



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

WEDNESDAY, 11 AUGUST 2010
9.00 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

Justice Julia Sebutinde, Presiding
Justice Richard Lussick
Justice Teresa Doherty
Justice El Hadji Malick Sow, Alternate

For Chambers:

Mr Simon Meisenberg

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irua
Ms Zainab Fofanah

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis
Mr Nicholas Koumjian
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC
Mr Terry Munday
Mr Silas Chekera
Ms Logan Hambriek
Mr Michael Herz

1 Wednesday, 11 August 2010

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.03 a.m.]

09:02:02 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. We'll take appearances
6 first, please.

7 MR KOUMJIAN: Good morning, Madam President. Good morning,
8 your Honours and counsel opposite. For the Prosecution this
9 morning Maja Dimitrova and Nicholas Koumjian.

09:04:47 10 MR CHEKERA: Good morning, Madam President, your Honours,
11 and counsel opposite. For the Defence, myself Silas Chekera,
12 Logan Hambri ck and Michael Herz.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning, Mr Sesay. I remind you of
14 your oath to tell the truth, which is still binding on you today.
09:05:07 15 Mr Chekera, please continue with examination-in-chief.

16 MR CHEKERA: Thank you.

17 WITNESS: DCT-172 [On former oath]

18 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR CHEKERA: [Continued]

19 Q. Yesterday when we broke off you were not feeling too well.

09:05:17 20 Are you feeling much better today?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And you are ready to continue?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Thank you. We were looking, Mr Sesay, at the evidence of
09:05:28 25 Prosecution witness TF1-375, and we were looking at an allegation
26 concerning you when you were - when you allegedly went to
27 Monrovia to see Mr Taylor to redeem the diamonds or proceeds from
28 the diamonds that you'd been depositing with him for safekeeping
29 and how you received a sum of 85,000 American dollars instead of

1 about half a million that you were expecting. You remember that
2 aspect of the evidence?

3 A. Yes, I remember.

4 Q. You will recall that I indicated to you that, according to
09:06:15 5 this piece of evidence, you were staying at Boulevard Hotel, now
6 called Royal Hotel, in room 102, and you were in the company of,
7 among other persons, FOC?

8 A. Uh-huh.

9 Q. Eddie Kanneh, and some other bodyguards - I think there was
09:06:39 10 another bodyguard, Sam Bockarie - sorry, Foday Sankoh's
11 bodyguard. Now, do you recall that incident, Mr Sesay?

12 A. No, I don't remember that because it did not happen.

13 Q. Now, according to this piece of evidence, when the money
14 was brought to you you were so disappointed you started yelling
09:07:02 15 in your hotel room. Did that happen?

16 A. No, that did not happen at all.

17 Q. Do you know someone by the name, or nickname, of Busy Boy?

18 A. Busy Boy?

19 Q. Yes?

09:07:23 20 A. No, I don't know him.

21 Q. Apparently, he was also there and eventually, according to
22 this evidence, Mr Sesay, the persons who were in your company
23 prevailed upon you to accept the 85,000 American dollars because
24 you wanted to give it back to Benjamin Yeaten and your
09:07:56 25 colleagues, who were with you, persuaded you to keep that money
26 because they thought you'd rather keep it than not have anything
27 at all. Do you now remember the incident?

28 A. No, such an incident did not happen.

29 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, just for completeness of the

1 record, I'm looking at page - sorry, transcript for June 24, 2008
2 page 12688, and the following pages.

3 Q. Let's talk about a different topic, Mr Sesay. I've asked
4 you this question before: During the disarmament period, you
09:08:59 5 were in contact with Mr Taylor - you were in contact with
6 Mr Taylor; is that correct?

7 A. Before the disarmament, but when I started the disarmament
8 I no longer went to Liberia and I was not talking with Mr Taylor.

9 Q. Were you talking with any agent of Mr Taylor during that
09:09:22 10 time?

11 A. No, when the disarmament started, no.

12 Q. In particular, were you in contact with Benjamin Yeaten
13 during this time?

14 A. No. The only time that I and Benjamin Yeaten met and
09:09:47 15 spoke, that was during my last visit to Monrovia in March 2001.
16 That was before the disarmament.

17 Q. And when you went to see Mr Taylor before the disarmament
18 period, that was the time when you were discussing the
19 disarmament process with the other African leaders, or
09:10:18 20 West African leaders, is that correct?

21 A. Yes. And my last meeting with Mr Taylor was
22 in December 2000 when we went to discuss - to hold discussions
23 about disarmament and the return of Sam Bockarie. From then on,
24 I did not talk to him.

09:10:42 25 Q. During that meeting, the last meeting, what was Mr Taylor's
26 attitude towards disarmament?

27 A. Well, it did not change. It was the same with his other
28 colleagues - with what his other colleagues have told me; to
29 carry out the disarmament and they said since we had started the

1 disarmament, it was good for Sam Bockarie to return so that all
2 of us would have the same understanding and work towards
3 disarmament and peace.

09:11:25 4 Q. And after that, do you know whether Mr Taylor's attitude
5 towards the disarmament process changed?

6 A. Well, I did not know that, because after that meeting -
7 they had told me that I should disarm. I did not know about any
8 other attitude that he had.

09:11:57 9 Q. Well, according to the evidence of TF1-371, he heard
10 Benjamin Yeaten telling you that Mr Taylor was against
11 disarmament - sorry, my mistake. The witness number is 375.
12 Mr Sesay, let me repeat again. TF1-375 says that he heard
13 Benjamin Yeaten telling you that Charles Taylor was against
14 disarmament.

09:12:28 15 A. No, Benjamin Yeaten did not tell me that.

16 Q. I've asked you this question before, but I just want to put
17 it in the context of the answer you've just given. During this
18 time were you in contact by any means with Benjamin Yeaten?

09:13:00 19 A. No. After the start of the disarmament I was not going to
20 Liberia any longer, so I and Benjamin Yeaten had no contact.

21 Q. Did anyone on behalf of Benjamin Yeaten make contact with
22 you around this time? This is around the time of disarmament?

23 A. No.

09:13:25 24 Q. Did anyone on behalf of Benjamin Yeaten or Charles Taylor
25 try to persuade you not to go ahead with the disarmament process?

26 A. No, no.

27 Q. Mr Sesay, we'll move on to a different issue. And I'll be
28 very careful because this was an issue that was dealt with in
29 private session.

1 You have already indicated, Mr Sesay, that you had nothing
2 to do with the death of Superman. Do you remember that account
3 of your evidence from evidence and before yesterday?

4 A. Yes, I remember yesterday.

09:14:21 5 Q. You said you heard that Superman died in an ambush?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. During the time that you heard about Superman's death, do
8 you know where FOC was?

9 A. Yes. Sometimes FOC used to be in Makeni and sometimes in
09:14:51 10 Kono. He was around Makeni and Kono at this time.

11 Q. Just to be sure, what time frame are you talking about?

12 A. I am talking about mid-2001, during the disarmament.

13 Q. Was there a time that FOC went to Liberia during the
14 disarmament process?

09:15:17 15 A. No, no. Even before that he did not go to Monrovia any
16 longer. He and I went to Monrovia once to have that meeting with
17 the ECOWAS leaders.

18 Q. Again, just for completeness, we have that evidence, but
19 for completeness of that aspect of your evidence, could you put a
09:15:39 20 date to that last trip you took along - you took FOC along with
21 you?

22 A. That was in July 2000.

23 Q. So your evidence is since July 2000, FOC never went to
24 Liberia?

09:15:59 25 A. Yes, he never went to Liberia because in October when I was
26 going - October 2000, when I was going to accompany the
27 delegation that was going to Abuja, one of Mr Sankoh's bodyguards
28 killed Sheik Fofana in the vehicle. The adjutant advised me to
29 take caution of the Black Guards, so I stopped moving with them

1 because of the statement that was made by the Black Guard who
2 killed Sheik Fofana.

3 Q. Now, Mr Sesay, according to the evidence of TF1-375, FOC
4 told TF1-375 that when they killed Superman - when Superman was
09:17:07 5 executed they were going to cut off Superman's finger and take it
6 to you as proof that they had indeed killed Superman. Were there
7 instructions, Mr Sesay, from yourself for you to be shown
8 Superman's finger as proof that indeed he had been executed?

9 A. No, I did not give such instruction to anybody. And I did
09:17:41 10 not see any of Superman's parts and nobody brought Superman's
11 finger to me.

12 Q. Was there a plan involving you where you would be shown
13 Superman's finger as proof that indeed he had been executed?

14 A. No, no. I had no such plan with anybody.

09:18:05 15 Q. When Superman left Liberia, what was his - what was his
16 relationship with you like - sorry. When Superman left
17 Sierra Leone what was his relationship with you like?

18 A. When Superman went I and him never met to talk, and before
19 he left I had no problems with him. He went and told me that he
09:18:37 20 was going to Liberia and I said okay. So if I wanted to harm
21 Superman, I wouldn't have allowed him to go to Liberia. So he
22 can't go to Liberia now where he was with his own brothers and I
23 conspire to have him killed. That's not possible.

24 Q. Well, did you have a motive, Mr Sesay, in having Superman
09:19:10 25 killed?

26 A. No, I had no such motive because I and Superman - Superman
27 attacked me. But when Superman and others left Freetown, if I
28 had any motive I would have arrested him then. But as far as I
29 was concerned, Mr Sankoh mediated and it was over. So when he

1 came, we worked together and he told me he was going to Liberia,
2 he was going back to his country, and I said okay.

3 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I'm looking at the transcript
4 of 26 August 2008, page 14569 to the following pages.

09:19:59 5 Q. Mr Sesay, according to this piece of evidence that 375
6 heard from FOC, the finger of Superman was actually taken to you.
7 That is at page 14570.

8 A. Well, at the time that Superman died, around mid-2001,
9 UNAMSIL had deployed in Kono. So nobody was able to leave
09:20:37 10 Liberia, pass through Kailahun and meet me in Kono without
11 UNAMSIL seeing you. So nobody brought Superman's part to me.

12 Q. Well, the evidence here is that FOC did bring you
13 Superman's finger.

14 A. No, no. FOC did not go to Liberia at that time. And FOC
09:21:06 15 did not bring any of Superman's parts to me. That did not happen
16 at all. It's a lie.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, do you mean to say that in
18 mid-2001, because UNAMSIL had deployed in Kono, people were not
19 allowed to move from Liberia to come into Sierra Leone?

09:21:27 20 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. What I mean, ma'am, is that
21 UNAMSIL had deployed in Kono and Kailahun. How could someone
22 just leave Liberia and pass through to Kono? That was not
23 possible.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is what I'm asking you: Were people
09:21:47 25 prevented from moving freely from Liberia to Kono, or to
26 Sierra Leone for that matter, because of UNAMSIL?

27 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Why?

29 THE WITNESS: Well, to say someone was going to Liberia or

1 someone from Liberia would come and cross the border and come to
2 me in Kono wherein he travels with a vehicle without UNAMSIL
3 seeing that foreign vehicle.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm not sure I understand your answer.

09:22:29 5 Is that your answer? It doesn't explain to me. Was there a ban,
6 a travel ban, on people moving across the border, the Liberian
7 border, into Sierra Leone and vice versa just because UNAMSIL was
8 peacekeeping or whatever in Sierra Leone? Was that the case?

9 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord, because I can recall when even
09:22:57 10 the Abuja II delegation wanted to travel, General Opande told me
11 that, "Young man, for people to have confidence in you, the
12 delegation should not pass this time through Liberia. They
13 should fly through the Lungi airport from Makeni." And during
14 that time we had no business with Liberia any longer.

09:23:16 15 MR CHEKERA:

16 Q. Mr Sesay, just to be clear on that point. The border
17 between Sierra Leone and Liberia, was it closed or open at this
18 time?

19 A. The border was open because the RUF men who refused to be
09:23:47 20 disarmed were crossing over to Liberia. But to say Liberians
21 were coming to RUF-controlled areas at the time that UNAMSIL had
22 deployed, no.

23 Q. To clarify that point, Mr Sesay, let's try to make a
24 distinction here. The border was open?

09:24:11 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. And could civilians go in and out of either country along
27 that border?

28 A. In 2001 at that time civilians were not going in and out
29 because the civilians who were in Liberia had come. Those who

1 were refugees, they had returned to Sierra Leone at that time.

2 Q. And you said in your answer - sorry. Let me rephrase the
3 question. Was there access by civilians into RUF territory
4 during this time?

09:25:11 5 A. Yes, civilians were in Kailahun.

6 Q. What about movement by militants in and out of
7 RUF-controlled territories during this time?

8 A. Except those who refused the disarmament; they were
9 crossing over into Liberia.

09:25:37 10 Q. Okay. Very well, Mr Sesay, let's look at a different
11 topic. Do you know someone by the name Senegalese?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Who is Senegalese?

14 A. Senegalese was a former ULIMO officer, fighter. ULIMO-K.

09:26:17 15 Q. And how did you come to know of Senegalese?

16 A. I knew about Senegalese in 1997.

17 Q. Yes. In what connection?

18 A. Well, when Mike Lamin was coming to rejoin the RUF in 1997,
19 after the AFRC coup, it was Mike Lamin who came along with

09:26:44 20 Senegalese and one Colonel Musa. When he came along with them,
21 he met Sam Bockarie in Kenema and he left them with Sam Bockarie.

22 So they were with Sam Bockarie in Kenema throughout the reign of
23 the AFRC. So during the time of the retreat in February '98, he
24 retreated with Sam Bockarie to Kailahun. That was our meeting.

09:27:10 25 Q. When Senegalese came with Mike Lamin in 1997, did he come
26 along with Jungle?

27 A. Yes, he came with one Jungle, that is ULIMO Jungle not
28 Daniel Tamba. Three to four of them came: Senegalese, Colonel
29 Musa and one Jungle. It was that Jungle who became commander in

1 Matotoka in 2000, 2001.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Matotoka - this name of Matotoka is on
3 the record already.

4 MR CHEKERA:

09:28:05 5 Q. What means of transport did they come with, Mr Sesay?

6 A. Well, when Mike Lamin met me in Monrovia - no, sorry, in
7 Freetown, what he told me was that they travelled from Monrovia
8 through Bomi Hills, to Lofa County, then they came to Lofa
9 Bridge, to Vahun, then they crossed into Bomaru, on to Pendembu,
10 and from there they went to Kenema.

11 Q. And what means of transport did they use, if you know?

12 A. Well, they used a civilian vehicle, a civilian vehicle from
13 Monrovia up to Lofa Bridge.

14 Q. And did they bring any ammunition on that trip?

09:29:04 15 A. No, no.

16 Q. Well, according to the evidence of 375, Mr Sesay, when
17 Jungle came with Senegalese and joined Sam Bockarie - and joined
18 Sam Bockarie in Kenema in 1997, they brought ammunition -
19 actually, they brought a big truck with ammunition, and the
20 ammunition was subsequently transferred into two Land Cruiser
21 pick-ups. Do you recall that happening, Mr Sesay?

09:29:36 22 A. No. That's a big lie, because it was Mike Lamin who came
23 along with them. It was Mike Lamin who came along with them.
24 And he did not bring a single ammunition this time that they came
09:29:58 25 together with Senegalese and the others.

26 Q. I'm looking at the transcript of 23 June 2008, page 12489.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Meanwhile, Mr Witness, when you say
28 "Jungle who became commander in Matotoka," your evidence was, "in
29 Matotoka in 2000, 2001". Does that mean he was commander from

1 2000 to 2001, or what does it mean?

2 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, when I was saying it, I said -
3 I said Jungle came along with Senegalese and Mike Lamin in '97.
4 And so that same Jungle later became commander in Matotoka in
09:30:48 5 2000, 2001.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is what I'm asking you. What do you
7 mean, "2000, 2001"? Both years?

8 THE WITNESS: Late part of 2000. Late 2000 and 2001,
9 ma'am. That's what I mean.

09:31:06 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

11 MR CHEKERA:

12 Q. Just to be sure, Mr Sesay, he was commander 2000, 2001 of
13 which forces?

14 A. For the RUF.

09:31:22 15 Q. When Senegalese and Jungle came with Mike Lamin and joined
16 Sam Bockarie in Kenema in 1997, did they bring any ammunition?

17 A. I said no. No, they did not bring ammunition. I never
18 heard that they brought ammunition.

19 Q. During this time, 1997, when Sam Bockarie was in Kenema,
09:31:52 20 which organisation did he belong to?

21 A. Who? Sam Bockarie?

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. He was a field commander of the RUF.

24 Q. In relation to the AFRC, did he have any position at this
09:32:08 25 time?

26 A. Yes, he was a council member.

27 Q. And was this during the AFRC regime?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. During that time when the RUF was part of the AFRC junta,

1 did the RUF ever receive any ammunition from any source other
2 than from the junta government?

3 A. No. RUF did not receive ammunition from any other source
4 except the AFRC, and except the ammunition that came from Burkina
09:32:52 5 Faso. Even when those came, it was the AFRC chairman who was in
6 charge of them, and he used to distribute them, that is Johnny
7 Paul.

8 Q. Now, the Jungle you referred to, you said a former ULIMO
9 fighter, are you sure it was not Jungle, as in Daniel Tamba?

09:33:15 10 A. No, no, that was not him. The Jungle that I'm talking
11 about, up till now he's in Freetown, because I left him there
12 before I was transferred to Rwanda.

13 Q. According to the evidence of --

14 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Sesay, you said there was no arms or
09:33:41 15 ammunition came in 1997 to Kenema. Where were you stationed at
16 that time in 1997 when this alleged arms came?

17 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, I was in Freetown but I used
18 to go to Kenema, and Sam Bockarie too used to come to Freetown.
19 So if any such thing happened, I would have known from
09:34:07 20 Sam Bockarie.

21 MR CHEKERA:

22 Q. Page 12490, Mr Sesay. According to this piece of evidence,
23 Jungle came with ammunition, including GMG rounds in boxes, AK-47
24 rounds, RPG rockets, and when he was asked who Jungle is, the
09:34:44 25 answer was that "Jungle was in the SSS in Liberia. He was a
26 member of the SSS in Liberia. He was a bodyguard to
27 Charles Taylor, close protection unit."

28 Are you sure the Jungle who came with - with Senegalese
29 during this time, 1997, to Sam Bockarie in Kenema, was not Jungle

1 who was Mr Taylor's bodyguard, as alleged here, a member of the
2 SSS?

3 A. No, that's not him. In fact, this Jungle, this is my first
4 time of knowing him, this ULIMO Jungle who came with Senegalese
09:35:39 5 and Mike Lamin.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: What do you mean this is your first time
7 of knowing him? What time?

8 THE WITNESS: 1997. This ULIMO Jungle, I said that was my
9 first time of knowing that ULIMO Jungle in 1997. This is not
09:36:04 10 Daniel Tamba.

11 MR CHEKERA:

12 Q. And just to complete that aspect of your evidence, Daniel
13 Tamba was a member of the SSS in Liberia; is that correct?

14 A. No. I did not know him for that. What I knew was that
09:36:26 15 Daniel Tamba was a former NPFL but since 1992 he had stayed with
16 the RUF. So I knew him to be an RUF member.

17 Q. At this time in 1997, Mr Sesay, do you know where Daniel
18 Tamba was when Sam Bockarie was in Kenema and you were in
19 Freetown? Do you know where Daniel Tamba was?

09:37:00 20 A. Yes. I said Daniel Tamba was in Abidjan when Pa Kallon
21 sent him and he came along with Ibrahim Bah and others. They
22 came through Guinea to Freetown. That was in 1997. And Pa
23 Kallon had sent him at that time to collect food money, and when
24 that was given to him by Sam Bockarie, he then went back to
09:37:26 25 Abidjan.

