola was silent.

40:18 Bengt Rösiö

The mercenaries, the lego knights, came in stomping with their boots but they fell silent when they realized what had happened. The place was in a very special mood.

40:42 Karin Hållsten

Among the dead, it is only Dag Hammarskjöld's body that is not scorched. The other bodies are found inside the wreckage. This makes identification difficult. One of the bodies has a gold ring with the inscription "Maiken 7 June 1947" – that is Captain Pär-Erik Hallonquist.

41:06 Sven-Göran Hallonquist

I was with my brother, eleven years older than me, in the swimming bath in Malmö, swimming and bathing.

41:16 Karin Hållsten

10 year old Sven-Göran Hallonquist and his brother have been swimming when they are informed that their father, the captain of the *Albertina*, has been involved in an air crash.

41:25 Sven Göran Hallonquist

We came home to our flat in central Malmö and mother sat in the kitchen crying. Then she told us. It was all just strange, abstract!

Karin Hållsten: Did you talk to her later?

No, she never wanted to talk about it. She told everybody that she got sick as soon as the subject was mentioned. She certainly did not want to talk about it.

42:06 Karin Hållsten

When the coffins arrive in Sweden, flags are at half-mast and window displays have portraits of Dag Hammarskjöld. The SF-journal reports:

With an escort of jets, the plane with Dag Hammarskjöld and the other 9 UN members lands at Bromma. A Guard of Honour comprising UN soldiers saluted when the DC6 with 10 coffins on board taxied in on the apron.

42:37 Karin Hållsten

Coffins also arrive in Malmö.

42:40 Sven-Göran Hallonquist

The aircraft arrived with the bodies to Bulltofta and mother and the others were there. We were not there then. Later, there was a gigantic procession with black cars and we sat in one of them. We drove to St.Pauli church and along the procession's route, thousands were standing while the black cars passed. It felt very strange to sit in a car like that watching all the people around us.

43:22 Karin Hållsten

In the Congo and Northern Rhodesia, the mood was different. There were Belgians and British not prepared to hand over power, thinking that the UN and Dag Hammarskjöld should have stayed away.

43:32 Bengt Rösiö

The Belgians were mad and all the colonial powers were grim because the UN had interfered while they thought that they had carried out their work very well.

43:44 Karin Hållsten

And when Ambassador Bent Rösiö walks the streets of Ndola, he hears those who rejoice over the air crash.

43: 51 Bengt Rösiö

This was the best that could have happened, they said. 'Bloody' Hammarskjöld trying to take Rhodesia away from us! The people living in this part of Africa had a living standard that they could not think of having anywhere else, each with many servants. This was not going to be taken away from them. They were not happy about that!

44:18 Karin Hållsten

The UN diplomat Sture Linnér also felt the mood.

44:22 Sture Linnér

The hatred against the UN, the hatred against Dag Hammarskjöld that hit me in Elizabethville was terrible.

44:35 Karin Hållsten

The rumours and speculation began to circulate about why *Albertina* had crashed. The only person who could know with certainty is the surviving bodyguard Harold Julian. He is hospitalized after lying scorched a whole day under the oppressive sun. Private researcher Björn Virving has read the hospital journals.

44:55 Björn Virving

His most famous uttering was "Hammarskjöld said "Go back!" and a number of people have interpreted that differently.

45:04 Karin Hållsten

A nurse tells that Julian has said "Hammarskjöld said "Go back!" and then there was an explosion!"

45:12 Björn Virving

Then he says among other things "there were sparks in the sky" and "there was a flashing light" and "there was great speed" and so on.

45:22 Karin Hållsten

In some moments, both nurses and doctors testify that the scorched bodyguard Julian is clear and coherent. But what he is saying about explosions and sparks is explained away by claiming he is hallucinating. Despite his chances for surviving was said to be good, he dies in hospital some few days later.

45:41 Radio voice

The UN General Assembly accepted on Friday the fact that there is no clear explanation for the accident in Ndola in Northern Rhodesia 13 months ago where Dag Hammarskjöld perished.

45:53 Karin Hållsten

In 1962 altogether three inquiries are presented about *Albertina's* fatal air crash. The two compiled by the British colony, Northern Rhodesia, ascertained pilot error. Everything points to Captain Hallonquist misreading his altimeters. The UN investigation in the same year however makes no conclusions about the cause. "The Assembly accepted the Inquiry's report which sheds no light to cause of the accident."

