

(14519 - 14524) .

**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE**

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR

FREETOWN - SIERRA LEONE

**TRIAL CHAMBER II**

Before: Justice Teresa Doherty, Presiding Judge  
Justice Richard Brunt Lussick  
Justice Julia Sebutinde

Registrar: Mr. Robin Vincent

Date filed: 12 August 2005

**THE PROSECUTOR**

Against

**ALEX TAMBA BRIMA  
BRIMA BAZZY KAMARA  
SANTIGIE BORBOR KANU**

Case No. SCSL - 2004 - 16 - T

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**PROSECUTION FILING OF ADDITIONAL WITNESS STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO DECISION ON PROSECUTION REQUEST FOR LEAVE TO  
CALL AN ADDITIONAL WITNESS PURSUANT TO RULE 73bisE**

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**Office of the Prosecutor**

Luc Côté  
Lesley Taylor

**Defence Counsel for Alex Tamba Brima**

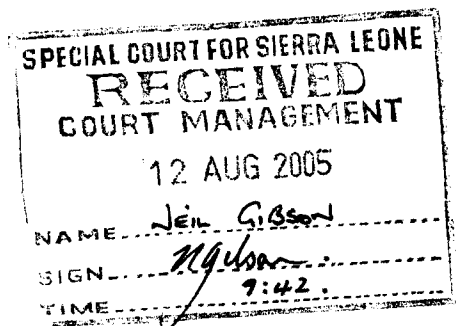
Kojo Graham  
Glenna Thompson

**Defence Counsel for Brima Bazy Kamara**

Andrew Daniels  
Pa Momo Fofanah

**Defence Counsel for Santigie Borbor Kanu:**

Geert-Jan Alexander Knoops  
Carry J. Knoops  
A.E. Manly-Spain



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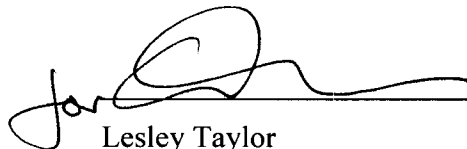
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1. On 6 July 2005, the Prosecution filed its “Prosecution Request for Leave to Call an Additional Witness Pursuant to Rule 73bisE”. On 5 August 2005, the Trial Chamber issued its “Decision on Prosecution Request for Leave to Call an Additional Witness Pursuant to Rule 73bisE” (“the Decision”), where the Trial Chamber granted leave to the Prosecution to add John Petrie to the witness list and ordered the Prosecution to disclose to the Defence and file with the Trial Chamber, the statement of John Petrie, not later than 12 August 2005.
2. Pursuant to the Decision the prosecution hereby files the statement of John Petrie, see Annex A.

Filed at Freetown on 12 August 2005

For the Prosecution,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
for Luc Côte  
Chief of Prosecutions  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lesley Taylor  
Senior Trial Attorney

SCSL-04-16-T

ANNEX A

Statement of Additional Witness John Petrie

John PETRIE  
8 August 2005

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From 15<sup>th</sup> October 2002 – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2003 I was the Commanding Officer of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) Joint Provost Unit (JPU). This appointment was part of the role being played by the International Military Advisory and Training Team (IMATT).

On 12<sup>th</sup> January 2003 I was called to a meeting with the then Inspector General of Police Mr Keith Biddle. He informed me that there was information / intelligence that an attempted coup was possible. At 0230 hours on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January, I was telephoned by the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Mr BA Kamara who informed me that an attack was reported to have taken place at Wellington Barracks and requested assistance from the JPU as it was believed to involve some military personnel serving and retired.

During the following days officers and soldiers under my command worked together with the CID interviewing suspects. During the course of those interviews several personnel were identified with the coup attempt which included serving officers and soldiers of the RSLAF and other former members. Amongst the former members named as being involved were Johnny Paul Koroma, Tamba Alex Brima and Santigie Borbor Kanu. They were referred to by the investigators as JPK, Gullitt and 55. The names and faces of these individuals were known to me from briefings I had received prior to deployment in Sierra Leone.

Together with other officers of the JPU I began to gather information on the military personnel involved. This included extracting from the Armed Forces Personnel Centre, those files that were relevant to the named personnel. I personally examined the files of Brima and Kanu, which had photographs and personal details of their military records. The photographs of the Brima and Kanu were identified to me as the persons known as Gullitt and 55. The identification was made by soldiers who knew and had served with them and in the case of Kanu, an officer who had been responsible for his custody whilst Kanu was detained in Cockerill Station. I asked why they were known by those names and was told that Gullitt referred to his likeness to a former footballer (Ruud Gullit) and 55 was in respect of his regimental number which I noted was 1816\*\*55. Soldiers are often known by their numbers because of the commonality of names. I had a soldier under my command known as "99". All the soldiers know each other by number and are able to recall the last 4 digits of a regimental number with remarkable accuracy.