26 Q. Mr Sesay, according to 375, this ammunition that Daniel -
27 sorry, that Jungle brought along with Senegalese, he went on to
28 suggest, at page 12491, that this ammunition came from
29 Charles Taylor. In 1997, did the RUF receive any ammunition from

1 Charles Taylor?

2 A. No. RUF did not receive any ammunition from Charles Taylor
3 in '97. And when Sam Bockarie wanted to attack Kamajors at that
4 time, he used to send to the army chief of staff in Freetown.

09:38:20 5 Sometimes helicopter would bring ammunition from Freetown and
6 would drop that to Sam Bockarie in Kenema. And also Sam Bockarie
7 used to get supplies from the brigade commander in Kenema.

8 Q. Did the AFRC receive ammunition from Charles Taylor during
9 this time, to your knowledge?

09:38:38 10 A. No, no. Throughout '97, I never heard that ammunition came
11 from Liberia to either Sam Bockarie or the AFRC, no.

12 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Sesay, where was Freetown getting this
13 ammunition from that it could send to you?

14 THE WITNESS: My Lord, Freetown was the army headquarters,
09:39:09 15 and the ammo dump at Murray Town had ammunition even before the
16 coup. So it was those ammunition that they were using, at the
17 ordnance at Murray Town.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: At where?

19 THE WITNESS: Murray Town, at the ordnance. That was where
09:39:33 20 the ammunition were parked. So those ammunition had been there
21 even before the coup. And after the coup, it was those
22 ammunition that the AFRC and RUF were using to fight against the
23 Kamajors.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, can you spell Murray
09:39:50 25 Town, please?

26 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, it's M-O-R-R-Y, one word,
27 then T-O-W-N. Your Honours, sorry, it's M-U-R-R-Y [sic], one
28 word, then T-O-W-N.

29 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Sesay, Murray Town is in a very built-up

1 area with a lot of residential areas around it in Freetown. Are
2 you saying that was the ordnance dump?

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. I went there. I went there
4 and I saw the ammunition. When he passed by the fuel station,
09:40:38 5 that is where the ordnance is because the army has their fuel
6 station at Murray Town, and after there you meet the ordnance.

7 MR CHEKERA:

8 Q. Mr Sesay, just to help clarify that aspect, do you know
9 whether the ordnance is still at Murray Town to this day?

09:41:02 10 A. Well, that was where I knew the army ordnance to be up to
11 the time I was arrested in March 2003.

12 Q. Thank you.

13 A. Because even before my arrest in March 2003, soldiers used
14 to deploy there and, when you are passing on the road, you see
09:41:28 15 soldiers deployed there.

16 Q. Questions relating - questions relating to supply of
17 ammunition, Mr Sesay, were they issues that would be discussed in
18 the council when you were a member of the AFRC?

19 A. Well, pertaining the getting of ammunition, like the arms
09:41:59 20 and ammunition that came from Burkina Faso, that one, we did not
21 discuss that openly at council meetings. Johnny Paul and other
22 senior people kept that secret, because there were certain things
23 that were discussed at council meetings, you will, after that,
24 hear it over the SLPP radio. And there were officials within the
09:42:21 25 council that were leaking information.

26 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Sesay, Mr Chekera asked you questions a
27 little while ago about Senegalese coming with Mike Lamin in 1997
28 and did he come along with Jungle. And you said Mike Lamin told
29 you, or I'll quote your words, "He told me was that they

1 travelled from Monrovia through Bomi Hills to Lofa County, then
2 they came to Lofa Bridge to Vahun, then they crossed into Bomaru,
3 on to Pendembu, and there - and from there they went to Kenema."
4 Now, after 13 years and everything that's happened, how can you
09:43:23 5 remember that conversation in such detail?

6 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, this was something that was
7 explained to me. It was something that Mike Lamin himself
8 explained to me when I retreated to Kailahun, and Senegalese and
9 I were in Pendembu from May to June of --

09:43:57 10 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
11 to repeat that area slowly.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: You said "Senegalese and I were in
13 Pendembu from May to June of" when? Continue from there.

14 THE WITNESS: Of 1998, my Lord. Before Sam Bockarie called
09:44:15 15 him to go to Buedu and he sent him.

16 MR CHEKERA: Should I proceed, your Honour? Thank you.

17 JUDGE LUSSICK: Well, I'm not sure he's answered the
18 question, has he? I asked him how can he remember that
19 conversation in such detail.

09:44:42 20 MR CHEKERA:

21 Q. Mr Sesay, I think the question from the Learned Justice is
22 not for you to recount what happened but for you to assist by
23 explaining how you remember in such vivid detail the route that
24 was taken by Mike Lamin and company on this occasion, how does --

09:45:02 25 JUDGE LUSSICK: No, not the route, what was told to him by
26 Mike Lamin.

27 MR CHEKERA: Okay.

28 JUDGE LUSSICK: That's a conversation.

29 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, this was a story that was -

1 that Mike Lamin explained to me. He told me the route they
2 passed through. And when I met with Senegalese also, he too
3 explained the same thing to me. And when he travelled from
4 Monrovia through Bomi Hills to Lofa Bridge, that's the only way
09:45:37 5 that you go through, through Kungbohun to Vahun and then you
6 cross into Sierra Leone. There is no other route. That was the
7 only route, my Lord.

8 JUDGE LUSSICK: So are you saying that your evidence is
9 based on the fact that that's the only route, rather than what
09:45:50 10 you remember being told by Mike Lamin?

11 THE WITNESS: It's because Mike Lamin told me, and that is
12 the only route. These are the reasons. Because that is the
13 route he told me that they used.

14 MR CHEKERA:

09:46:16 15 Q. Thank you. Just one other question, I hope on this issue,
16 Mr Sesay, relating to ammunition around this time.

17 1997 RUF and the AFRC joined together during the AFRC
18 regime. During this time did the RUF and the AFRC procure
19 ammunition separately, as in separate from each other as
09:46:48 20 organisations?

21 A. No, that did not happen. That did not happen. The only
22 ammunition that came to Sierra Leone during the AFRC time was the
23 flight that came down to Magburaka, that was the only ammunition
24 - arms and ammunition that came.

09:47:12 25 Q. Mr Sesay, I've already indicated to you that according to
26 the evidence of 375 the Jungle who came along with Senegalese was
27 the Jungle who was a member of the SSS, a bodyguard to
28 Charles Taylor. And you've indicated that Jungle, that is Daniel
29 Tamba, was never a member, to your knowledge, was not a member of

1 the SSS but, rather, a member of the RUF.

2 At page 12492 - 12492, 23 June 2008, this witness goes on
3 to further allege that, or further say, that he heard from Jungle
4 that Jungle, that is the Jungle, Daniel Tamba, told him that he
09:48:13 5 was the liaison between Sam Bockarie and Charles Taylor, and that
6 he took diamonds to Charles Taylor and ammunition to
7 Sam Bockarie.

8 JUDGE LUSSICK: What line is this?

9 MR CHEKERA: Sorry. I am trying to summarise quite a
09:48:32 10 number of the evidence over the pages, but I'm looking at the
11 issue relating to that, it starts from line 9, my Lord. "He used
12 to say that he was a person that was serving as liaison between
13 Sam Bockarie and Charles Taylor. He used to take diamonds to
14 President Taylor and he will, in turn, give him ammunition to
09:48:56 15 take to Sierra Leone." That is the relevant part that I'm
16 talking about: "Jungle told me that personally." This is the
17 evidence of 375.

18 Q. Was Jungle the Daniel Tamba you know, Mr Sesay, or, rather,
19 the Daniel Tamba that you knew? Was he acting as the liaison
09:49:27 20 between Sam Bockarie and Charles Taylor to your knowledge?

21 A. No, I did not know about that.

22 Q. Do you remember any point or any time when Daniel Tamba
23 took diamonds to Charles Taylor on behalf of Sam Bockarie?

24 A. No, I don't know about that.

09:49:47 25 Q. Do you remember an incident - any incident when Daniel
26 Tamba took ammunition from Charles Taylor to Sierra Leone?

27 A. No, I don't recall that; to say Daniel brought ammunition
28 from Mr Taylor to the RUF, no.

29 Q. Mr Sesay, before I continue, this is an allegation that has

1 arisen from the evidence of other witnesses before concerning
2 Daniel Tamba, also known as Jungle. From the time you met Daniel
3 Tamba, when he became a member of the RUF, did he ever cross over
4 to Liberia and become a member or an official in Charles Taylor's
09:50:50 5 government?

6 A. No. I did not hear that, that Daniel Tamba was working in
7 Mr Taylor's government. And Daniel Tamba himself did not tell me
8 that. Since 1992, Daniel Tamba had been with us in the Kailahun
9 District and in '93 to '95 - no, '94 to '95 - I was with him
09:51:19 10 together in Giema; all of us were together in Giema. So, I did
11 not hear that he went to Liberia and worked with Mr Taylor's
12 government. I did not hear that.

13 Q. Just pause there, Mr Sesay. From '92 to '95 what was his
14 specific role in the RUF?

09:51:42 15 A. Well, he was a fighter. All of us were there and, when we
16 were attacked, all of us, we come together; because he was not
17 the only person we had, we had Major Brown also with us. All of
18 us came together and repelled the attacks, because I recall that
19 even the attack in early '95 on Buedu, all of us went on that
09:52:12 20 attack when the NPRC troops withdrew from Kailahun. It was
21 around March to April of '95.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: What about after '95? Where are the
23 whereabouts of Daniel Tamba?

24 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, after '95 when Mr Sankoh went
09:52:34 25 to Ivory Coast, he invited Daniel Tamba in '96, when he went with
26 Steve Kamanda and some other people. They went through Guinea
27 from Kailahun and they met Mr Sankoh in Abidjan. So he was in
28 Abidjan with Mr Sankoh up until '97 when Mr Sankoh went to
29 Nigeria. So they were the ones who stayed in the house in

1 Abidjan, together with Pa Kallon.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: And after '97 where are his whereabouts?

3 THE WITNESS: After '97, I mean during '97, Pa Kallon sent
4 him to come for food money to Sam Bockarie in Freetown. And he
09:53:18 5 went back, he was in Abidjan until after the intervention in '98.

6 Sam Bockarie sent a radio message to him for him to come, and
7 when I was going to Burkina Faso I met with him in Monrovia
8 whilst he was on his way coming to Sam Bockarie. So from '98 he
9 would sometimes stay in Liberia, sometimes he would come to

09:53:44 10 Buedu. Sam Bockarie would send him to go and buy medicines and
11 he - up to the time the Lebanese people started buying the
12 produce from Sam Bockarie, he was the one who used to bring the
13 Lebanese men. When Sam Bockarie needed supplies like rice,
14 medicines, he was the one that he would give the prescriptions to
09:54:05 15 and he would go to the Lebanese people, and they would buy those
16 items and he would bring them.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Where would he buy the items from?

18 THE WITNESS: Ma'am, that was in Monrovia. He and the
19 Lebanese would buy the items and they would be loaded into trucks
09:54:23 20 and he would bring them and, when he comes, they would, in
21 return, load the produce and then the same truck would go with
22 the produce. That was in '98 and '99.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: So, Mr Sesay, in view of what you've just
24 said, how can you be sure that Daniel Tamba was not part of
09:54:40 25 Mr Taylor's government or officials from 1997 when Mr Taylor came
26 to power onwards? How can you know that?

27 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, I knew that Daniel Tamba was
28 in Abidjan with Pa Kallon in '97 to part of '98. And when we met
29 in Monrovia, when the diamonds got missing from me, Daniel Tamba

1 did not tell me that he was an SS and that he was a worker in
2 Mr Taylor's government. He did not tell me that. And even at
3 the times he used to come to Buedu in '98, '99, when Sam Bockarie
4 used to send him on missions, he did not tell me that he was an
09:55:24 5 SS member.

6 MR CHEKERA:

7 Q. Just to follow up on that, Mr Sesay, during the time that
8 Daniel Tamba was running errands for Sam Bockarie, going into
9 Liberia to buy medicines and other stuff, as you put it, who was
09:55:40 10 he reporting to?

11 A. To Sam Bockarie. It was Sam Bockarie who used to give him
12 a list of items and he would take them to the Lebanese.
13 Sometimes he would come with Fayard, sometimes he came alone.
14 And when they came they would load the produce. And sometimes he
09:55:59 15 would not go with them again, the vehicle would proceed back to
16 Monrovia and he would stay.

17 Q. Page 12493, I think line 26. Maybe one could start at line
18 22. This witness, 375, further goes on to say that Daniel Tamba
19 told him that he, Daniel Tamba, is the one who created contact
09:56:38 20 between Charles Taylor and Sam Bockarie. Do you know anything
21 about that, Mr Sesay?

22 A. No, I don't know anything about that, because Daniel did
23 not tell me that and Bockarie too did not tell me that.

24 Q. And just to complete your answer on that question: How was
09:57:09 25 contact between Mr Taylor and Sam Bockarie established, if you
26 know?

27 A. Well, I knew that Sam Bockarie had told me that he had been
28 making efforts for him to be able to meet with Mr Taylor. That
29 was the reason why he sent Eddie Kanneh to Conakry when he met

1 with the Liberian ambassador in Guinea. And after that in '98
2 General Dopoe came to the border and Sam Bockarie informed me
3 that General Dopoe came to collect him to take him to Mr Taylor.
4 So that was the time I knew that Sam Bockarie had been able to
09:57:53 5 meet with Mr Taylor. That was in September of '98.

6 Q. You said that was the reason why you sent Eddie Kanneh to
7 Conakry, to meet with the Liberian ambassador.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: In where?

9 MR CHEKERA: Conakry, to meet with the Liberian Ambassador.

09:58:21 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that's what I'm asking, the Liberian
11 ambassador in where? What did the witness say?

12 THE WITNESS: In Guinea, Conakry, my Lord.

13 MR CHEKERA:

14 Q. Sorry, when was it that Eddie Kanneh went to see the
09:58:42 15 Liberian ambassador in Guinea?

16 A. Eddie Kanneh went and met with the Liberian ambassador in
17 Guinea in August of 1998.

18 Q. And what was the purpose of that - sorry. Why did he want
19 to see the ambassador?

09:59:04 20 A. Well, it was Sam Bockarie who sent him so that the
21 ambassador would be able to establish a link with Mr Taylor and
22 to make arrangements so that Sam Bockarie would be able to meet
23 with Mr Taylor, and that was what I understood from Sam Bockarie.

24 Q. Did you learn why Sam Bockarie wanted to establish contact
09:59:30 25 with Mr Taylor?

26 A. Well, Sam Bockarie was talking about the Abidjan Accord and
27 that he wanted to meet with Mr Taylor so that Mr Taylor will talk
28 with his fellow ECOWAS leaders about the revisit of the Abidjan
29 Accord.

1 Q. And when Dopoe came for Sam Bockarie when Sam Bockarie went
2 to see Mr Taylor for the first time - when Dopoe came for
3 Sam Bockarie, do you know who facilitated that particular trip?

4 A. Well, it was Dopoe who came and collected Bockarie from the
10:00:28 5 border and went with him. And on Bockarie's return, he said when
6 Eddie Kanneh went to Conakry and met with the ambassador it was
7 the ambassador who sent a message to Monrovia and that that was
8 the reason why Dopoe had been sent to come and collect him,
9 Bockarie.

10:00:51 10 Q. And did you know whether Daniel Tamba had anything to do
11 with that initial encounter between Mr Taylor and Sam Bockarie
12 when Dopoe was sent for Sam Bockarie?

13 A. No. There was no mention of Daniel Tamba's name in that
14 and Sam Bockarie did not say anything about Daniel Tamba in that.

10:01:20 15 Q. Well, Mr Sesay, again, this witness alleges that Daniel
16 Tamba said that he had been liaison between - for Sam Bockarie
17 and Charles Taylor, also used to take diamonds to Charles Taylor
18 and ammunition to the RUF to Sam Bockarie. He goes on to talk
19 about one particular incident where he went to Liberia with Eddie
10:02:20 20 Kanneh and went to collect ammunition from Charles Taylor's farm.

21 Do you know about any trip by Eddie Kanneh to Monrovia - to
22 Liberia which resulted in ammunition being brought over to
23 Sierra Leone?

24 A. I never heard that Eddie Kanneh brought ammunition in
10:02:47 25 Sierra Leone to the RUF from Liberia. Except for the time that
26 he and Sam Bockarie returned from Burkina Faso. But to say that
27 Eddie Kanneh went on his own, or that he and Daniel Tamba brought
28 ammunition, no, I never heard that.

29 Q. Briefly, during the time that Sam Bockarie was leader of

1 the RUF you've already indicated that Eddie Kanneh was adviser to
2 Sam Bockarie. What were his specific functions?

3 A. Well, Eddie Kanneh was with Sam Bockarie in Buedu. Like,
4 for instance, he sent him to Conakry to meet with the Liberian
10:03:43 5 ambassador and from there he and Bockarie went to Monrovia, on to
6 Burkina Faso and he was with Sam Bockarie in Buedu. And even
7 when Sam Bockarie was going to have meetings in Pendembu, he and
8 Sam Bockarie would come. And they had been friends since the
9 AFRC time. And Eddie Kanneh was the Resident Minister East and
10:04:04 10 he and Sam Bockarie were based in Kenema.

11 Q. Did Eddie Kanneh used to runner errands to source
12 ammunition from Charles Taylor in Liberia?

13 A. No, never. He was not - Eddie Kanneh was not a runner for
14 ammunition.

10:04:31 15 Q. What was he a runner for?

16 A. Well, he was with Sam Bockarie only. He was his friend.
17 He only advised when things happened. They were together with
18 Sam Bockarie in Buedu. The only time that they fell out, when he
19 and Sam Bockarie went to Liberia in December '99 and in 2000 he
10:04:59 20 left Sam Bockarie.

21 Q. Sorry, can you just describe - just to complete that
22 answer, can you just describe how they got to fall out
23 in December 1999 - sorry, December 2000?

24 A. I said in December '99 Eddie Kanneh and Sam Bockarie
10:05:27 25 crossed into Liberia. But in 2000 Eddie Kanneh left Sam Bockarie
26 because even before Mr Sankoh's arrest Eddie Kanneh used to call
27 Mr Sankoh to talk to him, saying he was not with Sam Bockarie to
28 challenge Mr Sankoh, so he was not a part of that problem. So
29 when they went to - when we went to Monrovia and I was made

1 interim leader, we did not have any problems. He used to come to
2 me and return.

3 Q. Well, according to the evidence of this witness, Mr Sesay,
4 on this occasion Eddie Kanneh, along with the witness, and other
10:06:15 5 persons, collected ammunition from Charles Taylor's farm in
6 Gbarnga, which ammunition was then transported to Foya and this
7 particular witness, 375, and others, went to Foya and Eddie
8 Kanneh proceeded to Monrovia to see Mr Taylor. Did you ever hear
9 about Eddie Kanneh going to see Mr Taylor on his own on behalf of
10:06:51 10 Sam Bockarie or the RUF?

11 A. No. Eddie Kanneh did not see Mr Taylor on his own or on
12 behalf of the RUF in '98/'99. Eddie never told me that and I
13 never heard that from Sam Bockarie.

14 Q. This witness goes on to further say that this ammunition
10:07:33 15 that was collected from Liberia was the ammunition that was
16 distributed for the attack on Daru by Akim and Kono District by
17 Superman in the operation Fitti-Fatta.

18 A. Well, in 1998 - in 1998 Akim never attacked Daru. Even me,
19 who was in Pendembu, never attacked Daru in 1998. Since the time
10:08:13 20 of the intervention we had serious ammunition constraints. We
21 did not have any supplies up to December when Sam Bockarie
22 brought ammunition that he said he brought from Lofa. We were
23 not receiving supplies. That was why - and even 371 in his own
24 testimony when he was testifying against me, he said it; that we
10:08:36 25 had ammunition constraints in 1998. So where are these supplies
26 coming from?