46:20 Karin Hållsten

And with that, the case was regarded as closed. But the speculations continues. And one detail continued to puzzle; when Hammarskjöld was found, he had a playing card next to his neck, popping up under his skewed Paisley patterned tie. A rumour is spread that somebody has placed there the Ace of Spades, the "death card". Or maybe a visiting card?

46:45 Björn Virving

Here is ..

46:48 Karin Hållsten

But all speculation is firmly dismissed by Björn Virving.

46:51 Björn Virving

My father picked up these at the crash site ..

46:55 Karin Hållsten

He turns the pages of his material, showing three playing cards, the nine of Spades, the three of Spades and the Queen of Hearts, all found by his father amongst the debris at the crash site.

47:05 Björn Virving

I have compared these, using pictures that I have on my computer on Hammarskjöld when he is lying on the stretcher. Yes, I have compared them and it probably is a card from the same pack.

47:28 Karin Hållsten

There were playing cards from two packs of cards spread out over the crash site and one of them ends up at Hammarskjöld's neck, randomly suggests Björn Virving. Maybe they were playing cards. Among all the theories, there is one that sticks out. It is that a second plane, a Fouga Magister, followed *Albertina* and then shot her down. The pilot should have been the Belgian mercenary, Beukels. When the newspapers start writing about that information in 1992, the Swedish Foreign Ministry assigned Bengt Rösiö to find out more.

48:03 Bengt Rösiö

The myriad rumours and alleged witness statements, all bull shit! This took a lot of time.

48:13 Karin Hållsten

The diplomat Bengt Rösiö visits the source of all newspaper writings, the UN staffer, Mr De Kemoularia and asks for a meeting with Beukels but Beukels never shows up.

48:23 Bengt Rösiö

What a cock-and-bull story, that the plane had been tracked down just for shooting it down but it didn't hold water because the plane was never shot down. Beukels was never found – if he existed at all – it was all according to De Kemoularia.

48:45 Karin Hållsten

Indirect information that the pilot Beukels in a Fouga Magister had shot down *Albertina* can be disregarded for a number of reasons, says Bengt Rösiö. Investigations show that *Albertina* didn't have any bullet holes and the Fouga could not fly at night.

49:02 Radio voice (1961-62 Swedish Radio)

The pilot reported that he personally flew a Fouga fighter ...

49:05 Karin Hållsten

But this is a wrong link according to Bengt Rösiö's investigations as this type of aircraft is not capable of covering the distances involved.

49:12 Bengt Rösiö

The big problem is and always has been that such a long time has passed. The investigation carried out in 1961 or 1962 had errors. Nothing happened except for a headline now and then. Thirty years later, it was taken up again and then trying to remember what you were thinking, said and had done was not easy.

49: 43 Karin Hållsten

There are other theories like, say, a secret seventeenth passenger hidden on board.

49:51 Bengt Rösiö

A complete stranger came along, on board the plane and travelled all along and then blew up the plane and then, as the only survivor, walked away. That is not possible!

50:00 Karin Hållsten

Or that the crew had a wrong map and confused the airports, Ndolo and Ndola. A map folder with detachable pages was found and was opened for Ndolo. The Ndola map was missing, however. But the map was correct, says Bengt Rösiö.

50:23 Bengt Rösiö

The map was correct. It sits in front of you on a clip in front of the windshield, I have been told.

50:32

Bengt Rösiö also dismisses the theory that a bomb might have been hidden on board. If so, it should detonated much earlier. He ascertains that Captain Hallonquist was well rested and sober and the altitude meters were correctly set. That leaves the conclusion that it was pilot error.

50:49 Bengt Rösiö

I believe it was an accident. I have not been able to reach a different conclusion. And that is sad because I was from the beginning convinced that something was wrong. But when I started to investigate, I discovered there was nothing concrete that I could depend on. The only thing that was probable was pilot error. At the same time, many were affected, the pilot's wife and also the Transair management and so on. It was important for them to say that it couldn't have happened that way, that Hallonquist was an experienced pilot and could not have made an error. At the same time, this was the first time Hallonquist had landed at Ndola. He had never been there before.

51:40 Karin Hållsten

The pilot's son, Sven-Göran Hallonquist, knows that many relatives including his own brothers resist the claim that it was the pilot who caused the crash.

51:50 Sven Göran Hallonquist

Some accusations extend to having 'killed Dag Hammarskjöld' but I don't feel it that way. I am more analytical.