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2003, I was at the OSD Headquarters planning a search operation as a follow up to the coup attempt, when SLP Special Branch arrived and reported that they had confirmed sighting of Johnny Paul Koroma, Sammy Kargbo, Gullitt and 55 at a house in Juba. We quickly organised a cordon and search operation, commanded by the SLP with JPU in support. We arrived at the house in Juba about 1530 hours and placed a cordon around it. A number of people came out of the house some of whom I recognised others that I did not. I recognised Johnny Paul Koroma from various sources and having met him on one previous occasion. I recognised Tamba Alex Brima from his photograph that I had seen in the Armed Forces Personnel Centre and had him identified by an officer under my command, who confirmed that it was Brima and he was

the person known as Gullitt. I recognised Santigie Kanu from his photograph and an officer under my command said "that is 55". I told him to get him into one of the vehicles.

As Brima and Kanu were being moved into the vehicles, a number of shots were fired. During this time, Johnny Paul Koroma was allowed to escape, having previously been in the custody of the CID officer Inspector Lebbie. Kanu got into the vehicle quietly however Brima resisted, refusing to get into the Landrover until he was forcibly made to do so assisted by the butt of a gun being driven into his arm. The OSD officer repeatedly told Gullitt to get in and Brima responded to the name Gullitt.

Once arrested, Brima, Kanu and 23 others were taken to the OSD Headquarters where they were processed by members of the CID. I was present when the Head of CID, Mr FUK Darbo took their details. He referred to Brima and Kanu as Gullitt and 55 and they responded to those names. I recall them giving their occupation as "miner" and "politician". I later spoke to Brima and Kanu, who were both irritated by the fact of their arrest, and the fact that they and only they were handcuffed at the time. I spoke to Mr Kanu referring to him as 55. I asked him how he had managed to get to be a Brigadier at his age when I had only made Lieutenant Colonel. This referred to him being known by some as "Brigadier 55". He said that wasn't funny and he was no longer a soldier, but responded to being called 55. I then spoke to Brima who stated that he wanted to complain about his treatment, showing me a large lump on his arm which he claimed resulted from a bullet. It was in fact a lump caused by the gun butt referred to earlier in this statement when Brima refused to get into the vehicle and I told him so. Brima asked for my details and I gave him one of my cards with my details on it. I referred to him as Gullitt as did Darbo. He responded to that name when it was used both by words and by turning his head towards the person using the name.

I spoke to Mr Kanu on a further occasion whilst he was under arrest in Pademba Road. I was interviewing a number of soldiers detained under the Emergency Provisions Act; they regarded Kanu as a key witness to their case for release. I therefore requested the prison staff to bring Mr Kanu to see me. I was wearing my British Army military combat uniform. I explained my reasons for wanting to see him and he was helpful in providing certain details in respect of the incident that had resulted in the soldiers being in custody. He then said that he did not want to talk about that any more because he had enough to worry about with the treason trial that had commenced in respect of the coup attempt of 13<sup>th</sup> January 2003. I asked him how it was going. He said "I am really worried they want to hang me but I had nothing to do with it". I asked him why he was worried if he wasn't involved. He said "It's because I am 55. They don't care what really happened but because I am 55 they pick me up. Everybody says 55 because they know who I am but I had nothing to do with it". Mr Kanu referred to himself as 55 and again I recognised that the person talking to me was the same person whose photograph I had seen in the personnel file belonging to 1816\*\*55 Santigie Kanu.

From the detailed knowledge I had of the investigation, I was aware that the evidence against Mr Kanu was not particularly strong compared to the evidence against others, but as he was the most high profile person on trial I could understand his concern. Mr Kanu was polite, respectful and it was clear that he regarded me as somebody acting in a fair

manner, which he felt others did not where he was concerned. I found Mr Kanu to be helpful and courteous. A few weeks later I was again in Pademba Road interviewing soldiers detained in the prison. Whilst speaking to one of them Mr Kanu walked through. He saw me before I saw him and called over to me. I looked up and he waved across to me before continuing to his cell.

The next time I saw either Brima or Kanu was after they had been detained by the Special Court and were appearing before the Appeals Chamber. Mr Kanu again recognised me and nodded in acknowledgment. I can state that the persons Brima and Kanu that appeared before the Special Court at the time, were the same persons I had met previously as described above, and I was able to recognise them from photographs in their Army records and from briefings I had received in the United Kingdom.