27 Q. Just to give you a better indication of the time frame that
28 this witness is talking about, this attack on Daru by Akim and
29 Kono District by Superman, Fitti-Fatta, you said this happened

1 around the start of the rainy season in 1998. The start of the
2 rainy season 1998, did the RUF receive any ammunition from
3 Liberia?

10:09:26 4 A. No. When the rainy season started in 1998 Akim was in Kono
5 in Gandorhun as battalion commander. I was in Pendembu. So we
6 did not attack Daru, because we did not have the ammunition to
7 attack Daru.

8 Q. What about Kono District? Was this the time that Superman
9 attacked Kono District?

10:09:46 10 A. The attack led by Superman in Kono District, the ammunition
11 that was used was - were those that Kennedy bought. Those were
12 the ammunition that they used to wash in fuel, dry them up. And
13 even when Superman took those ammunition, they were in empty bags
14 of rice. They were not in boxes because they were old
10:10:12 15 ammunition.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: When this ammunition was brought from
17 where?

18 THE WITNESS: From Voi njama. Those are the ammunition that
19 Kennedy was buying from the ex-ULIMO fighters.

10:10:36 20 MR CHEKERA:

21 Q. And you're saying that was the ammunition that you used for
22 the Fitti-Fatta mission?

23 A. Yes, that was what Bockarie gave to Superman.

24 Q. And was Akim involved in the Fitti-Fatta mission?

10:10:52 25 A. Yes, he was in Kono. He was the commander in Gandorhun.

26 JUDGE LUSSICK: Why was Kennedy buying this old ammunition
27 which sounds as though some of it may not be workable at all?
28 Why did Kennedy buy that sort of ammunition?

29 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, we were in need of ammunition.

1 Then Sam Bockarie sent Kennedy because Bockarie understood that
2 the ULIMO, some of them had buried their ammunition. That was
3 why he was buying them.

10:11:35 4 JUDGE LUSSICK: Why not just ask Freetown to send some more
5 ammunition?

6 THE WITNESS: My Lord, how could you have sent to Freetown
7 when it was President Kabbah who was President and ECOMOG was
8 based in Freetown?

9 MR CHEKERA:

10:11:51 10 Q. Maybe, Mr Sesay, just to assist, to make that point
11 clearer, during this time that Kennedy was buying ammunition from
12 former ULIMO fighters, what time was this? What time frame was
13 this?

14 A. This was between April to July 1998.

10:12:30 15 Q. Now, you have indicated that Akim and Superman took part in
16 the Fitti-Fatta mission in Kono. You've already given extensive
17 evidence on Fitti-Fatta, on the Fitti-Fatta mission. But just to
18 complete this aspect of your evidence, what was the object of the
19 Fitti-Fatta mission?

10:13:02 20 A. It was meant to capture Kono from the ECOMOG and the
21 Kamajors. That was why they attacked.

22 Q. Was there any other purpose behind the attack other than to
23 regain control of Kono from the ECOMOG?

24 A. Well, I did not know of any other reason, but the attack
10:13:30 25 was not successful because of shortage of ammunition and the
26 casualty that was sustained by the RUF.

27 Q. Now, at page 12541, the transcript of 23 June 2008, 375 was
28 asked exactly the same question that I've asked you, at line 6:

29 "Q. What was the objective, the goal, of the Fitti-Fatta

1 mission?

2 A. To just go on the rampage and we take over Koi du
3 Town. "

4 Was the Fitti -Fatta mission to just go on a rampage,
10:14:28 5 Mr Sesay?

6 A. Well, what I understood, when Sam Bockarie called Superman
7 and Mike Lamin, they discussed the attack on Kono, it was meant
8 to attack Kono, Koi du.

9 Q. You do understand what "going on a rampage" means,
10:14:50 10 Mr Sesay, do you?

11 A. No. You'd have to let me understand.

12 Q. You were, Mr Sesay, on an orgy of destruction, you were on
13 a rampage, you were out of control, in your attack on Kono, there
14 were no limits. Was that the instructions that were given to
10:15:16 15 Superman and Akim when they attacked Kono, to re-take over Kono
16 from ECOMOG?

17 A. Well, in the attack Sam Bockarie called for Superman, and
18 they planned the attack. They planned the attack and Superman
19 was the commander of the RUF. They had been in controlled areas
10:15:40 20 before. So when he went, he organised his men and they went on
21 the attack. But the casualties that they sustained, the RUF had
22 never sustained such casualties in any attack.

23 Q. Can you --

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, that is not the question that
10:15:55 25 you were asked. You were asked about the purpose of the attack,
26 as stated by this witness that was quoted. The purpose of the
27 attack, or the objective of the attack, on Kono, the Fitti -Fatta
28 attack, was to go on the rampage, that is, to go on an orgy of
29 destruction. Now, your comment - we would like to hear your

1 comment on that, the objective of the Fitti-Fatta attack, not the
2 logistical or tactical approach.

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. As far as I knew in July '98,
4 when this attack was launched by Superman, Kono had been
10:16:51 5 destroyed, Kono had been burnt down. They had burnt down Kono
6 between April to May. So I did not see any other destruction
7 that they were to carry out there. And Koi du Town at this time
8 was occupied by ECOMOG and Kamajors, and not civilians. So what
9 is the destruction that was to be caused when Kono had been burnt
10:17:17 10 down before this time?

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: But a "rampage" doesn't only mean
12 destruction of property. It means attack of civilians and life
13 and anything that moves. That's what "rampage" means. So what
14 is your response to that?

10:17:36 15 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, I was not in Kono, but what I
16 understood was that Koi du Town, since its capture by ECOMOG and
17 the Kamajors in May 1998, civilians were no longer living in
18 Koi du Town because the town had been burnt down. They had burnt
19 down the town. It was only ECOMOG and the Kamajors that were
10:18:00 20 staying in Koi du Town up to December. Even when I came to attack
21 Koi du in December, the civilians were staying in Kokui ma, not in
22 Koi du Town. And this attack that was carried out by these men,
23 Superman and others, it was Koi du Town that was attacked.

24 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Sesay, when you say, "Since its capture
10:18:35 25 by ECOMOG and Kamajors in 1998 they were not living because the
26 town had been burnt down," burnt down by who?

27 THE WITNESS: My Lord, I said, and I'm still saying, that
28 during the ECOMOG advance on Koi du Town, the AFRC and the RUF
29 burnt down Koi du Town, including the jets that was used by ECOMOG

1 to bombard the place, to enable them re-take Kono.

2 MR CHEKERA:

3 Q. So, Mr Sesay, when the RUF failed on the Fitti-Fatta
4 mission, did you hear of any widespread destruction of property
10:19:20 5 during that mission? And you can actually restrict your answer
6 to a "yes" or "no", if you so choose.

7 A. No.

8 Q. Did you hear of widespread injury to persons during this
9 attack?

10:19:44 10 A. Well, I heard that the RUF sustained heavy casualties, so
11 many men were wounded and so many others were killed.

12 Q. What about civilians?

13 A. No, I did not hear about civilians.

14 Q. Let's look at a different topic, Mr Sesay. Let's look at
10:20:25 15 the evidence relating to the Freetown invasion in January of
16 1999. You moved from Buedu to Kono to Makeni. After Makeni did
17 you go anywhere else?

18 A. Yes. After Makeni I went to Waterloo later.

19 Q. At what point did you go to Waterloo?

10:21:05 20 A. After the withdrawal of the AFRC from Freetown through
21 Waterloo through Benguema.

22 Q. And when you were at Waterloo, where were the AFRC
23 elements? Sorry, that had withdrawn from Freetown?

24 A. Well, they were in two groups: Gullit was with one group
10:21:38 25 in Benguema whilst Bazzy was with the other group at Hastings.

26 Q. And when you went to Waterloo, what was the purpose of you
27 going to Waterloo?

28 A. Sam Bockarie sent me to Waterloo to call Gibriil Massaquoi
29 to go to Buedu and to get the politicians who had been freed from

1 Pademba Road so that they can come to Makeni, because
2 Sam Bockarie had said he wanted to talk to them.

3 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat the
4 last bit of his answer.

10:22:26 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, can you repeat the last part of
6 your answer? The last thing we have on the record is,
7 "Sam Bockarie said he wanted to talk to them." Now, what did you
8 say after that?

9 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. I said Sam Bockarie had said
10:22:42 10 he wanted to talk to them, so from Makeni they went to Kailahun,
11 Buedu, Victor Foh, ET Kamara and others, the late Osho Williams.

12 MR CHEKERA:

13 Q. So your assignment was to convey a message for these
14 politicians to join Sam Bockarie in Buedu. Did you have any
10:23:24 15 other assignment?

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: That's not what he said. His errand was
17 to call Gibril Massaquoi to go to Buedu. It was Gibril who had
18 the assignment to get the politicians.

19 MR CHEKERA: My mistake.

10:23:40 20 Q. Did you have any further assignment, Mr Sesay, other than
21 to go and summon Gibril?

22 A. No, I hadn't any other assignment. It was just the Gibril
23 and the politicians.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Let me inquire, Mr Sesay: Why was it
10:24:00 25 necessary for you to physically go to Waterloo? Couldn't
26 Bockarie have sent a radio message or a telephone message to
27 Gibril Massaquoi?

28 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, it was Bockarie who said I
29 should go. That was why I went. And because Bockarie was aware

1 that Gibril was a stubborn man, that was why he told me to summon
2 him. And even when I went there, Gibril refused to go. He hid
3 away from me because Bockarie wanted me to go and talk to him.

10:25:15 4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, where was Gibril Massaquoi at
5 this time, when you went to Waterloo?

6 THE WITNESS: Gibril Massaquoi was in Pademba Road Prisons
7 when he was freed by the AFRC during the invasion in Freetown.

8 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat this
9 answer slowly.

10:25:36 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: You have to repeat your answer, slowly.
11 Where was Gibril Massaquoi at this time?

12 THE WITNESS: My Lord, I said at this time Gibril Massaquoi
13 was in Waterloo after he had rejoined the RUF. But at that time
14 - before that time he was in Pademba Road Prisons in Freetown.

10:25:56 15 The AFRC who attacked Freetown freed him from prison. So he
16 retreated with the AFRC to Waterloo and rejoined the RUF. So
17 when Sam Bockarie heard that, he said I should go to Waterloo and
18 tell Gibril that he wanted to see him so that Gibril would go and
19 explain about Mr Sankoh's position or his location or the
10:26:21 20 whereabouts of Mr Sankoh.

21 MR CHEKERA: May I?

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Perhaps one additional question. Which
23 politicians are you referring to when you say the message from
24 Sam Bockarie was for Gibril Massaquoi to take the politicians?
10:26:49 25 What politicians are you referring to?

26 THE WITNESS: Well, the APC politicians who had then been
27 arrested by the SLPP. All of them were in the Pademba Road
28 Prisons. All of them withdrew together to Waterloo. Victor Foh,
29 Osho Williams, ET Kamara and others whose names I cannot remember

1 now. And even the former President was among the group, but he
2 did not go to Kailahun, he stayed with Brigadier Mani in Makeni,
3 Joseph Momoh.

4 MR CHEKERA:

10:27:36 5 Q. And just to tie up your evidence on that issue, Mr Sesay.
6 You said Gibril Massaquoi hid away from you. Are you in a
7 position to shed more light why Gibril Massaquoi was reluctant to
8 go to Sam Bockarie and ran away from you?

9 A. Well, Gibril was harbouring a grudge that we were the cause
10:28:05 10 of Johnny Paul not coming to Pademba Road. When he discussed the
11 coup to overthrow the AFRC we did not buy the idea and we, in
12 turn, informed Johnny Paul against him and Steve Bio.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: What do you mean by "we were the cause of
14 Johnny Paul not coming to Pademba Road"? What is that, Johnny
10:28:31 15 Paul not coming to Pademba Road? What are you referring to?

16 THE WITNESS: I did not say that. I said Gibril said I and
17 Sam Bockarie, we were the cause that Johnny Paul put him in
18 Pademba Road.

19 MR CHEKERA:

10:28:56 20 Q. Gibril Massaquoi had been put into prison by
21 Johnny Paul Koroma. Is that correct?

22 A. Yes, in '97.

23 Q. And he blamed you and Sam Bockarie for that?

24 A. Yes.

10:29:11 25 Q. And was therefore reluctant to go and see Sam Bockarie when
26 you were sent for him?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. According to the evidence of 375, Mr Sesay, the reason why
29 you went to Waterloo was for you to engage in battle and try to

1 assist the AFRC retake Freetown. What is your comment?

2 A. No, I hadn't such a plan. That was not why I went to
3 Waterloo.

4 Q. 24 June 2008, page 12608. I'll just maybe pick bits and
10:30:38 5 pieces of the excerpts just to put the evidence into context. I
6 couldn't quite summarise it. At line 8:

7 "When we got to Waterloo, Superman, Issa Sesay, Komba
8 Gbundema and some senior officers got together and distributed
9 the troops. They said Colonel Babay together with other
10:31:00 10 commanders should go to Benguema Barracks while Rambo for the
11 RUF, the late, should take another group to Hastings, to attack
12 Hastings, including Red Lion - Red Goat I mean. Rambo Red Goat.
13 Myself" - that is the witness - "and other commanders should go
14 and attack Hastings, Jui to get across the bridge and to go to
10:31:29 15 Freetown and join our brothers."

16 The last part of the excerpt I read, Mr Sesay, "to get
17 across the bridge and to go to Freetown and join our brothers"
18 implies that "the brothers "in this question, who were the AFRC
19 fighters, were still in Freetown when you were at Waterloo. Do
10:32:03 20 you now wish to change your account, in view of this evidence, of
21 what you've just said about the location of the AFRC during the
22 time you were in Waterloo?

23 A. Yes, I said at the time that I went to Waterloo the AFRC
24 had withdrawn from Freetown and Komba Gbundema did not come to
10:32:25 25 Waterloo during that entire period. Colonel Babay did not come
26 to Waterloo. Babay did not come to Waterloo during that entire
27 period. Komba Gbundema was the commander in Kambia, Kamakwie.
28 Babay was in Makeni.

29 Q. Who is Colonel Babay, briefly? Don't go into too much

1 detail.

2 A. Colonel Babay was one of the RUF vanguards.

3 Q. And where was he based?

4 A. I said he was based in Makeni. He was based in Makeni. He
10:33:07 5 did not come to Waterloo.

6 Q. And who is Rambo Red Goat?

7 A. Rambo Red Goat was one of the men who were with Brigadier
8 Mani.

9 Q. Which organisation did he belong to?

10:33:22 10 A. The AFRC.

11 Q. Page 12609. I'll probably just start midway at line 8:

12 "So we got orders from Issa Sesay and he told us that when
13 we got - when we got to Jui there was another road." He is now

14 talking about the advance of the troops towards Freetown as you

10:34:18 15 had planned. "So we got orders from Issa Sesay and he told us

16 that when we got to Jui there was another road that was passing

17 through Kossoh Town to Freetown and so we should release some men

18 up to a platoon or a battalion to join our brothers in Freetown

19 while we should try and clear up the road. The order came from

10:34:49 20 the back from Issa Sesay directly to Rambo, RUF Rambo."

21 Mr Sesay, do you remember this incident and do you remember
22 giving these specific instructions?

23 A. I did not give such an instruction and the RUF never

24 reinforced the AFRC whilst they were in Freetown. At the time

10:35:18 25 the AFRC attacked Freetown ECOMOG was in control of Jui until the

26 AFRC withdrew from Freetown. I did not send anyone to go and

27 reinforce them in Freetown. If they were talking about

28 reinforcement - if I had wanted to reinforce Freetown up to a

29 platoon, no. I did not reinforce Freetown and I did not get

1 orders to reinforce Freetown. And that was the grudge that the
2 AFRC had for us. They said we failed to reinforce them in
3 Freetown and they were blaming us that had we reinforced them in
4 Freetown ECOMOG would not have been able to push them out of
5 Freetown.

10:36:07

6 Q. Line 15, Mr Sesay:

7 "Q. And what happened after that order was received from
8 Issa Sesay?

9 A. Later Rambo sent and asked who was supposed to be the
10 commander to go and join the people and that Issa Sesay
11 then appointed - said Rambo Red Goat because he knew his
12 brothers in the city well and he was once an SLA soldier."
13 Rambo Red Goat, was he once an SLA soldier?

10:36:19

14 A. Yes, Rambo Red Goat - say that again?

10:36:48

15 Q. Was Rambo Red Goat a former - once or a former SLA soldier?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. What is being alleged here, Mr Sesay, is that you then
18 appointed Rambo Red Goat to lead the platoon or battalion that
19 was mentioned in the earlier excerpt I referred to, to advance to
20 Freetown.

10:37:13

21 A. That's a lie. At that time I did not even know Rambo Red
22 Goat in person. I only used to hear the name. And the time I
23 came to know Rambo Red Goat was after my release from the --

24 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
25 to repeat that area slowly.

10:37:37

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: The interpreter needs you to repeat the
27 area slowly. You said, "And the time I came to know Rambo Red
28 Goat was after my release from --" Continue from there.

29 THE WITNESS: No, my Lord. I said after they had been

1 released from the Pademba Road Prison because they had arrested
2 them during the coup time when Johnny Paul hid away. They were
3 arrested and the SLPP arrested them and they were all in the
4 Pademba Road.

10:38:11 5 MR CHEKERA:

6 Q. Before you continue. Who had been arrested. The "they"
7 you are talking about, who are you talking about?

8 A. Rambo Red Goat and his colleagues.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: So you mean, Mr Sesay, where did you meet
10:38:25 10 Rambo Red Goat after he had been released from Pademba Road
11 Prison? Where did you meet him?

12 THE WITNESS: He came to visit Bazzy at the detention.
13 That was the time I came to know him in person. He visited the
14 detention before we were transferred to Rwanda.

10:38:52 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: But you just said that you came to know
16 Rambo Red Goat after he was released from Pademba Road Prison.
17 Isn't that what you said?

18 THE WITNESS: Yes, that is what I said, ma'am. I said when
19 the SLPP government released them from the Pademba Road Prison,
10:39:15 20 Rambo Red Goat, Alhaji Kamanda, that is Gunboot, they came to
21 visit Bazzy at the detention. Bazzy, Alex Brima and Five-Five.
22 That was the time I came to know Rambo Red Goat in person at the
23 detention centre.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: This was obviously sometime after 2003?

10:39:35 25 THE WITNESS: No, my Lord. This was after 2006. Around
26 2-7 to 2-8. And the AFRC who attacked Freetown, like Junior
27 Lion, who testified, it was in an open session, those did not
28 allege that the RUF sent reinforcements. They did not say that
29 the RUF sent reinforcement to Freetown. And had anybody moved

1 from Waterloo and escaped into Freetown on his own, then that
2 would have been a military move by that person. But it was not
3 an order from Issa or any other person in the RUF. And there
4 was, in fact, a witness, I would not want to call that witness's
10:40:33 5 name - if you want I can write it on an a paper - that witness
6 testified at the Trial Chamber II against the AFRC. That witness
7 was in Freetown. And had Issa sent reinforcement or had he sent
8 any members from the RUF who had been sent by Issa as
9 reinforcement, I believe that witness would have said it. I can
10:40:58 10 write the name and I will show it to you for you to see it.

11 MR CHEKERA: I'm not sure whether your Honours would --

12 MR KOUMJIAN: I would request it.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. Let the witness be given a
14 piece of paper to writing something down.

10:42:41 15 So, Mr Sesay, you said the persons whose names are written
16 on this paper did what?

17 THE WITNESS: My Lord, I said the person whose name I have
18 written on the paper, I am saying had the RUF sent reinforcement
19 to join the AFRC in Freetown, the person would have said it
10:43:00 20 during that person's testimony against the AFRC in the
21 Prosecution's case, because I listened to the witness's testimony
22 over the radio.