Karin Hållsten: Do you think they have done enough to learn what happened?

- Absolutely not, especially as everything seems to be focused on theories but the reality is that every investigation about an accident starts with the accident site. But this is not what has happened here.

52:27 Karin Hållsten

When Northern Rhodesia investigates the crash in 1961 a Swedish policeman is participating as an observer. In a secret report, he is very critical, for instance, that pieces of the wreckage are not thoroughly investigated and witness statements are not followed up. Fifty years will pass before researchers investigate again and what is discovered then is sensational.

53:02 Karin Hållsten

In 2007, Susan Williams, researcher at the University of London, is investigating for a new book.

53:11 Susan Williams

I can't remember what the title was..*White War on Africa*, that's what it was.

53:12 Karin Hållsten

When she finds photographs from *Albertina's* fatal crash in a secret archive with photographs of the deceased.

53:21 Susan Williams

I won't describe some of them because they are just awful. Seventy five to eighty percent of the fuselage of the plane was burnt, very shocking! The photographs showed Hammarskjöld was not burnt at all but they were still very shocking. And you can see a playing card in his neck. To see them was very shocking which is an understatement.

55 Karin Hållsten

The more she is digging into the archives, the more convinced she is that the truth about Hammarskjöld death has never been revealed.

54:02 Susan Williams

I saw immediately things that made me doubt what I had been told. For instance, he was found leaning against an anthill. That clearly was not possible because you can see the blood goes from his eyes down to his ears so he wasn't leaning against an anthill. So all these tiny little things all added up.

54:22 Karin Hållsten

So we know that everything seemed normal when SEBDY, *Albertina*, flew in over Ndola. That the visibility was good and the captain sober and well rested. The altimeters functioned as they should but the plane finally flew so low that it skimmed the tree tops and at an angle of five degrees, crashed. We know that Dag Hammarskjöld ended up on his back a bit away from the plane and died immediately. We know that experts and investigators excluded theories of a bomb or a seventeenth passenger on board. Since no bullet holes were found when the wreckage was investigated, the theory of it being shot down doesn't hold water.

But we also know that the investigation of the wreckage and the first reports have been questioned and heavily criticized.

And we know that the rescue operation took fifteen hours despite the fact that a number of people knew about the crash much earlier.

55:16 Susan William

There was no question in my mind that there was a cover up regarding what happened about Hammarskjöld's death. No matter how Hammarskjöld died, it was clear it was a cover up. And I think that is very important now and worrying to me.

55:31 Karin Hållsten

In her book, Susan Williams writes about US Navy officer Charles Southall working on secret monitoring for the American National Security Agency, NSA. He recounts that on the night of 18 September 1961, he was based in Cyprus. Shortly after midnight, he and other officers were crowded round a loudspeaker, listening to new recordings. They hear the sound of an airplane engine and a pilot in calm French accent or in English that it is the correct plane, the DC6. Then the sound of gunfire and the pilot says "I hit – it is burning – it is crashing!"

56:15 Susan Williams

So when I met Commander Southall, I questioned him. I questioned what he said and checked everything out and, bit by bit, I was persuaded he was telling the truth.

56:35 Karin Hållsten

But the diplomat Bengt Rösiö who investigated the crash in the nineties had also met US Navy officer Southall.

56:41 Bengt Rösiö

I sat with him for three days and noticed how his story changed. Slipping through were different things and I decided that I did not trust him and I still don't.

56:59 Susan Williams

I must say I did start off a little suspicious. You have to when you do this kind of work but I might have stayed there. But I was lucky that I was able to look at different records and documentation and hear from other people their testimony so I think I was in a very fortunate position. And putting it together, I felt able to believe Commander Southall.

57:24 Karin Hållsten

Charles Southall made an effort to get confirmation on what he had heard but nobody else recalled the incident and he never got permission to look for the recording or the transcript at the NSA. However, an officer at the American Air Force's security service is saying that he monitored radio communication that the Americans had shot down a UN plane.

57:45 Bengt Rösiö

I can be wrong, Susan Williams believes him. At the same time, I am a bit surprised that nobody else seems to believe him.

57:56 Karin Hållsten

Susan Williams also writes about Bo Virving's theory.

57:59 Bo Virving (TV-documentary 1980)

As one sees here, the distance between Jadotville and Ndola – the direct way there ..