23 JUDGE LUSSICK: And, Mr Sesay, you would regard that person
24 as a witness of truth, would you?

10:43:20 25 THE WITNESS: No. I am talking about this part of the
26 witness's evidence because the witness was with them when they
27 were sprung out and the witness was with the attackers when they
28 came to Waterloo. And had the RUF been involved in Freetown, the
29 witness's testimony would have alluded to that. But the witness

1 said they only saw three RUF in Freetown at that time. So that
2 the is the part of the witness's evidence that I am referring to,
3 my Lord.

4 JUDGE LUSSICK: That's the part you believe, is that right?

10:44:03 5 THE WITNESS: Yes, because it was a witness that was ready
6 to implicate me, because the witness wanted Special Court to send
7 me to jail for my lifetime. So had any RUF been present in
8 Freetown, that witness would have said it.

9 JUDGE LUSSICK: I'm probably confused. I thought you were
10:44:28 10 talking about a trial in Freetown before Trial Chamber II. Are
11 you referring to a trial before Trial Chamber I?

12 THE WITNESS: No, my Lord, I am referring to the case
13 before Trial Chamber II, the AFRC case. This witness testified
14 there. The witness was a Prosecution witness.

10:44:57 15 JUDGE LUSSICK: Why would he try to implicate you in that
16 trial? You were not accused in that trial.

17 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord, but as the witness was
18 testifying, so many things he did refer to as being done by Issa.
19 So that is why I'm saying that the witness was an RUF member and
10:45:18 20 who was present in Freetown. The witness saw all that obtained
21 in Freetown until the time they withdrew.

22 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
23 to repeat that area slowly from where I stopped.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is so tiresome. Mr Sesay, you keep
10:45:36 25 speeding up and breaking up your evidence. You were explaining
26 that the witness saw all that obtained in Freetown until the time
27 they withdrew, and then you said something that the interpreter
28 didn't get.

29 THE WITNESS: My Lord, I said this man was in Freetown and

1 saw everything that obtained in Freetown, all the destruction
2 that took place. The witness saw all the RUF members who were
3 amongst the attackers. So, had this witness seen any
4 reinforcements from the RUF or any RUF presence in Freetown, the
10:46:14 5 witness would have said it. That is what I mean, my Lord.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Have you signed and dated that piece of
7 paper?

8 MR CHEKERA: If that may be marked for identification,
9 Madam President.

10:46:50 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: The piece of paper, upon which the
11 witness has written a name of a protected witness, will be marked
12 MFI-11 and will be kept confidentially.

13 Incidentally, Mr Sesay, the RUF after the - after the 1998
14 intervention, did they harbour any ambitions of fighting their
10:47:48 15 way back into power, along with the AFRC or not?

16 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord, the RUF never had such a plan
17 any more as a result of what had happened, starting
18 from February to late '98, between the RUF and the AFRC.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: So why did you attack Kono - places like
10:48:39 20 Kono amongst others, Makeni - if you had no ambition of taking
21 over power, why did you then attack these places?

22 THE WITNESS: No, my Lord, I thought you had said a
23 combined group of the RUF and the AFRC. That was what I thought.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, that is not what I said. I said:
10:49:03 25 Did the RUF harbour any ambitions of fighting their way back into
26 power?

27 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. RUF - after the intervention,
28 RUF still had ambition to fight their way back to power.

29 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, it appears you were actually

1 recorded, and I think I heard you refer to the question as "along
2 with the AFRC".

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think I'm perfectly capable of
4 explaining my own question, which I've just done, and I've got
10:49:40 5 the answer, and now I have a follow-up question.

6 Now, Mr Witness, if you say that you harboured, or the RUF
7 harboured these ambitions, why didn't you reinforce your
8 brothers, the AFRC, when they were trying to oust ECOMOG in
9 Freetown?

10 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, I said there had been a
11 division between the RUF and the AFRC, and that had started
12 since February 1998 when SAJ Musa, Brigadier Mani and a large
13 group of the AFRC, went to the Koinadugu District. We hadn't any
14 links with them and we hadn't any common understanding with them
10:50:25 15 any longer. So they were looking at it, that the attack in
16 Freetown was a purely AFRC operation. That was the reason why we
17 did not involve ourselves in that, because they did their
18 planning and they carried out the attack, and even after the
19 death of SAJ Musa at Benguema, Gullit told Sam Bockarie at the
10:50:53 20 initial stage, Bockarie did not believe, but Bockarie told Gullit
21 that he should wait until he sends reinforcements from Makeni
22 before commencing the attack on Freetown, but Gullit did not
23 wait, he went ahead. So that was the reason why RUF hadn't any
24 interest to reinforce Freetown.

10:51:29 25 MR CHEKERA:

26 Q. Mr Sesay, according to the evidence of 375, after you
27 dispatched Red Goat, you proceeded along with a group of about 60
28 to 65 men and they entered the city - they entered into Freetown
29 24 June, 2008. Page 12610, from line 15. At line 27:

1 "Q. And do you know where Rambo Red Goat's group went?

2 A. They entered the city into Freetown."

3 Mr Sesay, you dispatched Rambo Red Goat and he did enter
4 into Freetown with a group of about 65 men. This is what this
10:52:23 5 witness says. What is your comment?

6 A. No. I never gave instruction to Rambo Red Goat during
7 those times. And I did not send Rambo Red Goat to go to Freetown
8 and I did not reinforce Freetown, no. Rambo Red Goat was
9 fighting alongside Brigadier Mani, up to the time we met in
10:52:46 10 Makeni. So had he gone to Freetown, it was not to my knowledge.
11 I did not --

12 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
13 to slow down again from that area from where I stopped.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, you have to repeat your
10:52:58 15 evidence. Up to the time you - up to the time you met in Makeni,
16 "So he had not gone to Freetown, it was not to my knowledge, I
17 did not" - repeat what you just said after that.

18 THE WITNESS: I said Rambo Red Goat was fighting alongside
19 Brigadier Mani up to late December that we met in Makeni. I said
10:53:27 20 so had Rambo Red Goat gone to Freetown, I did not know about
21 that. And I would not send Rambo Red Goat to reinforce the AFRC
22 in Freetown leaving out my own RUF commanders who were at
23 Waterloo. No, because Rambo Red Goat had not operating with me
24 before and I did not even know him at that time. So I did not
10:53:53 25 send him as a reinforcement to go to Freetown, not at all.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: What did you mean "up to
27 late December when we met in Makeni"? December of which year?

28 THE WITNESS: December '98, my Lord.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: When you and who met?

1 THE WITNESS: I said in December '98 he was fighting
2 alongside Brigadier Mani's group. And that was the group with
3 Brigadier Mani from Koinadugu District, Superman's group and
4 General Bropleh's group and my own group when we met in Makeni.

10:54:30 5 I said all along Rambo Red Goat has been fighting alongside
6 Brigadier Mani, so I did not know him for me to --

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, I asked you a very simple
8 clarification. You stated, "Up to late December" -
9 now December 1998 - "when we met in Makeni". What is the "we"?

10:54:54 10 When you met - you and who met?

11 THE WITNESS: My Lord, these are the groups I'm referring
12 to. I said Brigadier Mani's group, that's Rambo Red Goat who was
13 with, Superman's group and General Bropleh's group from the
14 Koinadugu axis and my own group from Kono. All of us met in Kono
10:55:16 15 in late December 1998, my Lord.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Are you saying that you --

17 THE WITNESS: In Makeni.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Are you saying that you met Rambo Red
19 Goat in December of 1998 in Makeni?

10:55:27 20 THE WITNESS: No, my Lord, I did not know him at that time.
21 But that was the group he was working along with. I met that
22 group in Makeni.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is not what I asked you. You've
24 just explained who you met, the groups that you met. And I'm
10:55:45 25 asking you; are you saying that you met Rambo Red Goat in Makeni
26 in December of 1998?

27 THE WITNESS: No, my Lord, at that time I did not know him.
28 I did not know him in person at that time.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is not what I asked. That is not

1 what I asked. I said, "Did you meet him?" Meet him, not know
2 him. Meet him.

3 THE WITNESS: I did not meet him, my Lord.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: I thought that's what you just told us.

10:56:17 5 He was one of the groups that you met. Did you or did you not
6 meet Rambo Red Goat in Makeni in December of 1998? Which is it?

7 THE WITNESS: My Lord, I said I did not know Rambo Red Goat
8 in person, so I did not meet with him in person. But what I
9 understood was that - what I later understood was that he was

10:56:50 10 working along with Mani's group, that was the AFRC group. So if
11 Rambo Red Goat --

12 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
13 to repeat that one.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: If Rambo Red Goat did what?

10:57:13 15 THE WITNESS: I said there was a name that they called Red
16 Battalion, Red Goat, Red Battalion. I said that was Brigadier
17 Mani's battalion.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Incidentally, if you never knew this man
19 before him visiting you in detention in 2006, why would he come
10:57:42 20 to visit you, if you didn't know each other before, in 2006?

21 THE WITNESS: My Lord, sorry, my Lord. Sorry that I am
22 saying this, but it appears as if what I said is not what they
23 said. I did not say Rambo Red Goat came to visit me. I said he
24 and Kamanda, they came to visit Bazy, not me.

10:58:13 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. That is on the record.
26 Please continue.

27 MR KOUMJIAN: I'm not just sure I understood the second
28 name. He said "he and" - the transcript says "commander" but I'm
29 not sure what the witness actually said.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Who did you say came to visit Bazy?

2 THE WITNESS: I said Rambo Red Goat and Alhaji Kamanda,
3 alias Gunboot.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Kamanda spelt as in K-A-M-A-N-D-A?

10:58:49 5 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

6 MR KOUMJIAN: I'm sorry again but he said "Alhaji Kamanda
7 as in", and I didn't get the "as in". I don't know if anyone
8 else did.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: The answer was Alhaji Kamanda alias
10:59:14 10 Gunboot, or Gumboot, I don't know. Is that "Gunboot" or
11 "Gumboot"?

12 THE WITNESS: Gunboot.

13 MR CHEKERA:

14 Q. Maybe, Mr Sesay, just before we break off, when was it that
10:59:39 15 you learnt that Rambo Red Goat had been fighting under General
16 Mani?

17 A. Well, whilst we were at the detention --

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the names were not clear to
19 the interpreter.

10:59:58 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Repeat your testimony. When you were in
21 detention, what happened?

22 THE WITNESS: I said when we were at the detention, Bazy
23 used to say that, and Alex too used to say that, that
24 Rambo Red Goats were the ones who were with Brigadier Mani in the
11:00:18 25 Koinadugu District, because they used to talk about the men who
26 were arrested by the SLPP with regards the coup, who were at
27 Pademba Road.

28 MR CHEKERA: Would that be?

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, yes, Mr Chekera. This is a good

1 time to take the midmorning break. We shall reconvene at 11.30.

2 [Break taken at 11.01 a.m.]

3 [Upon resuming at 11.33 a.m.]

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Koumjian?

11:33:45 5 MR KOUMJIAN: I was just noting a change of appearance; the
6 Prosecution is joined by Brenda J Hollis.

7 MR CHEKERA: Your Honours may also recognise the presence
8 of Mr Griffiths.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Indeed. Please continue with your
11:34:03 10 questi ons.

11 MR CHEKERA:

12 Q. Mr Sesay, let's move on to a different topic.

13 JUDGE DOHERTY: Sorry, Mr Chekera, when you say "a
14 different topic", are you putting a different witness's evidence
11:34:14 15 to the --

16 MR CHEKERA: No, the same one but a different topic.

17 JUDGE DOHERTY: The same one, very well. I will withhold
18 my comment until you complete that.

19 MR CHEKERA: You may proceed, because - if you so wish.

11:34:26 20 JUDGE DOHERTY: It was merely a point of clarification that
21 I wish to seek, because, in the course of your questions, you
22 referred in one question to the evidence of 375, but the witness
23 in his response referred to 371, and I refer here to page 31,
24 line 25, and I am merely clarifying whether the witness meant 375
11:34:48 25 or 371.

26 MR CHEKERA: If I may just have a moment to look at the
27 transcript.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, you told us earlier this
29 morning that "even witness 371, in his own testimony, when he was

1 testi fying against me, he said that we had ammuni ti on constraints
2 in 1998. So where are these suppl ies coming from?" Now, did you
3 mean wi tness 375 or 371?

4 THE WITNESS: No, I meant 371. 371 said in 1998 we had
11:36:05 5 seri ous ammuni ti on constraints.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

7 MR CHEKERA: Does that clari fy it?

8 JUDGE DOHERTY: Yes, it does. I just wanted to be sure.
9 Thank you.

11:36:16 10 MR CHEKERA:

11 Q. Mr Sesay, let's look at the incident relating to the UN
12 hostages as related by this witness we are dealing with, TF1-375.

13 You have already given evidence on the UN hostage incident,
14 if I may call it that, and in your evidence, if I remember very
11:36:40 15 well, Mr Taylor, through his agent, contacted you first in
16 relation to this incident. Do I recall correctly, or do I put
17 your evidence on that issue correctly?

18 A. I said Mr Taylor invited me, through Benjamin --

19 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, can he kindly take his time
11:37:13 20 and speak clearly.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, please repeat your answer
22 clearly and slowly.

23 THE WITNESS: My Lord, I said Mr Taylor invited me, through
24 Benjamin Yeaten, who came in a helicopter to Pendembu. He told
11:37:31 25 the commander, Denis Lansana, and Denis Lansana called me from
26 Makeni .

27 MR CHEKERA:

28 Q. And before Benjamin Yeaten came for you in the helicopter,
29 was there any contact between you and Benjamin Yeaten prior to

1 that trip by Benjamin Yeaten?

2 A. No. There was no contact between us in 2000. The only
3 time that I met with Ben was at the time that we came from Lome
4 in 1999. Since then, we did not have any contact until this
11:38:09 5 time.

6 Q. According to the evidence of 375, Mr Sesay, 24 June 2008, I
7 will probably start at page 12651. You contacted Benjamin Yeaten
8 first through his radio operator, Mortiga. Who is Mortiga?

9 A. Mortiga was one of the RUF radio operators.

11:38:43 10 Q. At the time of the UN hostage incident where was Mortiga?

11 A. Mortiga was in Sierra Leone when Kailahun --

12 Q. Who was he working with or working for in Kailahun at the
13 time?

14 A. He was working with Martin George, who was the commander in
11:39:08 15 Kailahun, Kailahun Town, that was where Mortiga was already as
16 their radio operator.

17 Q. Was there a point when Mortiga was working with
18 Benjamin Yeaten in Liberia?

19 A. No, I was not aware of that except during the disarmament,
11:39:29 20 maybe he crossed into Liberia, but I did not know about him
21 working with Benjamin Yeaten as a radio operator.

22 Q. According to this piece of evidence, Mr Sesay, you
23 contacted Benjamin Yeaten in connection with the UN hostage
24 incident by radio through Mortiga you asked for Benjamin Yeaten
11:39:53 25 to turn on his satellite phone and you subsequently discussed the
26 issue with Benjamin Yeaten on the satellite phone?

27 A. If that was what happened then there was no need for
28 Mr Taylor to send Benjamin Yeaten to come with the helicopter to
29 Pendembu because if the two of us had communicated then he could

1 have told me to drive on to Foya to come for a helicopter to pick
2 you up.

11:40:30 3 Q. Mr Sesay, according to the evidence of this witness, his
4 account is the account of what happened; Benjamin Yeaten did not
5 come by helicopter to pick you up, you contacted him by - over
6 the satellite phone first.

7 A. That's a lie. During that time the phone that I had did
8 not have any credit to call. Even the people of Pendembu,
9 everybody saw the helicopter when it landed when Benjamin Yeaten
11:40:55 10 disembarked and spoke to Denis and Denis sent the message to me.

11 Q. Well according to this witness, 375, in his evidence at
12 this time he was also with Benjamin Yeaten in Liberia and
13 actually Benjamin Yeaten, after receiving your call and
14 discussing the issue with you, Benjamin Yeaten dispatched 375 by
11:41:24 15 motorbike to come to Makeni to see what was happening. Do you
16 remember any messenger or any mercenary or someone who was sent
17 by Benjamin Yeaten to come to Makeni in relation to the UN
18 hostage incident from Liberia?

19 A. Benjamin Yeaten did not send anybody who came from Liberia
11:41:51 20 to Makeni. Nobody came from Liberia to Makeni during that
21 problem, and before that time I did not have Benjamin Yeaten's
22 telephone number.

23 JUDGE DOHERTY: I am sorry, Mr Chekera, but I am finding
24 this a bit confusing.

11:42:10 25 Did the helicopter land in Pendembu or Foya? You have
26 referred to both, Mr Sesay.

27 THE WITNESS: My Lord, it was in Foya in Pendembu. When
28 Benjamin Yeaten - when Benjamin Yeaten came he landed in Pendembu
29 then he asked the commander who was there about me.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: You said it was in Foya, in Pendembu. Is
2 there a place called Foya in Pendembu?

3 THE WITNESS: No. My Lord, Foya is not in Sierra Leone,
4 it is in Liberia. What I said was that if I and Benjamin
11:42:49 5 Yeaten had communication over the telephone, then there was no
6 need.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause. That is not the question
8 the learned judge asked you. The learned judge asked you,
9 seeking clarification from you, where did the helicopter land,
11:43:06 10 was it Pendembu, Foya or both.

11 THE WITNESS: My Lord, it was in Pendembu that
12 Benjamin Yeaten landed with the helicopter.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

14 JUDGE DOHERTY: So the helicopter crossed the border,
11:43:23 15 despite the UNAMSIL presence you have talked about earlier?

16 THE WITNESS: No, my Lord. At this time UNAMSIL had not
17 deployed in Kailahun yet. This was in May, late May 2000.

18 JUDGE DOHERTY: I am clearer now, thank you.

19 MR CHEKERA:

11:43:47 20 Q. Mr Sesay, according to the evidence of 375, he was
21 dispatched by motorbike by Benjamin Yeaten and they came to
22 Makeni, and when he came to Makeni, he actually saw the UN
23 hostages. And he relates an incident where you were addressing
24 the UN peacekeepers that had been captured. Do you recall
11:44:10 25 addressing the UN peacekeepers?

26 A. Yes, but my evidence on this one that I just said, I have
27 recalled that UNAMSIL was in Kailahun when Benjamin Yeaten
28 crossed in the helicopter. UNAMSIL was deployed in Kailahun Town
29 but they were not in Pendembu.

1 Q. So you want to clarify that in relation to the question by
2 the learned justice?

3 A. Yes. It was in Kailahun Town that they were, not in
4 Pendembu Town.

11:44:48 5 Q. Now, do you recall addressing the captured UN peacekeepers
6 in Makeni?

7 A. Yes, I recall.

8 Q. And what was the nature of your address to them?

9 A. Like what?

11:45:11 10 Q. What were you telling them or addressing them on?

11 A. After the capture of the UNAMSIL, what I was telling them?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. I do not understand.

14 Q. What did you tell the captured UNAMSIL soldiers when you
11:45:34 15 addressed them in Makeni?

16 A. In - no, in Makeni I did not talk to them. It was in
17 Yengema that I went at one time and spoke to them.

18 Q. And what did you speak to them about?

19 A. Well, I told them that they were in the custody of the RUF
11:46:01 20 but that they should wait, whenever I am contacted they would be
21 released. The food that I will be able to obtain, I would
22 provide for them.

23 Q. And when you say when you were contacted you would let them
24 know, who were you expecting to contact you in relation to the UN
11:46:21 25 peacekeepers?

26 A. I was expecting even contact from Freetown or anywhere
27 else, but I was not specific to say that it was this person or
28 that person that I was expecting to contact me, no.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, but why would anyone else out there

1 in the world contact you? Who, in particular, were you
2 interested in contacting you?

3 THE WITNESS: My Lord, like the guarantors, because I knew
4 that the guarantors, they were the signatories to the accord
11:47:06 5 between the RUF and the Government of Sierra Leone.