58:06 Karin Hållsten

Bo Virving was Technical Manager of Transair who were responsible for the UN's air transportation in the Congo in 1961 and when Northern Rhodesia made their air crash investigation, he was there as an observer. At the time, he became convinced that a plane had followed the DC6 *Albertina*, SEBDY. Here he explains his theory in SVT's (Swedish Public Broadcast) "*The Secretary-General*" from 1980.

58:29 Bo Virving

He has plenty of time to get in position over Ndola, awaiting the arrival of SEBDY.

58:36 Karin Hållsten

His son, Björn Virving, took over all the material and has himself continued with the investigations. The theory is that a two-engine Dove has monitored air traffic communication and had got into position awaiting *Albertina*.

58:42 Björn Virving

And when they see the DC6, they dive to be able to catch up with it. Meanwhile, in the bush, there are numbers of charcoal burners who say they saw two airplanes – one small above the larger. Simango says that he sees an explosion in front of the larger plane. Something has happened, some kind of explosion. One thought is that it was some way of scaring away *Albertina* and Hammarskjöld, an instruction to fly to Elizabethville. And to really scare them, a small bomb could be dropped, maybe not intentionally hitting the plane, but as a show of intent. One took an ordinary drinking glass and removed the safety pin from the hand grenade – and put it in. As long as the handle is pressed it doesn't go off. When the glass breaks it takes three seconds and it goes off.

1:00:11 Karin Hållsten

Already involved in the investigations in 1961-62, ten eyewitnesses say they have watched one and, in some cases, two planes flying close to a bigger plane thought to be *Albertina*. Many are charcoal burners guarding their kilns in the bush. One of the witnesses is Timothy Kankasa being interviewed by SVT (Swedish TV sic) journalist Gunnar Möllerstedt in 1980.

1:00:32 Timothy Kankasa (1980)

We saw a second plane, which I truly believe, interfered with the first plane.

1:00:42 Karin Hållsten

And Dickson Buleni ..

1:00:44 Dickson Buleni (1979)

The small one was throwing something like a fire on the top of that ..

Gunnar Möllerstedt: Down to the big airplane?

Yeah!

1:00:55 Karin Hållsten

And the Freedom Fighter Mama Kankasa recounts in 2011.

1:00:59 Mama Kankasa

Two planes were coming away from the scene .. Hammarskjöld has been shot .. he is dead.

1:01:05 Karin Hållsten

But the diplomat and investigator, Bengt Rösiö, doesn't give much credence to the claim that *Albertina* might have been attacked.

1:01:11 Bengt Rösiö

All the theories about it being shot down don't hold water. There were no bullet holes in the wreckage. One person, Virving thinks something happened to make the plane go down. He has a long story about this but I don't. I have told Virving that a plane does not crash because of a bullet in the fuselage; the engine has to be damaged, something

happens that makes you go down. But the plane came in too low. That was the main problem.

Karin Hållsten: But I also think of the witness statements, mostly from men working that night, saying they saw one or two planes following Hammarskjöld's plane.

Nothing could bar small planes there. There was a Dornier, I remember, and other planes being flown by mining personnel (not audible) could have been used. It would not have been strange at all finding planes north of Stockholm being privately owned.

1:02:26 Karin Hållsten

When Susan Williams's book "*Who Killed Hammarskjöld?*" came out in 2011 it makes a huge international impact and it leads to witness statements being taken seriously.

Susan Williams thinks that one of the reasons this is happening only now is the elimination of racism in former Northern Rhodesia, now Zambia.

1:02:46 Susan Williams

At the time of the crash, in 1961, Northern Rhodesia was a racist, colonial territory. The general view, the assumption, was that, of the people in power, the whites. If you were an African, you would be making it up and you don't know what you were talking about and will not be taken seriously as was the case in South Africa. So they would have been immediately rejected. The people who came forward at that time were so brave.

1:03:30 Karin Hållsten

In 1962, the Transair manager Bo Virving was on the spot when the witnesses were questioned. He said that an interpreter was missing despite the fact that many were not talking English and he reacts strongly to the discrimination between black and white witnesses. Here he tells in SVT's (Swedish Public Broadcast) "Secretary-General" (1980):

1:03:48 Bo Virving

I was so shocked by the way Commission of Inquiry questioned the charcoal burners. They had no chance to say what they had really seen and were only allowed to answer "yes" or "no" on questions which by their nature could not possibly be answered with a "yes" or "no".