6 MR CHEKERA:

7 Q. Now, according to the evidence of 375, Mr Sesay, you
8 addressed the UN peacekeepers at the MP headquarters and present
9 were also Augustine Gbao and Morris Kallon and you were all
11:47:31 10 standing there. And they heard you say, page 12654, line 23,
11 this is you addressing the UN peacekeepers:

12 "You were planning to attack us. You are not here for
13 peace. We are also ready to repel any attacks."

14 Do you remember making this statement, Mr Sesay, in your
11:48:01 15 address to the UN peacekeepers?

16 A. I did not address the UN peacekeepers in Makeni and in the
17 Makeni MP office and even the UN peacekeepers whom the Prosecutor
18 brought to testify against me, none of them said that; that I
19 addressed them at the MP office.

11:48:26 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: What was - the question is you addressed
21 the UN peacekeepers after the MP headquarters and present - after
22 the what headquarters?

23 MR CHEKERA: It is recorded as "after", it should be "at
24 the MP headquarters".

11:48:53 25 Q. Mr Sesay, I will repeat the question, just so to be clear.
26 The question is that you addressed the UN peacekeepers at the MP
27 headquarters, and part of your address you told them that - I
28 will just read you what you told them:

29 "You are planning to attack us. You are not here for

1 peace. We are also ready to repel any attacks."

2 Do you remember that part of your address to the UN
3 peacekeepers, Mr Sesay?

4 A. I say that's a lie. I did not address the UN peacekeepers
11:49:24 5 at the MP headquarters in Makeni. I said even the UN
6 peacekeepers who were captured, the Prosecutor brought some of
7 them as witnesses against me. None of them said after they had
8 been captured I addressed them at the MP headquarters in Makeni,
9 no.

11:49:47 10 Q. When you addressed them, Mr Sesay, not at the MP
11 headquarters, when you addressed them, as you indicated in your
12 evidence, did you utter any of these words in your address to the
13 UN peacekeepers?

14 A. I said I did not address the UN after their capture in
11:50:04 15 Makeni, I did not talk to them. I said it was in Yengema that I
16 spoke to them, and when I spoke to them in Yengema I did not tell
17 them any such thing. I did not tell them that.

18 Q. 375 goes on to say that, Mr Sesay, after witnessing you
19 addressing the UN peacekeepers at the MP headquarters, you
11:50:28 20 radi oed Benjamin Yeaten, again through Mortiga, and confirmed
21 that, indeed, the UN peacekeepers had been captured.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry. You say, Mr Chekera, after
23 addressing the peacekeepers at MP headquarters, Issa Sesay did
24 what?

11:50:45 25 MR CHEKERA: The witness, that is, 375, radi oed Benjamin
26 Yeaten through Mortiga and confirmed --

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Radi oed you said?

28 MR CHEKERA: Yes. If, madam transcriber, you are having
29 any problems with my pronunciations, please let me know. Thank

1 you.

2 Q. The witness sent a radio message to Benjamin Yeaten through
3 Mortiga and Benjamin Yeaten, once again, arranged to contact you,
4 Mr Sesay, by satellite phone. Did you not talk to
11:51:38 5 Benjamin Yeaten by satellite phone after your address of the UN
6 peacekeepers?

7 A. That's a lie. I did not talk to Benjamin on a satellite
8 phone and I did not talk - I did not send a radio message to
9 Benjamin after the capture of UNAMSIL.

11:51:55 10 Q. That would be page 12655. When the UN peacekeepers were
11 captured, what else was captured, Mr Sesay?

12 A. They captured the ammunition that they had in their
13 possession, armoured cars, their vehicles and the communications
14 - the communication sets that were in the armoured cars.

11:52:34 15 Q. What happened to the captured armoured cars?

16 A. Some of them were driven to Kono and some were in Makeni.
17 During the disarmament, we handed them over. We turned them over
18 to UNAMSIL before the disarmament.

19 Q. If you recall, how many cars were captured?

11:53:01 20 A. Well, I can't recall now.

21 Q. And what happened to those cars?

22 A. Those cars, after the first meeting between myself and
23 General Opande, I spoke to the commanders, those who were using
24 those vehicles, for them to park them at the MP office in Makeni.
11:53:26 25 So I handed them over to General Opande in Makeni.

26 Q. Before you handed them over to General Opande after the
27 capture, what happened to the vehicles?

28 A. RUF officers were using them. Like, those who set the
29 ambush, Komba Gbundema and others, were using them. Those in

1 Makeni, Kailahun and others were using them. They captured them.

2 Q. On whose instructions were they using the captured
3 vehicles?

4 A. Well, it was Mr Sankoh who gave the instruction to set
11:54:01 5 those ambushes. It was Mr Sankoh's instruction. If it was not
6 Mr Sankoh's instruction, I don't think anybody would have
7 attempted to set an ambush for UNAMSIL.

8 Q. Sorry, my question was: Who gave the instruction, if any,
9 let me qualify, for the RUF to use the captured vehicles?

11:54:26 10 A. I said it was Mr Sankoh.

11 Q. And you said you subsequently handed over all the captured
12 - sorry, let me say, you handed over the captured vehicles to the
13 UNAMSIL?

14 A. Yes.

11:54:42 15 Q. Were all the captured vehicles handed over to UNAMSIL?

16 A. Yes. As far as my recollection tells me, we handed them
17 over, especially those in Makeni.

18 Q. What about the armoured cars?

19 A. We handed them all over.

11:55:09 20 Q. What about some of the captured artillery pieces, like the
21 BZT?

22 A. We handed them over.

23 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, just for reference, I am
24 looking at page 12656 and the succeeding pages.

11:55:52 25 Q. Now, Mr Sesay, according to 375 you sent some of the
26 captured artillery to Monrovia to Charles Taylor. Did that
27 happen?

28 A. That did not happen. That did not happen. I did not send
29 any artillery pieces that belongs to UNAMSIL - not even the BZTs,

1 they were just BZTs.

2 Q. 16257, I will start midway line 26: "I saw one - I saw a
3 barrel" - sorry, let me start again. "I saw a one-barrel BZT
4 that they crossed over with to Liberia, and it was used in the
11:56:37 5 President's convoy called Mobile 5, one-barrel BZT. It was the
6 ATU that were using it in the President's convoy called Mobile 1,
7 and some mortars" - over the page - "and some other heavy
8 weapons."

9 Your comment, Mr Sesay?

11:57:01 10 A. No. I did not give any instruction to take any UNAMSIL
11 weapon to Liberia to Mr Taylor, no. The weapons that were seized
12 from UNAMSIL, they were handed back to UNAMSIL before the
13 disarmament, and the light weapons during the disarmament.

14 Q. Do you know whether any heavy weapons and other arms were
11:57:31 15 exported or taken to Liberia without your instructions, for use
16 by Charles Taylor?

17 A. Well, I was not aware of that. I was not aware of any
18 UNAMSIL weapon crossing the border into Liberia, no.

19 Q. Page 12658, line 10: "They crossed with the mortars from
11:58:01 20 Mende Buima to Vahun, and they handed them over to Benjamin
21 Yeaten, for him to use it at the front line. Benjamin Yeaten
22 requested for the weapons from Issa Sesay in my presence in
23 Vahun. He said he needed some mortars to use against ULIMO."

24 JUDGE LUSSICK: That was "against LURD".

11:58:29 25 MR CHEKERA: Sorry, my mistake, sorry.

26 Q. "For use against LURD. He said he should please help with
27 the weapons, and he did." That is you Mr Sesay. "I saw the
28 weapons with my eyes."

29 Mr Sesay, did you send these weapons, as alleged by this

1 witness, who claims to have seen these weapons with his own eyes?

2 A. No. He is lying, because I do not recollect that mortar
3 guns were captured from the UNAMSIL. It was BZT that I knew that
4 were captured, that were installed on the armoured cars, and I
11:59:15 5 did not send any BZT across into Liberia.

6 Q. This is the time, Mr Sesay, when you were summoned to
7 Monrovia and you go with Benjamin Yeaten. You said Benjamin
8 Yeaten came for you. On that occasion, did you take any arms to
9 Benjamin Yeaten?

11:59:39 10 A. No. At the time that Benjamin Yeaten came and called me to
11 Pendembu when I went, I did not take along any arms. All my
12 trips that I went to Monrovia, I never took arms along. To talk
13 about arms that I captured from UNAMSIL and take them, that never
14 happened.

12:00:02 15 Q. And after that occasion when Benjamin Yeaten came for you,
16 did you have any direct dealings with Benjamin Yeaten after that,
17 especially concerning arms and ammunition?

18 A. No, no.

19 Q. Very well, Mr Sesay. Let's move on to a different topic,
12:00:31 20 same witness. You have already denied, Mr Sesay, having any
21 dealings with Liberia, with Charles Taylor, concerning supply of
22 ammunition. Did you have any dealings directly with Benjamin
23 Yeaten concerning supply of ammunition? And I refer to you, Issa
24 Sesay.

12:01:08 25 A. Well, during this time when I met with Benjamin Yeaten, the
26 war did not continue in Sierra Leone, so I was not dealing with
27 him in terms of ammunition. We didn't need ammunition.

28 Q. According to the evidence of this witness, Mr Sesay, from
29 2000 you made about four trips from Benjamin Yeaten to the RUF,

1 which you were leader of at the time, and delivered ammunition.

2 A. Well, I did not make trips to collect ammunition. I made
3 about five to six trips to Liberia when I was interim leader.

4 But from the - during all the times that I was going to Monrovia,
12:02:05 5 I did not take ammunition to bring to the RUF, no.

6 Q. Sorry, the evidence is 375, he is the one who was bringing
7 ammunition to you from Benjamin Yeaten in Liberia.

8 A. No. I did not have anybody that was bringing ammunition to
9 me from Benjamin Yeaten. That's not true.

12:02:35 10 Q. You will recall, Mr Sesay, just to give you a bit of
11 perspective, this is a witness who is saying at this time he was
12 working with Sam Bockarie - sorry, with Benjamin Yeaten, and in
13 that capacity he used to run these errands. In 2000, he says he
14 took about two trips and brought ammunition to the RUF from
12:02:56 15 Benjamin Yeaten. The first trip was in early 2000.

16 For the record, Madam President, I refer to 12659,
17 transcript of 24 June 2008.

18 On the first trip, he turned over the ammunition to your
19 bodyguard, Bob George. Did you have a bodyguard by the name of
12:03:26 20 Bob George?

21 A. Yes, Boy George. Boy George was my bodyguard. But when
22 the witness said in early 2000 he brought ammunition to me,
23 that's a black lie, because from January, February, Boy George
24 was in Makeni. It was in March that Boy George joined me in
12:03:50 25 Kono, and from January to May of 2000, nobody came from Liberia
26 to Issa, no.

27 Q. Well, maybe, Mr Sesay, just to help you clarify, this
28 consignment was delivered to Bob George, who you say is Boy
29 George, in Koindu, early 2000?

1 A. In Koindu?

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. Well, I did not have a bodyguard Bob - what did you say?
4 What's the name, sir?

12:04:33 5 Q. Bob George.

6 A. No. I did not have a bodyguard called Bob George. My own
7 bodyguard was Boy George. And in the whole of 2000 - '99, 2000,
8 2001, he was not living in Koindu, no.

9 Q. Did any of your bodyguards receive ammunition in early 2000
12:05:01 10 from Monrovia?

11 A. Not at all, not at all. The only person who crossed that
12 border in 2000 was Ibrahim Bah. Between 2000 - between January,
13 from December '99, till May, it was Ibrahim Bah and two white
14 men.

12:05:26 15 Q. Just to complete the evidence, the witness alleges that the
16 ammunition came from Charles Taylor's house in Congo Town. Did
17 you receive any ammunition in 2001 from Charles Taylor's house in
18 Congo Town through an agent of Benjamin Yeaten or someone sent by
19 Benjamin Yeaten?

12:05:49 20 A. No, no, not at all.

21 Q. Witness 375 says within a month of the first trip he came
22 with another consignment, AK rounds, GMG and RPG rockets, and
23 again this came from White Flower. Do you remember?

24 A. I said when Mr Sankoh was arrested, from May, I did not
12:06:27 25 receive ammunition from anywhere. I did not receive ammunition
26 from Mr Taylor, no. So if anybody is alleging that he brought
27 ammunition supplies to me, that's a lie. And from August of
28 2000, we were not fighting against the government troops. We
29 were not attacking government positions.

1 Q. This second consignment was delivered in Buedu to someone
2 called C0 Fembeh. Who is C0 Fembeh?

3 A. There was only one C0 Fembeh in the RUF, but C0 Fembeh was
4 in Motema in Kono at this time. Since C0 Fembeh left Kailahun in
12:07:16 5 December '98 from Pendembu, he never returned to Kailahun until
6 the disarmament. He never went to Kailahun District until the
7 disarmament was completed. So if anybody said he gave Pa Fembeh,
8 C0 Fembeh, ammunition in Buedu, that's a black lie. '99, 2000,
9 2001, Pa Fembeh was based in Motema. C0 Fembeh was based in
12:07:46 10 Motema in Kono, and he was there on a daily basis.

11 Q. Third trip, early 2001, page 12662. Benjamin Yeaten
12 instructed that the ammunition be delivered straight to Issa
13 Sesay in Kono. Witness, that is 375, someone by the name of
14 Martin, was the senior person at the time on the convoy. They
12:08:38 15 undertook this trip and they delivered the ammunition to you,
16 Issa Sesay, in Kono. Do you recall this incident, Mr Sesay?

17 A. No, not at all. Nobody brought ammunition alongside with
18 Martin when they met me in Kono. That's a lie. In 2001, that's
19 a lie.

12:09:01 20 Q. Who is Martin?

21 A. I said by the name of Martin. I said that's a lie.

22 Q. Fourth trip, again ammunition is collected from White
23 Flower, delivered to have Mende Bui ma. Do you remember
24 ammunition being delivered to Mende Bui ma at any point after 2000
12:09:43 25 - in 2001 or there about?

26 A. From - no, I do not remember that because from December
27 1998 up to the disarmament it was at Manowa Ferry that we used to
28 cross, so I do not know why people will cross at Mende Bui ma when
29 we had vehicles in 2000 and 2001 that I was using to go to

1 Manowa. How could I have crossed to Mende Bui ma where there were
2 no vehi cles ply ing from Manowa. I did not I did not receive any
3 ammuni ti on from anybody through Mende Bui ma.

4 Q. In 2001 where was your bodyguard called Boi se?

12:10:42 5 A. I did not have a bodyguard called Boi se. I had a bodyguard
6 called Boys, Musa Vand i .

7 Q. How do you spell Boys? As in "boys" in plural? As in
8 "boys", Engl i sh word, in plural?

9 A. Yes, yes. B-0-Y-S.

12:11:03 10 Q. And you have never heard of anyone by the name Boi se, as in
11 B-0-I -S-E?

12 A. No, no. I have never come across that name.

13 Q. Let's talk about your bodyguard Boys. Where was he based
14 in 2001?

12:11:23 15 A. Boys was with me in Kono.

16 Q. According to 375 the fourth consignment, sometime in 2001,
17 was delivered to your bodyguard Boi se in Mende Bui ma?

18 A. That's a black lie. We were not fighting in 2001 in
19 Sierra Leone apart from the sporadic attacks by the Kamajors on
12:11:53 20 the road. To say these ammuni ti on were coming to me, that's a
21 lie. And Boys, my bodyguard, never went to receive ammuni ti on at
22 Mende Bui ma, no.

23 Q. Very well, Mr Sesay, let's move on to a different witness
24 al together.

12:12:20 25 Madam Presi dent, if I can just have a minute to organise
26 mysel f.

27 Before I conti nue, Mr Sesay, just help me with very, very
28 basic detai l about one indi vi dual. Do you know someone by the
29 name of Joseph Woody?

1 A. No. This is a strange name.

2 Q. Thank you. Let's consider the evidence of TF1-567. This
3 was a protected witness - highly protected - so once again I will
4 not be able to give you any detail relating to his identity. I
12:14:23 5 will be haphazard in my approach, Mr Sesay. I will just pick up
6 the topics as they appear in the evidence.

7 After the retreat from Freetown, Mr Sesay, what you have
8 referred to as the intervention, where did Sam Bockarie go?

9 A. Sam Bockarie went to Buedu because he was in Kenema.

12:15:08 10 Q. And from Buedu did he go anywhere else?

11 A. No. He was in Buedu, except that he used to come to
12 Kailahun Town, to Daru and return to Buedu.

13 Q. Do you know whether during that time he ever crossed over
14 into Liberia?

12:15:27 15 A. No. When I got there I did not hear that. I did not hear
16 that in Buedu.

17 Q. Did Sam Bockarie go to Liberia to see Charles Taylor after
18 the intervention when you retreated to Buedu?

19 A. No.

12:16:04 20 Q. Transcript of 2 July 2008, page 12898. Mr Sesay, according
21 to the evidence of TF1-567 who testified for the Prosecution,
22 after you retreated from Freetown Charles Taylor sent Jungle to
23 summon Sam Bockarie to come to Liberia. Did you hear about that
24 incident where Sam Bockarie was summoned to Liberia by Charles
12:16:46 25 Taylor through Jungle?

26 A. No, I did not hear that.

27 Q. After the retreat of the RUF and the AFRC from Freetown?

28 A. No. I said I did not hear that and that did not happen.

29 Q. You have just anticipated my next question, Mr Sesay. Did

1 Charles Taylor contact the RUF in any context or for any reason?

12:17:38 2 A. No. Charles Taylor did not contact the RUF. It was
3 Sam Bockarie that contacted Charles Taylor around August '98
4 through Eddie Kanneh and Mr Taylor's ambassador in Guinea, but,
5 before that time, no.

6 Q. Same page, line 23:

7 "When I was there" - that is witness 567, this was evidence
8 in open session. "I was there, I attended a meeting in which
9 Sam Bockarie, Issa Sesay and others were present. During this
12:18:11 10 meeting Sam Bockarie did say that the Papay, that is Charles
11 Taylor, sent Jungle to meet him and he said he had known that we
12 have retreated to this area and he said he should go and see him.
13 So he, Mosquito, left Issa the commander for him to be able to
14 go."

12:18:39 15 Do you recall a meeting after your retreat from Freetown
16 where Sam Bockarie announced these instructions by Taylor for him
17 to come over to Liberia?

18 A. No, I did not hear that and that did not happen.

19 Q. Very well. I will move on to a different matter. You have
12:19:12 20 given evidence about the diamonds that were taken away from JPK,
21 Johnny Paul Koroma, and you said you and Mike Lamin, among
22 others, were present.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. During that time where was Sam Bockarie?

12:19:31 25 A. Sam Bockarie too was there.

26 Q. Was he there when the diamonds were taken away from Johnny
27 Paul Koroma?

28 A. He was present in the room when Johnny Paul presented the
29 diamonds.

1 Q. For the record I am referring to page 12899, 2 July 2008.
2 Again, this is evidence that was in open session.

3 According to the evidence of 567, Mr Sesay, when you took
4 the diamonds away from Johnny Paul Koroma, Sam Bockarie was
12:20:20 5 absent - he was away - and when he returned he was not happy with
6 you for taking away the diamonds from Johnny Paul Koroma in his
7 absence.

8 A. That's a lie. It's a lie. Sam Bockarie was present.

9 Q. According to this piece of evidence, Mr Sesay, when
12:20:49 10 Sam Bockarie came back he called a meeting - rather, let me say,
11 according to this piece of evidence during the time that you took
12 away the diamonds from Johnny Paul Koroma and his wife,
13 Sam Bockarie had gone to see Charles Taylor?

14 A. No. No. Sam Bockarie was present. He did not go to
12:21:21 15 Liberia, he was in Buedu. He was present when Johnny Paul
16 prepared the diamonds and it was Sam Bockarie who gave
17 instructions for Johnny Paul and his family to go to Kangama.
18 Sam Bockarie was present. So if anybody says Sam Bockarie was
19 not present, that's a big lie.

12:21:38 20 Q. Let's give a time frame, Mr Sesay, just to give your
21 evidence more perspective. Let's give a time frame to the Johnny
22 Paul Koroma incident relating to the diamonds that you're talking
23 about. When was this?

24 A. This was in March 1998, because it was after that incident,
12:22:01 25 just about a week plus, one to two weeks, Sam Bockarie sent me to
26 Monrovia, he sent me to Burkina Faso through Monrovia when I lost
27 the diamonds. Sam Bockarie was in Buedu.

28 Q. You said March of which year, Mr Sesay?

29 A. 1998.

1 Q. Now, according to this piece of evidence, when Sam Bockarie
2 came back from the trip to see Charles Taylor you then gave him
3 the diamond that you had taken away from Johnny Paul Koroma?

4 A. That's a big lie. It's a big lie. Sam Bockarie was
12:22:51 5 present. In fact, the whole thing started from Sam Bockarie when
6 Johnny Paul's CSO gave Sam Bockarie the information about Johnny
7 Paul having diamonds. If anybody said Sam Bockarie was not
8 there, that would be a lie.

9 Q. The narrative goes on, Mr Sesay. After you had given the
12:23:17 10 diamond to Sam Bockarie he said that you would take the diamond
11 to Charles Taylor for safekeeping until Foday Sankoh's return.
12 Do you now remember the discussion?

13 A. No. The diamonds that were given to me, that Sam Bockarie
14 gave to me, he said if Ibrahim Bah was going to pick me up from
12:23:38 15 Monrovia to take me to Burkina Faso for us to meet General
16 Diendere but he did not send me to Mr Taylor because I was in
17 Monrovia with the diamonds for five to six days before I dropped
18 the diamonds, when I was in - when I was at the African Plaza,
19 the hotel.

12:24:02 20 Q. Let's just be clear, Mr Sesay, that we're talking about the
21 same diamonds here. The diamonds that this witness is referring
22 to are the diamonds that you took away from Johnny Paul Koroma.
23 He is saying that you - Sam Bockarie was away, and when he came
24 back you handed the diamonds over to Sam Bockarie and
12:24:21 25 Sam Bockarie said you would take those diamonds, the ones that
26 had been taken away from Johnny Paul Koroma, you would take those
27 diamonds to Charles Taylor for safekeeping until Foday Sankoh's
28 return from prison. Do you remember this?

29 A. That's a false account. That's a false account that the

1 person gave. From the start to the end, where he says
2 Sam Bockarie was not present and that I took the diamonds, when
3 Sam Bockarie came then I gave them to him, that's a lie. They
4 said Sam Bockarie gave me the diamonds to take to Mr Taylor for
12:24:59 5 safekeeping until Foday Sankoh returns, that's a lie.

6 Q. Just to be faithful to the record, Mr Sesay. Sam Bockarie
7 said he was going to take the diamonds to Charles Taylor for
8 safekeeping until Foday Sankoh's return. That's at line 5, page
9 12903. Sam Bockarie was the one who was going to take the
12:25:20 10 diamonds to Charles Taylor for safekeeping until Sankoh's return
11 from prison.

12 A. No. I did not hear that. That's not true. The diamonds
13 that we took from Johnny Paul, Mike Lamin, myself and
14 Sam Bockarie, that was the diamonds that Sam Bockarie gave to me
12:25:41 15 to go to Burkina Faso.

16 Q. And it may be one sentence, what happened to those diamonds
17 when they were in your custody?

18 A. Those are the diamonds that I lost in Monrovia in April
19 '98, those that I lost.

12:26:10 20 Q. Yes, Mr Sesay, we have a different account in relation to
21 these diamonds. According to the evidence of 567, Sam Bockarie
22 did go to Monrovia, as he had indicated in the meeting, and he
23 handed over - Sam Bockarie went to Monrovia and later Zigzag
24 Marzah, Jungle and others came to Buedu with ammunition.

12:26:42 25 A. That's a lie. After that incident from February - from
26 February to August Sam Bockarie did not go to Liberia of '98.
27 The first time that Sam Bockarie went to Monrovia was in
28 September of '98. So if anybody said that Bockarie took diamonds
29 after the intervention to Mr Taylor that's a lie because Bockarie

1 was in Buedu.

2 Q. And, according to this evidence, the persons who came with
3 the ammunition, Zigzag Marzah and company, they were wearing
4 overalls, blue-black, written SOD police. Have you ever seen
12:27:32 5 anyone in Sierra Leone wearing what appeared to be uniform
6 blue-black overalls, written SOD police, bringing ammunition to
7 Sierra Leone?

8 A. No. No. I have never seen somebody with SOD uniform come
9 to Buedu with ammunition, no.

12:27:54 10 Q. Did you hear about such persons coming to Buedu during this
11 time, the time that we're talking about when the diamonds were
12 taken away from Johnny Paul Koroma?

13 A. No. Those people did not come to Buedu.

14 Q. Let's just quickly look at a different topic relating to
12:28:41 15 the capture of Kono - sorry, the recapture of Koidu. Page 12912,
16 transcript of the same date, 2 July.

17 According to this evidence, Mr Sesay, around October of
18 1998 you were based at Superman Ground and you were called by
19 Sam Bockarie to come to Buedu to take charge while Sam Bockarie
12:29:38 20 went to Liberia to see Charles Taylor to discuss the recapture of
21 Koidu.

22 Following that trip, Sam Bockarie came with a lot of
23 ammunition and he told you that Taylor had said that you should
24 capture Kono and other mining areas.

12:30:06 25 Let's take that in stages. October '98, where were you
26 based?

27 A. October '98 I was in Pendembu, and even the insiders who
28 came as Prosecutor witness against me, they too said I was in
29 Pendembu. Nobody ever alleged or indicate that I was in Kono in

1 October '98.

2 Q. And where was Sam Bockarie?

3 A. Sam Bockarie was in Buedu whilst I was in Pendembu. In
4 October Sam Bockarie went to Monrovia and returned, then in
12:30:53 5 November he returned again.

6 Q. When Sam Bockarie went to Monrovia around about October
7 1998 did he bring any ammunition?

8 A. No, he did not bring ammunition.

9 Q. When did Sam Bockarie bring?

12:31:13 10 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Chekera, when you say he went to
11 Monrovia, did he bring ammunition, you're meaning did he bring
12 ammunition back from Monrovia rather than to Monrovia, as it
13 reads?

14 MR CHEKERA: Let me make that distinction.

12:31:27 15 Q. When Sam Bockarie went to Monrovia in October 1998, did he
16 bring back ammunition from Monrovia?

17 A. No.

18 Q. In 1998, when did Sam Bockarie bring back ammunition from
19 his trip to Liberia?

12:31:49 20 A. It was in December '98.

21 Q. And during that trip, do you know whether he saw Mr Taylor?

22 A. Well, Bockarie told me - when he came back in October he
23 told me that he was to go back to Monrovia and that Mr Taylor was
24 putting arrangements in place for him to go to Burkina Faso and
12:32:20 25 see - and meet Blaise Compaore.

26 Q. And on the trip to see Blaise Compaore, did Sam Bockarie go
27 to see Mr Taylor on that trip?

28 A. Yes, I think so.

29 Q. And when he came back to Sierra Leone from that trip did he

1 bring any ammunition?

2 A. Yes, Sam Bockarie brought ammunition which he said he
3 bought in Lofa.

4 Q. Now, when Sam Bockarie, on that trip, went to see Charles
12:33:04 5 Taylor, do you know what was discussed?

6 A. Well, what Sam Bockarie told me was that they said -
7 Mr Taylor said he was going to talk to Compaore, for him to talk
8 to ECOWAS - other ECOWAS leaders for them to revisit the Abidjan
9 Accord.

10 Q. Do you know whether on that trip Sam Bockarie and
11 Charles Taylor discussed the recapture of Koidu?

12 A. Well, when Sam Bockarie returned he did not tell me that.

13 Q. Did he tell you that they had discussed the capture of Kono
14 for diamonds and other mining areas?

12:33:52 15 A. No.

16 Q. According to this piece of evidence, Mr Sesay, when
17 Sam Bockarie came from the trip to see Charles Taylor, in October
18 1998, he brought back ammunition which was then passed on to you
19 while were you based at Superman Ground, and there, that is at
12:34:18 20 Superman Ground, you, Mr Sesay, called a muster parade and you
21 told the troops that Charles Taylor had provided you with
22 ammunition for the attack on Kono and would not provide any more
23 ammunition if the attack was unsuccessful.

24 Before the attack on Kono, did you address a muster parade,
12:34:47 25 Mr Sesay?

26 A. No. I did not call for any muster parade at the Superman
27 Ground. When I came there, we had a meeting. I had a meeting
28 with the commanders. And I did not tell anyone that it was
29 Mr Taylor who gave us ammunition. I did not make such a

1 statement and I did not address fighters at the muster parade. I
2 had a meeting, indeed, with the commanders.

3 Q. Mr Sesay, thank you for making that clarification because
4 that appears to be my mistake. Indeed, page 12913, line 26, the
12:35:28 5 witness says, "A meeting".

6 "When we got to Superman Ground, Issa Sesay called a
7 meeting. At this meeting he called - Morris Kallon was at this
8 meeting, Akim Turay was at this meeting, Banya was at this
9 meeting, Gassama Mansaray was at this meeting, and other people
10 whose names I cannot recall. During this meeting Issa Sesay said
11 that master had come, that is Mosquito. He said so he had gone
12 and met with the Pa, that is Charles Taylor. He said he had
13 given a lot of arms and ammunition for us to capture Koidu Town
14 and for us to capture other areas; those areas that were mining
12:36:20 15 areas. He said that Charles Taylor had said that - he said
16 Mosquito said Charles Taylor had said that if we did not capture
17 these mining areas he said he will not supply us with arms and
18 ammunition any more."

19 The meeting you mentioned, Mr Sesay, Akim Turay was
12:36:55 20 present?

21 A. Yes, Akim came from Gandorhun. I travelled together with
22 Morris Kallon from Buedu. So if the witness said that when I got
23 to Kono I then invited Morris Kallon then that witness was not
24 with us in Kailahun because I travelled together with Morris
12:37:21 25 Kallon from Buedu to Kono.

26 Q. And Gassama Mansaray, was he at the meeting?

27 A. Gassama Mansaray, I don't - I don't recall that name
28 because he was not one of the commanders with whom I had a
29 meeting.

1 Q. Now at this meeting, Mr Sesay, did you mention that the
2 ammunition, the arms and ammunition you had, had come from
3 Charles Taylor?

4 A. I did not make mention of anything pertaining Mr Taylor and
12:38:15 5 it was not arms and ammunition that Bockarie brought. Bockarie
6 only brought with him ammunition. So there was nothing in that
7 meeting that I said about Mr Taylor.

8 Q. The witness goes on to give evidence on how, after the
9 meeting, he dispatched various commanders for the attack on Kono.
12:38:47 10 That part you agree with, do you?

11 A. No, it was not just after - immediately after the meeting
12 that the attack went on, no. After the meeting, commanders went
13 back to their various places and it was the following day that
14 they all moved from their grounds. We then launched the attack
12:39:15 15 on Koi du Town.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry, where did you say the location of
17 this meeting was, the meeting prior to the attack on Koi du Town?

18 THE WITNESS: Superman Ground.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: And where is that located?

12:40:01 20 THE WITNESS: That was a village called Meiyor, which was
21 about --

22 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the number was not clear to
23 the interpreter.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Which was about what?

12:40:14 25 THE WITNESS: About four to five miles to Koi du Town, my
26 Lord.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, can you spell the name of
28 the village?

29 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, it is M-E-Y-O-R.

1 MR KOUMJIAN: It is on the record previously; I recall a
2 different spelling, but we may have various.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I think the earlier spelling we have
4 is M-E-I-Y-O-R and the Prosecution seems to agree with that
12:41:23 5 spelling, but I think we are talking about the same place.

6 MR CHEKERA: I am sure we are, Madam President, thank you.
7 Madam President, I am just trying to look at my transcript and
8 deal with evidence that was in open session first before I go to
9 private session where I have to be very careful in my approach.

12:42:22 10 Q. Let's look at another topic, Mr Sesay: The Freetown
11 invasion, 1999. Again, I will just - I think we have laid the
12 basis of that from your previous evidence in relation to the
13 other transcripts that we're referring to.

14 According to 567, Mr Sesay, when you were at Waterloo you
12:42:50 15 planned another attack on Tombo with a view to go back to
16 Freetown. I am looking at page 12924, 2 July 2008. Did you plan
17 to attack Tombo, Mr Sesay, with a view to retake Freetown?

18 A. No, I did not have such a plan.

19 Q. The next page 12925, line 6:

12:43:42 20 "Q. Why did you plan to attack Tombo?

21 A. Issa wanted us to try to get back to Freetown.

22 Q. Who took part in this attack on Tombo?

23 A. Gullit's group and Issa Sesay's group. They took
24 part."

12:44:01 25 Mr Sesay, that answer --

26 A. No, I said I did not plan to attack Freetown and I did not
27 send anyone to attack Tombo.

28 Q. Let's just take this excerpt in stages, Mr Sesay. Before
29 the attackers on Freetown were repelled and retreated to

1 different places that you have already indicated and you were at
2 Waterloo, on the initial attack on Freetown, January 6, 1999, was
3 the RUF involved? A very brief answer, "yes" or "no", if you
4 may?

12:44:46 5 A. No, no, no.

6 Q. When they were expelled and you were based in Waterloo,
7 when you had been sent to summon Gibril Massaquoi to go to
8 Sam Bockarie, did you plan to retake Freetown along with Gullit?

9 A. No. I did not make such a plan with Gullit because at that
12:45:21 10 time there was a misunderstanding between us and they were
11 castigating the RUF that the RUF did not send reinforcement to
12 them in Freetown and they not in Waterloo. In fact Gullit was
13 based in Benguema. By then I was - the RUF were in Waterloo.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, how far is Benguema from
12:46:23 15 Waterloo?

16 THE WITNESS: It's about half a mile plus, but it is not up
17 to one mile.

18 MR CHEKERA:

19 Q. Again while on the same issue, Mr Sesay, relating to the
12:46:56 20 attack on Freetown, I just want to put this together. Page
21 13154, 8 July. There is evidence from this witness that when
22 Gullit attacked Freetown, Sam Bockarie ordered you, Issa Sesay,
23 to reinforce him.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is that 8 July 2008?

12:47:24 25 MR CHEKERA: Yes, Madam President. 8 July 2008. I'm
26 sorry. 13154 and the succeeding pages.

27 Q. Mr Sesay, the question was - the evidence is, let us me put
28 the evidence again. When Gullit attacked Freetown, Sam Bockarie
29 ordered you, Issa Sesay, to reinforce him. Did you receive such

1 an order from Sam Bockarie?

2 A. No. Bockarie did not give me such an order.

3 Q. And did you reinforce Gullit when he attacked Freetown?

4 A. I did not reinforce Gullit.

12:48:16 5 Q. At page 13155 the witness goes on to further say that
6 actually the 1999 attack on Freetown was a joint attack between
7 the RUF and the AFRC. Your comment, Mr Sesay?

8 A. No, that's a lie because the AFRC who carried out the
9 attack testified against me as Prosecution witnesses. They did
12:48:51 10 not mention that it was a joint attack. They did not say that.
11 Not at all. They themselves confirmed that it was the AFRC that
12 attacked Freetown. And that is a true story. It was not a joint
13 attack.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: We are taking about the attack in 1999,
12:49:20 15 Mr Sesay, are we?

16 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. The January invasion of
17 Freetown, because Junior Lion, who was the task force commander
18 for the attack on Freetown, testified against me. Another
19 witness, who is now deceased, also testified against me. And
12:49:43 20 they did not say it was a joint attack. And it was not a joint
21 attack. Not at all.

22 MR CHEKERA:

23 Q. Now, Mr Sesay, a different topic. We have already covered
24 this topic, but I just want you to comment briefly on the
12:50:01 25 evidence of this particular witness. Again, the UN hostage
26 incident, we have a different account and I want you to comment
27 it.

28 According to this account, Mr Sesay - this is at page
29 13038, 7 July 2008 - following the capture of the UN

1 peacekeepers, Mr Sesay, you sent a message to Charles Taylor for
2 advice. In other words, you were the one who contacted Mr Taylor
3 first, seeking his advice on the issue.

12:50:42 4 A. That's a lie. I did not contact Mr Taylor. The problem
5 between the RUF and the UNAMSIL was an RUF problem and it was
6 Mr Sankoh himself who was in charge of that. That had nothing to
7 do with Mr Taylor. It had no - Mr Taylor had no involvement in
8 that.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, why did the RUF capture UNAMSIL
12:51:05 10 personnel?

11 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, the problem emanated from
12 Mr Sankoh and Jetley's relationship, because Mr Sankoh was the
13 leader of the RUF and he signed the Lome Accord and he instructed
14 us, the RUF commanders and fighters, to disarm. So the
12:51:39 15 misunderstanding that came up between General Jetley and
16 Mr Sankoh led to those problems.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, but precisely why did you capture
18 the UNAMSIL personnel? Why?

19 THE WITNESS: My Lord, I was not in Makeni where the
12:51:56 20 problem started. I was in Kono. But, what I later understood,
21 that was after when the problem had started and what Mr Sankoh
22 said to me was that, he said a fighting had erupted between the
23 RUF and the UNAMSIL in Makeni. So what I understood on arrival
24 in Makeni was that Augustine Gbao, Morris Kallon and Kailondo and
12:52:20 25 others, they said the RUF fighters were travelling from Magburaka
26 to Makeni and when they got to the DDR camp, Makump, UNAMSIL
27 observers and the general peacekeeper troops disarmed three RUF,
28 RUF fighters.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am going to stop you, Mr Sesay. You

1 are telling me a long story that I have heard before. Let me
2 rephrase the question: What was the objective in capturing these
3 UNAMSIL personnel? What did the RUF hope to achieve by capturing
4 them?

12:52:58 5 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, the capture of the UNAMSIL -
6 the instruction did not come from me. It came from the leader to
7 the commanders who were in Makeni.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, but what was the objective, if you
9 know? Surely the instruction didn't come without you knowing
12:53:17 10 what the objective was. What was the objective?

11 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, I believe that I had explained
12 where the problem started and up to this level. I said when
13 Mr Sankoh came up with the idea of capturing these military
14 observers in an ambush, I advised him against that, and it was
12:53:44 15 since then that he sent me out of Makeni. So what I --

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, is the answer that you don't
17 know the objective, the objective behind the capture of the
18 UNAMSIL personnel? Is your answer that you don't know the
19 objective?

12:54:07 20 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, that was - those were
21 Mr Sankoh's ideas.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: In other words, you, as you sit there,
23 you don't know what was the objective behind the capture of these
24 people; is that your answer?

12:54:23 25 THE WITNESS: Well, what I saw was all about delaying the
26 peace process, that is all.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: It seems to me that the answer to my
28 question is yes, you don't know the objective. Am I correct?

29 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, that was what I understood,

1 that it was just an obstruction to the ongoing peace process.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Assuming it was an obstruction to the
3 ongoing peace process, was the objection then to hold on to these
4 personnel until what, until what happened?

12:55:20 5 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, my colleagues and I did not
6 figure out any time in our mind that we were going to keep them
7 for so-and-so long a time.

8 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
9 to slow down and take that area slowly?

12:55:41 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: You have to repeat your answer. Your
11 objective - you said your colleagues and yourself did not figure
12 out what?

13 THE WITNESS: When the problem happened, when they captured
14 these people, I did not actually understand what happened,
12:56:05 15 because it was an order that came from Mr Sankoh to the
16 commanders in Makeni. So at the time they captured the people,
17 if Mr Sankoh himself had sent an order that they should release
18 the people, they would have released them immediately.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Because for me, when someone captures
12:56:32 20 another person, they make demands; the captor makes demands to
21 somebody in exchange for these captives. Now, in the case of the
22 UNAMSIL personnel, the RUF were the captors. Did they make
23 demands to anybody regarding the captives?