1:04:10 Karin Hållsten

The witness Timothy Kankasa tells also in the program that only the white witnesses confirming the theory of an accident were taken seriously.

1:04:17 Timothy Kankasa

It was incredible that all the black witnesses were supposed to be unreliable, and the white witnesses who gave evidence, if they gave evidence, they took the view that there would be nothing fishy - it was a pure accident - were reliable.

1:04:47 Karin Hållsten

The researcher Susan Williams makes no conclusions in her book, but she says that *Albertina* either was shot down by one or two planes or by a hijack attempt that went wrong whereas a smaller plane would force the DC6 to land somewhere else.

1:05:05 Susan Williams

Both these theories would fit with the number of Zambian witnesses who saw a second and, in some cases, a third plane above Hammarskjöld's plane and said they saw a fire going from the small plane to the large plane. There were many ways of describing it. And also, both of them fit with the testimony of Commander Charles Southall who was working for the NSA in Cyprus at that time. Both theories fit perfectly.

1:05:40 Karin Hållsten

That theory could also explain why two French speaking persons were found close to the cockpit in the wreckage; the secretary Alice Lalande and the body guard Serge Barrau, both of whom would normally be seated in the back of the aircraft.

1:05:55 Susan Williams

And one would wonder what were they doing in the front of the plane? A reasonable explanation for that would be that the Swedish crew were being spoken to by the possible hijacker in French.

1:06:14 Karin Hållsten

But what Susan Williams mostly wants though is made possible through a resolution passed by the UN General Assembly in 1962.

1:06:22 Susan Williams

One of the things I felt most excited about doing the research was discovering that a Resolution passed by the General Assembly in 1962 stated that if new evidence were to emerge then the Secretary-General should ask the General Assembly to open a new inquiry.

1:06:44 Karin Hållsten

Amongst the readers reading Susan Williams' book with great interest are former archbishop KG Hammar and private investigator Hans Kristian Simensen. They focus on the UN's promise to investigate the question again if new evidence emerges. With money from the author Henning Mankell, they get four well-known and internationally renowned jurists to produce a report in 2013. The jurists ascertain that, yes, there is sufficient new information and at the UN, interest awakens. The Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson.....

1:07:17 Jan Eliasson

We received the report from the international jurists' commission which had done a very good job. We left it to the legal department for validation and they reported to me and to the Secretary-General that there was enough in the report that we should report further to the General Assembly, and so we did.

1:07:42 Radio voice

Now the UN want the circumstances around the Swedish UN diplomat Dag Hammarskjöld to be reinvestigated, this time by an expert panel under the auspices of the UN.

1:07:54 Karin Hållsten

In 2015, the UN appoints a panel with three members who conduct a new investigation. They check information that has been submitted since the former investigation in 1962, and among many things, they dismiss the claim of the mercenary Beukels to have shot down *Albertina* flying the Fouga. They also dismiss a Norwegian's claim to have seen a bullet hole in Hammarskjöld's forehead, and they dismiss the theory about a secret passenger.

1:08:20 Jan Eliasson

They have produced a very good investigation that allow us to discard several conspiracy theories around Hammarskjöld's death, but they also point to 7 or 8 points that have to be pursued, through more work and documentation.

1:08:38 Karin Hållsten

In the report, there are all together twelve new witnesses not interviewed in any of the previous reports. Five of them have seen more than one plane in the air that night. The report tries to get to the bottom of US Navy officer Southall's information about the radio communication he heard when *Albertina* was shot down. The only way to find out if this is true is if there are radio recordings or transcripts at any of the US Security Services, the NSA, CIA and FBI.

1:09:10 Jan Eliasson

This has all led to the Secretary General writing to the General Assembly and we have reminded them all that they should open their archives so we can see what might be there which can throw light onto what really happened to him. We really have to do everything possible to get the truth.

1:09:30 Karin Hållsten

During a visit to Sweden in March 2016, Secretary General Ban Ki-moon repeated his request:

"We must do everything possible to finally establish the facts and get to the bottom of this tragedy once and for all."

1:09:46 Karin Hållsten

But not all the member states have fulfilled the wish from the UN; amongst them are Great Britain and USA.

1:09:52 Susan Williams

It's surprising that the UK and the US have not been more forthcoming in handing over the documentation which UN Secretary Ban Ki-moon has asked for.

1:10:08 Karin Hållsten

Private researcher Björn Virving believes that the answer to Hammarskjöld's fatal air crash lies with the American Intelligence Service.