24 THE WITNESS: Well, my Lord, I would want you to be patient
12:57:09 25 with me so that I explain.

26 The idea of capturing the UNAMSIL came from the leader,
27 Mr Sankoh. He thought he was capturing those people so that the
28 international community would prevail on President Kabbah for him
29 to meet up with his own part of the agreement. So after the

1 capture of the UNAMSIL, they think - it happened now that he was
2 also arrested in Freetown, so I did not know what was actually
3 the thing. And I did not give any precondition. He said I did
4 not put any condition that President Kabbah should implement the
12:57:53 5 Lome Peace Accord or that they should --

6 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
7 to slow down?

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. You said you did not give any
9 precondition that Kabbah should implement the accord or that
12:58:10 10 what?

11 THE WITNESS: Or I also did not give precondition that they
12 should release Mr Sankoh, because by then he had been arrested.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed with your evidence.

14 MR CHEKERA: Thank you.

12:58:28 15 Q. Mr Sesay, just a "yes" or "no" answer if you may. Did you
16 take part, or were you involved in any way, in the
17 decision-making resulting in the capture of the UN peacekeepers?

18 A. No. At the initial stage, I was not part of it. I was not
19 where the problem started.

12:58:51 20 Q. You have indicated that in your view, Foday Sankoh wanted
21 to use the UN peacekeepers as a bargaining chip. What is your
22 basis for that opinion?

23 A. Well, it was based on the meeting that he had had with us
24 in Makeni, when he said he had realised that the UN are only in
12:59:22 25 Sierra Leone in the interest of President Kabbah and not in the
26 interest of the RUF. So he said the RUF should arrest the
27 military observers.

28 Q. Page - transcript of 7 July 2008, page 13038:

29 "After our return to Foya, Junior Vandi and others called

1 Benjamin Yeaten and told him that Issa Sesay sent them and he
2 said that the word should be taken to the Pa, Charles Taylor,
3 that they had captured so many UN troops with guns for them, so
4 that Pa, Charles Taylor, they needed advice from him."

13:00:15 5 Junior Vandj, during the time of the capture of the UN
6 peacekeepers, where is Junior Vandj, Mr Sesay?

7 A. Junior Vandj was in Kailahun Town.

8 Q. Do you know whether he, at any point during that time, went
9 to Foya?

13:00:31 10 A. He did not go to Foya, not at all.

11 Q. During that time, do you know whether he was in contact
12 with Benjamin Yeaten?

13 A. Not at all. He did not have contact with him, because I
14 recall at the time that Momoh Rogers was beaten up at the

13:00:54 15 borderline in December '98, that was when they said no RUF should
16 cross that border until late May 2000.

17 Q. Momoh Rogers is beaten up at the borderline. Who beat up
18 Momoh Rogers at the borderline?

19 A. The Liberian securities, in December '98 - '99, sorry.

13:01:18 20 Q. Why was he beaten up?

21 A. Well, that was the time Sam Bockarie had crossed, so we
22 sent Momoh Rogers to go to the border to ask the RUF who had
23 followed Sam Bockarie to come back, and then the Liberian
24 securities arrested him and they beat him up seriously. They
13:01:39 25 said he had crossed over their borderline.

26 Q. Are you talking about the time when Sam Bockarie had - when
27 Sam Bockarie left the RUF and went to Liberia?

28 A. Yes, yes, December '99.

29 Q. And who sent Momoh Rogers to try to get the Sierra Leoneans

1 who had crossed over with Sam Bockarie back? Who sent Momoh
2 Rogers on that mission?

3 A. Myself.

4 Q. And Momoh Rogers was beaten up by the Liberian securities
13:02:14 5 for crossing their border?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And you said after that, what happened to the border?

8 A. The Liberian securities said the border had been closed and
9 that they had closed their border. So no RUF had right to cross
13:02:36 10 over it, to cross over that borderline.

11 Q. Until what time?

12 A. Until late May, when I was invited, when Mr Taylor sent
13 Benjamin Yeaten to invite me, when I went there.

14 Q. Line 15: "So after Junior Vandie and Daf had given the
13:03:04 15 message to Benjamin Yeaten, Benjamin Yeaten responded that his
16 dad Charles Taylor will immediately know about that," that is the
17 capture of the peacekeepers," so I went with Junior Vandie and
18 others back to Sierra Leone, and when I went and I met with CO
19 Issa Sesay, he told me that he would give me one vehicle, a
13:03:28 20 pick-up from the same UN vehicles so that my operation will be
21 fast-tracked for me to be able to be taking the arms and
22 ammunition. So he gave me the vehicle. So I went with the
23 vehicle to Monrovia."

24 Let's deal with one aspect here, Mr Sesay, before we move
13:04:00 25 on to - at this time, Daf, the time of the capture of the UN
26 peacekeepers, where was Daf?

27 A. Daf was in Kailahun Town.

28 Q. And just to be complete, who is Daf?

29 A. Daf was a radio operator, Dauda Fornie.

1 Q. And do you know who he was attached to in Kailahun at this
2 time?

3 A. Well, at that time they were just around the radio station,
4 around the radio set in Kailahun Town.

13:04:42 5 Q. The evidence here, Mr Sesay, is that he was actually
6 working in Benjamin Yeaten in Liberia.

7 A. Who, Daf? That's a lie. Daf never worked with Benjamin
8 Yeaten, never.

9 Q. The captured UN vehicles, Mr Sesay, did you give any one or
13:05:07 10 more of them to any of your officers, either in Sierra Leone or
11 in Liberia, for them to use?

12 A. No. I did not give a UN vehicle to anyone. Even those who
13 captured the UN vehicles, they set the ambush, I did not give it
14 to them. They acted upon the orders of Mr Sankoh, and when they
13:05:33 15 captured them, some of them used them.

16 Q. According to this witness, Mr Sesay, 567, you gave him one
17 of the vehicles for him to use so that you could fast-track his
18 operations, that is the transportation of arms and ammunition
19 between - rather, from Monrovia to Sierra Leone.

13:06:00 20 A. No, I did not give a vehicle to anyone. I did not give any
21 UN vehicle to anyone to transport ammunition, no.

22 Q. I will come back to this issue, Mr Sesay, possibly in
23 private session, because it impacts on evidence that was given in
24 private session.

13:06:33 25 The narrative goes on, Mr Sesay. This witness says, "When
26 I arrived in Monrovia, it did not take long when Benjamin Yeaten
27 told me that - told me and that time Benjamin Yeaten told me that
28 I should try and call Issa Sesay and that his dad, Charles
29 Taylor, wanted to see him urgently. So I sent" - it looks like

1 something was missed there. "Issa Sesay came, he came to
2 Monrovia. When they arrived in Monrovia, they went and met with
3 the Pa, Charles Taylor."

4 Do you follow the sequence, Mr Sesay? And do you agree
13:07:15 5 this account? After you had contacted Charles Taylor to seek his
6 advice, Charles Taylor, through the witness - or, rather,
7 Benjamin Yeaten, through the witness, arranged for you to then
8 come to Monrovia?

9 A. It's a lie. It's a lie. The person who conveyed the
13:07:43 10 message to me, after which I visited Mr Taylor, that was in late
11 May of 2000, was Denis Lansana, the commander who was in Pendembu
12 in the Kailahun District. And that in fact was based on the
13 information that Benjamin Yeaten gave to him.

14 Q. Did you receive any radio contact from Monrovia during this
13:08:10 15 time?

16 A. No, no. I did not receive any radio contact pertaining my
17 travel to go and meet Mr Taylor in Monrovia, no.

18 Q. The witness in this evidence says he was based in Monrovia,
19 you will recall, Mr Sesay. And he goes on to say that during
13:08:43 20 this meeting that you had with Charles Taylor concerning the UN
21 hostages, Sam Bockarie was also there and Charles Taylor was
22 trying to negotiate for Sam Bockarie to return to Sierra Leone.
23 That would be page 13039. Was Sam Bockarie at the meeting when
24 you went to see Charles Taylor to discuss the UN hostage
13:09:15 25 incident?

26 A. No. Sam Bockarie was not there at all.

27 Q. When was it that you had a meeting with Sam Bockarie
28 concerning his return to Sierra Leone?

29 A. That was in December 2000.

1 Q. Now, when you went to Monrovia you went by helicopter.
2 When you went to see Charles Taylor concerning the UN hostage
3 incident you went by helicopter, is that correct?

4 A. Yes.

13:10:05 5 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, can he kindly repeat his
6 answer.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: What was your answer?

8 THE WITNESS: It was the ATU helicopter that picked me up
9 from Foya and took me along.

13:10:35 10 MR CHEKERA:

11 Q. Mr Sesay, according to this witness, 567, when you went to
12 Monrovia to discuss the UN hostage incident you did actually talk
13 to him and at one point he asked you - in the course of the
14 discussion, you told him about why you had sought Charles
15 Taylor's advice. Page 13039, 7 July 2008, line 27. That was in
16 open session:

17 "Q. Did you learn why Issa Sesay was seeking advice from
18 Charles Taylor?

19 A. Yes, after I went and met Issa Sesay, he told me it
13:11:28 20 was because Charles Taylor was our big revolutionary
21 father, so he said he went to him for him to give him
22 advice."

23 Do you remember any such conversation with anyone while you
24 were in Monrovia concerning the UN hostages?

13:11:59 25 A. I did not have any such conversation with anybody because I
26 wouldn't tell anybody that when I knew that I did not go to
27 Mr Taylor to seek advice. So it was not possible for me to tell
28 anybody that.

29 Q. At this point, Mr Sesay, did you consider Charles Taylor

1 your big revolutionary father?

2 A. No, no. My revolutionary leader was Mr Sankoh.

3 Q. Did you ever consider Charles Taylor your big revolutionary
4 father?

13:12:40 5 A. I said no.

6 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Sesay, did you complain to Charles
7 Taylor about Momoh Rogers being seriously beaten up on the border
8 when all you had done was send Rogers to recover some RUF troops?
9 Did you make a complaint to Mr Taylor about that sort of
10 treatment?

13:13:03

11 THE WITNESS: No, my Lord. I did not make a complaint
12 about that because, when that incident happened, it was in
13 December of 1999 and Mr Sankoh, who was the leader, called Momoh
14 Rogers from Kailahun and Momoh Rogers was in Freetown for
15 treatment until May when he too was arrested. So I did not make
16 a complaint about that because at the time that I spoke with
17 Mr Taylor, at the time that he told me about the people to bring
18 the UNAMSIL, I did not take long with him, then he said I should
19 go - then he said I should pass the night and the next day, the
20 following day, I travelled back to Sierra Leone.

13:13:24

13:13:51

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, you answered that you did not
22 consider Charles Taylor your big revolutionary father. What did
23 you consider him to be?

24 THE WITNESS: Well, I considered Mr Taylor, that he was a
25 CIC of his own revolution, that is the NPFL, and later he became
26 President of Liberia. At the initial stage of the war in
27 Sierra Leone I considered him as Mr Sankoh's friend, but later he
28 and Mr Sankoh's friendship had a problem. So I considered him as
29 Mr Sankoh's friend.

13:14:27

1 MR CHEKERA:

2 Q. Maybe just to follow up on that question, Mr Sesay: At the
3 time that you went to see Charles Taylor concerning the UN
4 hostage incident, what did you consider, if at all, Charles
13:15:03 5 Taylor to be?

6 A. I considered him as my leader's friend because I considered
7 him as Mr Sankoh's friend, but even the Government of the Ivory
8 Coast was also friendly with Mr Sankoh.

9 Q. Again I do not wish for you to repeat your evidence
13:15:42 10 extensively, but during your discussions with Mr Taylor did he
11 indicate to you why it was prudent for you to release the UN
12 peacekeepers?

13 A. Yes, because he told me that the ECOWAS Committee of Five
14 have received a mandate and they were the moral guarantors of the
13:16:07 15 Lome. He said they had received mandate from the Security
16 Council to facilitate the immediate release of the UNAMSIL
17 personnel and they didn't want to see the --

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, can he kindly repeat his
19 answer slowly.

13:16:26 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Can you please pick up your answer where
21 you said they wanted to facilitate the immediate release of the
22 UNAMSIL personnel. Continue from there.

23 THE WITNESS: Yes, I said he told me that the Security
24 Council had mandated the ECOWAS to facilitate the immediate
13:16:51 25 release of UNAMSIL. So his colleague leaders have told him -
26 have asked him to facilitate the release of the people and that
27 was why he had sent for me. So he asked me where the people were
28 and I explained, and he said, well, he would - he said I should
29 go and bring the people, because that was against the Lome

1 Accord. So he allowed me to only pass one night in Monrovia and
2 the following day I returned to bring the people.

3 MR CHEKERA:

4 Q. In light of your answer, Mr Sesay, I just want you to
13:17:32 5 comment on this aspect of the evidence, page 13040, line 4:

6 "Well, after Issa Sesay met the Pa, Charles Taylor, he said
7 he told him that he, Charles Taylor - he would request for the UN
8 peacekeepers arrested by the RUF, for them to be released. So he
9 said that will serve as a help to him to show to the world that
13:18:05 10 when he says anything that thing will happen."

11 Do you follow what is being suggested here, Mr Sesay?
12 Mr Charles Taylor asked you to release the UN peacekeepers for
13 selfish reasons to enhance his international standing. Do you
14 remember telling anyone this?

13:18:35 15 A. I did not tell anybody that because I did not understand -
16 that was not my understanding.

17 Q. What do you mean when you say that was not your
18 understanding, just explain it briefly?

19 A. That - so that Mr Sankoh would get - I said that was not my
13:18:58 20 understanding. What I understood from him was that this was a
21 violation of the Lome Accord and that they, the ECOWAS, have
22 spoken to him. The Security Council have given the ECOWAS
23 leaders mandate and his colleagues have asked him for him to
24 facilitate the immediate release of the UNAMSIL personnel. So I
13:19:25 25 just took it that it was in the interest of the ECOWAS because
26 they were the guarantors - it was in the interest of the Lome
27 because they were guarantors of the Lome. That was what I took
28 it to be.

29 Q. Was there any suggestion that Charles Taylor was doing this

1 to enhance his profile? In your discussion with him about this,
2 was there any suggestion from him that the release would in some
3 way also help him in terms of enhancing his profile?

4 A. No, no. He did not say that to me. What he was saying -
13:20:15 5 what I gained from him was he said like these things that we, the
6 RUF, were doing, other people in the world are thinking that
7 Mr Taylor has knowledge of it, he said but as long as God in
8 heaven knows that he has no hands in it. So that is what I
9 understood; that he too was against the RUF action.

13:20:41 10 Q. Again, not more than a line: What RUF action was he
11 against?

12 A. The capture of UNAMSIL personnel. The way he spoke to me,
13 I concluded that he was against it. That is what I understood
14 from him.

13:21:01 15 Q. Now, Mr Sesay, when you left Monrovia following that trip,
16 how did you go back to Sierra Leone?

17 A. The same helicopter that took me to - it was the same
18 helicopter that took me to Foya. From Foya I used the RUF
19 contractor's pick-up to the Moa River and I used a vehicle to go
13:21:26 20 to Kono.

21 Q. Where did you fly out of in Liberia?

22 A. From Spriggs Field.

23 Q. And when you left Liberia did you take any ammunition with
24 you from Charles Taylor?

13:21:46 25 A. No, he did not give me any ammunition.

26 Q. Did Benjamin Yeaten give you any ammunition?

27 A. No, no.

28 Q. Mr Sesay, I want you to give me some names. This is a
29 different topic. The RUF had a guesthouse in Monrovia?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. When was that guesthouse opened again, just a date?

3 A. It was in late '98.

4 Q. Late '98. And when was it closed?

13:22:58 5 A. It was closed in early 2001.

6 Q. And when it was closed did you do anything to accommodate
7 RUF personnel that were in Liberia?

8 A. Yes. I - I gave money for them to rent - because they only
9 needed two rooms, those who were there; a room and a parlour, a
10 room and a parlour, because two women and two men were there.

13:23:37

11 Q. Now, late 1998 the houses - the RUF get a guesthouse from
12 Charles Taylor's government. Who were the RUF personnel who were
13 living in the house?

14 A. 1998, RUF personnel were not there. I did not know of RUF
15 personnel being in the house up to the Lome Accord. It was - it
16 was during the Lome Accord that Memunatu Deen was there and later
17 Mr Sankoh sent Rashid Foday and his wife and Memunatu Deen's
18 husband.

13:24:06

19 Q. Let's just give a date to Lome, just for completeness of
20 your evidence on that aspect. The Lome, when was this?

13:24:40

21 A. July '99.

22 Q. Do you recall when it was that Rashid Foday moved into the
23 guesthouse?

24 A. Rashid Foday, it was in early 2000, maybe around January
25 2000; that was when Mr Sankoh sent him from Freetown to join
26 Memuna there.

13:25:05

27 Q. And when Rashid Foday was sent to the guesthouse in January
28 of nineteen - January 2000, why was he sent to the guesthouse?

29 A. As caretaker, because only a female was living there

1 because at that time Osman too had not gone there. So Mr Sankoh,
2 who was the leader, decided that one of his bodyguards should go
3 there, that is when he sent Rashid Foday.

13:25:52 4 Q. Did Rashid Foday have any other functions, besides taking
5 care of the house?

6 A. Well, I only knew of taking care of the house.

7 Q. Did he have any assignment relating to the conveyance of
8 any messages from the RUF to Charles Taylor?

13:26:21 9 A. Well, I was not aware of that. Even when I started
10 visiting Monrovia, he was not a middleman whom I gave message to
11 for Mr Taylor, no.

12 Q. Was he, by any chance, a radio operator further to being
13 the caretaker?

13:26:47 14 A. No, no. He was not a radio operator. It was Memunatu Deen
15 and her husband, Tolo, who were radio operators, Rashid was not a
16 radio operator.

17 Q. Did he have any assignment relating to procurement of
18 ammunition from any source?

19 A. Not at all.

13:27:06 20 Q. What about custody of ammunition?

21 A. No, not at all. Because since I started going to Monrovia,
22 ammunition was never kept in that house. So he was not in charge
23 of ammunition. He had no business with - no business with
24 ammunition.

13:27:31 25 Q. During the time that he was based in Monrovia at the
26 guesthouse, did Rashid Foday have any contact, to your knowledge,
27 with Benjamin Yeaten?

28 A. Well, he hadn't any contact with Benjamin Yeaten except
29 that when I went to Monrovia, because at one time Benjamin Yeaten

1 came to the house, at the guesthouse, to take us to RIA. And
2 during the other - for the other meeting also he came and picked
3 us up. Apart from that, he had no links with Benjamin Yeaten.

13:28:29 4 Q. Did he run any errands from Liberia to Sierra Leone during
5 the time that he was based in Monrovia?

6 A. No, no.

7 Q. Did he run any errands specifically relating to the
8 delivery of ammunition from Liberia to Sierra Leone during this
9 time, the time that he was based in Monrovia?

13:28:49 10 A. No, no.

11 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I might be concluding with
12 the transcript I am referring to - rather, I was referring to and
13 I hope over lunch to just quickly go through my notes and see if
14 we need a brief private session after which I will hand over to
13:29:16 15 Mr Griffiths. With your permission, if we could rise a minute or
16 so earlier.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well then. It is nearly time
18 anyway. So we will have the luncheon break and reconvene at
19 2.30.

13:30:01 20 [Lunch break taken at 1.30 p.m.]

21 [Upon resuming at 2.35 p.m.]

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good afternoon. Mr Chekera, please
23 continue.

24 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President, we are also joined
14:36:18 25 by Mr Terry Munyard, Madam President.