1:10:15 Björn Virving

Now take the recent investigations, those made after Susan's book and the UN's first investigation. These suggest the NSA has the answer, either that it is an accident or the plane was forced down. So just wait and see if the NSA lifts the veil.

1:10:39 Karin Hållsten

But to former Congo ambassador and air investigator, Bengt Rösiö, new secret documents are not important. He has a clear picture of what happened to the plane.

1:10:49 Bengt Rösiö

It came in too low during the approach. Why it came in too low has been discussed since then. My own theory is that he misread the altimeters, reading 5400 instead of 4500. But the Hammarskjöld theory must be quite exhausted by now, you are the only one working on it. Ha-ha!

1:11:16 Karin Hållsten

The researcher Susan Williams does not agree.

1:11:19 Susan Williams

I believe the Zambian witnesses – what they said about what they saw – and I also believe Commander Southall about what he said he heard. And since my book was published, there has been even more information about a cover-up. So it doesn't make sense to just blame pilot error.

1:11:45 Karin Hållsten

Sven-Göran Hallonquist, son of *Albertina's* captain, doesn't believe the UN will succeed in getting more documents released. What he really hopes – as far as it is possible – to know what happened during the DC6's last twenty minutes in the air. He wants the UN to tear up the investigation and start again from the beginning.

1:12:06 Sven-Göran Hallonquist

Starting with the factual reports, technical reports made at this time, and now actually listening to the African witnesses and looking closer at the crash site and first of all finding an answer about Alice Lalande – what on earth was the private secretary to Dag Hammarskjöld doing in the cockpit? These are the questions one wonders about.

Karin Hållsten: That the UN makes a whole new investigation from scratch?

Jan Eliasson: We have actually done this through the panel which did a fantastic job asking these questions and I advised them when they started last year to go to Zambia and interview the eyewitnesses still around. This is a stain on previous investigations which did not listen enough to the eye witnesses on the ground. But our panel met eight to ten of the witnesses, covered in the annex to the report, and this is one of the reasons why we are approaching some countries for more information. It is not easy but this is probably our last chance to do it.

1:13:28 Sven-Göran Hallonquist

If they are not getting anything via collected documents, I don't think one can get very far on the question "who". However, I think one can get very far knowing "how" what really happened – good or bad. This should be possible by focusing on tearing up the investigation and looking more closely on the last twenty minutes. And then just leave question marks and exclamation marks. This would be a great relief for the deceased families, actually. My elder brother has put it to rest a long time ago but I have read most of the literature since I was a child about it and for me it would be a stop if they did that.

1:14:45 Dag Hammarskjöld

.. it has been said that I am interested in mountaineering. That's true.

.. the qualities it requires are just those which I feel we all need today: perseverance and patience, a firm grip on realities, careful but imaginative planning, a clear awareness of the dangers but also of the fact that fate is what we make it and that the safest climber is he who never questions his ability to overcome all difficulties."

1:15:24 Karin Hållsten

Dag Hammarskjöld is a role model to many. Jan Eliasson, just like Hammarskjöld, always carries with him the UN Charter and quotes it often.

1:15:35 Jan Eliasson

That the future is two things; the future is the horizon – the vision we all have – and which I consider both in private and professional life. But it is also said that the future is the many steps you take before you reach your vision and that horizon. Maybe you never reach it but if you have a vision, you know which direction to take. He was both

visionary and practical. He was also a role model for many people with his sharp intellect but also incredibly interested in culture which gave him an extra dimension. He is probably the most important role model we have had though I might be a little biased since I am Swedish, but I would like to say that he is mentioned as among the foremost of the UN Secretary-Generals.

1:16:32 Karin Hållsten

On 10 December 1961, some months after his death, he was rewarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

1:16:41 Norwegian radio voice (1961)

The Nobel Peace Prize has never before been awarded *post mortem* but a more suitable opportunity and a more worthy opportunity to honour Dag Hammarskjöld's great contribution for peace Norway could not find.

1:17:06 Karin Hållsten

You have listened to P3 Documentary about Dag Hammarskjöld and the fatal air crash. My name is Karin Hållsten, producer Anton Berg, technician Metti Baghisade. The interview with Sture Linnér was by Fredrik Johnson in 2007 and if you would like to know more about the Swedes who fought and died for the UN so listen to his P3 documentary about the Congo Crises.