26 Q. Mr Sesay, just a few more questions and I hope to conclude
27 and hand over to Mr Griffiths.

28 We were discussing personnel, RUF personnel, that were at
29 the RUF guesthouse in Monrovia, and we were talking about Rashid

1 Foday. I would just ask you a few more questions about that.

2 Of the RUF personnel that were based at the guesthouse,
3 Mr Sesay, do you know whether any one of them could drive, as in
4 drive a vehicle?

14:37:04 5 A. No, I don't know if any of them could drive because at that
6 time I did not see them driving.

7 Q. You indicated that when the guesthouse was closed or,
8 rather, when the guesthouse that had been provided to you by the
9 Government of Liberia was closed, you rented an apartment for
10 your personnel. During the time that you had RUF personnel
11 either in the guesthouse or in the rented accommodation, did you
12 provide a vehicle to any one of them?

13 A. No, I did not give any one of them a vehicle. The one I --

14 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
15 repeat his answer.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you please repeat your
17 answer.

18 THE WITNESS: My Lord, I said I did not provide any
19 vehicles to any of the four people that were at the guesthouse,
14:38:06 20 the two women and the two men. I said the only person - person
21 whom I bought the vehicle for, and the person was using that
22 vehicle, that person is Gibril Massaquoi, and when he was coming
23 to Sierra Leone, he brought that vehicle with him, that is one
24 jeep.

14:38:24 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: You bought this jeep for Gibril
26 Massaquoi's use in Liberia?

27 THE WITNESS: Yes, and the delegation that was there so,
28 when they were returning, Gibril brought the jeep; but the people
29 who were at the guesthouse, because Gibril and the others were

1 not at the guesthouse, those who were at the guesthouse, I did
2 not give them a vehicle.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: The witness said, before you go on,
4 "Because Gibril brought the jeep but the people who were at the
14:39:00 5 guesthouse, because Gibril and others were not at the
6 guesthouse". That's what you said.

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, Gibril and the guest - and the
8 delegation were not at the guesthouse; but the ones, that is the
9 two women and the two men, those who were at the guesthouse,
14:39:22 10 I did not provide a vehicle for them.

11 MR CHEKERA:

12 Q. The vehicle that you provided to Gibril Massaquoi, when was
13 that that you bought the vehicle?

14 A. That vehicle, I bought it in 2000, around --

14:39:47 15 Q. Sorry, in 2000, around?

16 A. Yes, I said it was late 2000.

17 Q. And was that for use by Gibril Massaquoi alone, as in
18 exclusive use by Gibril Massaquoi, or it could be used by other
19 persons who were RUF members in Monrovia?

14:40:11 20 A. It was for Gibril Massaquoi and the delegation that
21 comprised Johathan Kposowa, Abdul Razak and Ken Macauley; but
22 when I returned, I called for them to come to Sierra Leone and
23 Gibril brought the jeep, and that was what he used up to the
24 disarmament.

14:40:41 25 Q. When was it that Gibril brought the jeep back to Sierra
26 Leone - or rather, when was it that Gibril brought the jeep to
27 Sierra Leone?

28 A. This was in around mid to late March of 2001, after I had
29 returned from Monrovia, about one to two weeks. It was when

1 Gibri l himself returned. Because I had sent Eddie Kanneh to buy
2 three vehi cles from Lome, so it was then that those vehi cles were
3 brought. That is in March 2001. That was the time Gibri l
4 himself brought his own vehi cle.

14:41:30 5 Q. Was that at the time that he brought it to Sierra Leone?
6 That was my questi on.

7 A. Yes. Yes.

8 Q. And while Gibri l had that vehi cle in Li beri a, do you know
9 whether Rashid Foday had access to that vehi cle, in terms of him
14:41:50 10 usi ng it?

11 A. No. That vehi cle was meant for the external delegati on,
12 not for the use of the guesthouse, and I never saw him drive it
13 while he was - while I was in Monrovi a.

14 Q. Very bri efly, don't even go into detail, what sort of jeep
14:42:14 15 was it?

16 A. It was an Isuzu four-wheel jeep.

17 Q. Was it a pick-up truck?

18 A. No, it was not a pick-up.

19 Q. Was that jeep used in any way to convey arms from Li beri a
14:42:38 20 to Si erra Leone?

21 A. No, no, never.

22 Q. And that was the only vehi cle that you provided to the RUF
23 who were in Monrovi a?

24 A. Yes.

14:42:57 25 Q. Di d you ever provi de Rashid Foday wi th a vehi cle from one
26 of the vehi cles that were captured from the UN?

27 A. No, no. I never gave him any vehi cle that belonged to the
28 UN.

29 Q. Now, you i ndicated Memuna and - as one of the other radi o

1 operators who were at the guesthouse. Was Memuna reporting to
2 Rashid Foday at the guesthouse?

3 A. No. She did not report to him.

14:43:43 4 Q. Was there a hierarchy, as in who was senior to who, between
5 the two of them, if there was any such hierarchy?

6 A. Well, Foday was a bodyguard - Rashid Foday was a bodyguard,
7 Memuna was an operator. So there was nothing like security in
8 between - seniority in between them. One was a caretaker of the
9 house and the other one was an operator.

14:44:13 10 Q. Now, I'm just going to ask you to help me with some time
11 frame, if you are able to. January 1999, Freetown invasion, when
12 you were at Waterloo, do you know where Rashid Foday was?

13 A. Rashid Foday was in Kailahun Town.

14 Q. And what was he doing in Kailahun Town?

14:44:42 15 A. They were there; the Black Guards, even Jackson Swarray who
16 was the commander, he was in Kailahun Town at this time, '98 to
17 January 1999.

18 Q. Did he ever leave Kailahun to come to Waterloo where you
19 were during this time, the time that you were at Waterloo,
14:45:05 20 January of 1999?

21 A. No, not at all.

22 Q. If you recall, around about the time of the capture of
23 Kono, around October onwards of 1998, do you know where Rashid
24 Foday was?

14:45:27 25 A. I said I left Rashid Foday in Kailahun. He was there -
26 when I left him to go and attack Kono, he was there with Jackson
27 Swarray in Kailahun Town.

28 Q. The time that you confiscated diamonds from Johnny Paul
29 Koroma, do you recall where Rashid Foday was?

1 A. Well, I do recall that they were in Kailahun Town in 1998,
2 because that was where they were based in Kailahun Town, that is
3 the Black Guards.

14:46:15 4 Q. And during the time of the capture of the UN peacekeepers,
5 do you recall where Rashid Foday was?

6 A. He was in Monrovia.

7 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I think that will be all.
8 I think I will forgo my private session and hand over to
9 Mr Griffiths.

14:46:38 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Are you continuing with
11 examination-in-chief of the witness, though? Very well,
12 Mr Griffiths.

13 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, if you may allow us a few
14 minutes for the change of the guards.

14:47:01 15 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR GRIFFITHS: [Cont'd]

16 Q. Good afternoon, Mr Sesay.

17 A. Yes, sir.

18 Q. Do you know - good afternoon, Mr Sesay. Do you know Perry
19 Kamara?

14:47:33 20 A. Yes, I know Perry Kamara.

21 Q. Is he known by any other name?

22 A. King Perry.

23 Q. What role did he have within the RUF?

24 A. He was a radio operator.

14:47:50 25 Q. When did he join the RUF?

26 A. He joined the RUF in '91 in the Pujehun District, and in
27 '92 he came to Kailahun.

28 Q. And did he volunteer to join the RUF?

29 A. Well, I can't tell because I was not in the Pujehun

1 District. I was in Kailahun District.

2 Q. Now, in 1991, was Foday Sankoh in the Pujehun District?

3 A. Yes. He used to go to Pujehun and he used to come to
4 Kailahun.

14:48:37 5 Q. Now, are you aware of Foday Sankoh receiving radios from
6 Charles Taylor?

7 A. No. I was not aware of that.

8 Q. Had Foday Sankoh received radios from Charles Taylor, would
9 you have known about it?

14:49:10 10 A. Yes. Because I would have heard it. Even if I did not -
11 I did not hear it from Mr Sankoh himself, I would have heard it
12 from his operators.

13 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
14 repeat the last bit of his answer?

14:49:27 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, you said even - I would have
16 heard it from his operators. Continue from there, slowly.

17 THE WITNESS: I said if I did not hear it from Mr Sankoh
18 I would have heard it from his bodyguards, that Mr Taylor gave
19 him radios. And I said even this person that you are asking
14:49:53 20 about was a radio operator, but he was trained in Kailahun as a
21 radio operator. When he was in Pujehun he was not a radio
22 operator.

23 MR GRIFFITHS:

24 Q. Who trained him in Kailahun?

14:50:08 25 A. Mr Sankoh, and CO Nya.

26 Q. And speaking of CO Nya, was CO Nya sent to Liberia by
27 Charles Taylor?

28 A. I don't understand the question.

29 Q. CO Nya, where did he come from?

1 A. From Liberia.

2 Q. Who sent him to Kailahun to train RUF radio operators?

3 A. Well, in 1991 he was not training operators. It was in
4 1991 that he came along with the RUF, it was Anthony Mekuagbe
14:50:57 5 who brought CO Nya.

6 Q. Now, I'm looking at some testimony given by this witness,
7 page 3037, testimony of 4 February 2008, in open session:

8 "Immediately after we arrived in Pendembu, the next day,
9 Foday Sankoh requested for us reported - we reported to him
14:51:26 10 that we are the people, the reason why he requested for us,
11 he said we should continue our training in Pendembu and
12 that was what actually happened. There a Liberian was
13 introduced to us, whose name was Nya, he is Mano, he is
14 an NPFL from Liberia.

14:51:51 15 Q. Did he have any title?

16 A. Well, what they told us, what Foday Sankoh told us,
17 and even Nya himself, he said he was representing
18 communication, he's representing the communication between
19 the NPFL and Liberia. He said Mr Taylor sent him

14:52:09 20 personally to be with Foday Sankoh so therefore he said he
21 is responsible for our training, how to use the Liberian
22 code and the Sierra Leonean code, how we were supposed to
23 be sending messages to Liberia and how to receive messages
24 from Liberia when we need them. That was what he told us.

14:52:33 25 From there, he started to show us. During the time of the
26 training, Foday Sankoh used to send him talking to
27 Mr Taylor in Liberia through the radio. Mr Taylor will
28 send a message from the station in Liberia, to the RUF
29 station in Pendembu, Nya will receive it and decode it and

1 then put it in the logbook and then send a copy to Foday
2 Sankoh in Pendembu. That was what he used to teach us."
3 Now, quite a bit there, but taking things in stages, first
4 of all, was Nya NPFL?

14:53:14 5 A. Yes, he was in an NPFL, former NPFL.

6 Q. Why do you say former NPFL?

7 A. Because from 1991, when Anthony Mekunagbe brought him, he
8 stayed with the RUF right up to the end of the war. The time
9 that Liberians were returning he was one of the men who stayed,
14:53:42 10 and when he stayed, Mr Sankoh accepted them to be part of the
11 RUF.

12 Q. Were you aware of Nya being a communications link between
13 the NPFL and the RUF?

14 A. No.

14:53:59 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, your answer, in relation to
16 whether or not he - or why he was a former NPFL, are you saying
17 that a person could not be both RUF and NPFL at the same time?

18 THE WITNESS: No. You can be a former NPFL and then you
19 can become an RUF because they were in the RUF.

14:54:34 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is not what I asked. Was it not
21 possible that a person could be an active NPFL member and at the
22 same time an active RUF member?

23 THE WITNESS: No, my Lord.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Why not?

14:54:57 25 THE WITNESS: Because when you are at the RUF operational
26 areas, like from '92 upwards, you cannot become an NPFL person
27 because you would have no activities to do with the NPFL.

28 MR GRIFFITHS:

29 Q. Mr Sesay, after Top Final and the departure of the NPFL,

1 how was CO Nya regarded by members of the RUF? Was he regarded
2 as an NPFL or RUF?

3 A. He was RUF.

14:55:49 4 Q. Now, as far as you're aware, do you know of any
5 communication between King Perry and Mr Taylor by radio?

6 A. No, no, because part of '94 King Perry was assigned to me
7 in Giema, he was the station commander, and he never communicated
8 with Mr Taylor on the radio, right up to '95 when Mr Sankoh
9 called for him in Zogoda and he was deployed in the Northern

14:56:21 10 Jungle, Kangari Hills, '94 to part of '95, King Perry was a
11 station commander operating under me in Giema.

12 Q. And for how long did he hold that position in Giema?

13 A. I met him in Giema as station commander under Sylvester
14 Miller. So from December '93, he was in Giema to - as station
14:56:58 15 commander to part of 1995 before he was withdrawn by Mr Sankoh
16 and he was posted to the Northern Jungle, that is the
17 Kangari Hills.

18 Q. And during the time that he was stationed with you, do you
19 have any knowledge of him communicating with Charles Taylor?

14:57:20 20 A. No, no.

21 Q. Or of him communicating with Liberia?

22 A. No, no. He did not communicate with Liberia. He just
23 received messages for me and sent them to Mr Sankoh and he
24 received messages from Mr Sankoh and he would decode them and
14:57:44 25 bring them to me.

26 Q. Now, this witness told these judges that there was frequent
27 radio communications between the RUF and Mr Taylor, directly with
28 Mr Taylor. Do you have any knowledge of such things happening?

29 A. No, no. I knew that there was a break of communication

1 between Mr Taylor and Mr Sankoh from '92 upwards.

2 Q. Now, does the name Black Kadaffa mean anything to you,
3 Mr Sesay?

4 A. Black?

14:58:29 5 Q. Kadaffa.

6 A. Yes, it was a group in the RUF, a unit in the Pujehun
7 District. I heard about it when Sam Bockarie came, he spoke
8 about that unit.

9 Q. And where was that unit formed?

14:58:49 10 A. In the Pujehun District.

11 Q. By whom was it formed?

12 A. Some vanguards, like late and Abdul Rahman, late Ismail,
13 late Nabieu. They were the ones who formed that unit, some
14 Black Guards and some junior forces.

14:59:15 15 Q. Were there any Liberians in that unit?

16 A. Well, except the RUF vanguards because some of them were
17 Liberians.

18 Q. But apart from that, were there - apart from those whom you
19 have identified as vanguards, did Black Kadaffa have other
14:59:44 20 Liberian members?

21 A. No, I did not hear that. Those who came from Pujehun said
22 that the Black Kadaffa unit were members of the RUF, some
23 vanguards and some junior forces.

24 Q. Was Black Kadaffa formed by - formed by former NPFL
15:00:07 25 commanders?

26 A. I did not hear that because I was not in Pujehun but what
27 I heard was that they were vanguards.

28 Q. Have you heard of General Degbon?

29 A. Yes, I heard the name.

1 Q. Who is he?

2 A. He was an NPFL commander.

3 Q. Was he involved in any way in the invasion of Sierra Leone
4 by the RUF?

15:00:49 5 A. No, I did not hear his name at that time, because the
6 commander who took the RUF from Naama was Oliver Varney. I did
7 not hear General Degbon's name in the RUF attack.

8 Q. Have you ever heard of General Pepper?

9 A. No. I don't know that name.

15:01:13 10 Q. Because this witness told these judges that having been
11 pushed out of Pujehun, he moved into the Cape Mount County in
12 Liberia, Kpopor District. And then he said this:

13 "Q. Mr Witness, you were in Liberia. In Liberia, and
14 what happened there?

15:01:45 15 A. When we were in Liberia, we saw the generals I have
16 named, General Degbon and General Pepper. They came with
17 arms and ammunition in trucks together with food. They
18 said it was Charles Taylor who sent them to organise us so
19 that we can fight back to Sierra Leone. So a meeting was
15:02:10 20 called. They said we should form a unit. In that meeting,
21 there, we got the name of - there we got the name of the
22 unit, we called it Black Kadaffa, this Black Kadaffa
23 constitutes the NPFL of Liberia and the RUF. "

24 Do you know anything about that, Mr Sesay?

15:02:32 25 A. No, I don't know about that. Because what I understood was
26 that when ULIMO and the government troops pushed the RUF from the
27 Pujehun District, some members of the RUF stayed behind and lived
28 in villages and they reorganised themselves, and they were the
29 ones in that unit. And the ones who crossed into Liberia, some

1 of them abandoned the RUF and did not return and some of them to
2 Kailahun and this witness, this person, was one of people who
3 came to Kailahun.

4 Q. Now, those who came to Kailahun, did they speak of having
15:03:21 5 met Charles Taylor in Liberia after their retreat from Pujehun?

6 A. No. The ones whom I spoke to, those who returned, they did
7 not tell me that because even Sam Bockarie was among that group,
8 those - and when he came, we were living in the same house in
9 Pendembu, he did not say that.

15:03:45 10 Q. Listen to this, then. Page 3032, line 5:

11 "Q. Now, after you had formed the unit Black Kadaffa, did
12 you engage in any activities?

13 A. Yes, we engaged in fighting throughout. We came to
14 Sierra Leone and we crossed the river. We came to Sierra
15:04:07 15 Leone, fight and then return. Well we were fighting to
16 regain the same areas we were before, before we were pushed
17 across the border. Then also he said if we fight very
18 strongly, he will come with ammunition for us to continue
19 our war in Sierra Leone. That is the reason why we kept -
15:04:29 20 we keep fighting inside and then going back.

21 Q. Mr Witness, when you say he, who are you referring to?

22 A. It was a message from Charles Taylor through General
23 Degbon and General Pepper, then after some time he too
24 visited us.

15:04:48 25 Q. When you say he too visited you, who visited you?

26 A. Mr Taylor visited us in Senge. Senge is along the
27 highway from Bo Waterside going to Monrovia.

28 Q. What happened during that visit by Mr Taylor?

29 A. This time around Mr Taylor came along with ammunition.

1 By then we were all together. General Degbon was there,
2 General Pepper was there, together with some of the
3 authorities.

4 Q. Was anything said at the meeting?

15:05:22 5 A. Yes. Taylor stood before us and said this ammunition
6 he had come with was to fight very strongly and to push
7 ULIMO out of Liberia so that the other ammunition he
8 brought was for we, the RUF. There were some arms that was
9 written on it, RUF, he brought them. It was they
10 distributed them to the RUF."

11 First of all, did any of those who returned from Pujehun
12 speak of such a meeting with Charles Taylor? Mr Sesay, did any
13 of those who returned from Pujehun speak of such a meeting with
14 Charles Taylor?

15:06:09 15 A. No, no. I was waiting for the interpreter to complete.
16 No, no. Those who came to Kailahun, I did not hear that from any
17 one of them.

18 Q. Did any of them mention to you that they had been given
19 arms directly by Charles Taylor which actually had RUF written on
20 them?

21 A. No. I did not hear that. I've not heard that before.

22 Q. Did you at any stage, Mr Sesay, hear Foday Sankoh say that
23 he was using diamonds to pay Charles Taylor for ammunition?

24 A. No. Mr Sankoh did not say that. I had never heard that
15:07:01 25 from him. And even this time, when the RUF was pushed from
26 Pujehun, that was the time the --

27 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
28 repeat this part of his answer slowly.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause. Pause. You have to repeat

1 your answer. You said that was the time when what happened?

2 THE WITNESS: I said that was the time ULIMO started
3 occupying Bomi Hills County right up to Lofa. So those of them
4 whom the ULIMO had pushed, that is the RUF whom the - whom had
15:07:45 5 been pushed from the Pujehun District and they went to Liberia,
6 could not return to Pujehun District, some of them came to
7 Kailahun District and some of them abandoned the RUF and did not
8 come back to the RUF zone. All of those who came to Kailahun,
9 none of them brought a gun with him.

15:08:13 10 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, my screen with my LiveNote
11 has just gone completely blank and I can't get it started.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm sure the Court Manager will come to
13 your assistance.

14 MS IRURA: Your Honour, we would have to consult a
15:09:50 15 technician because something appears to be the matter with the
16 monitor.

17 MR GRIFFITHS: And I have this difficulty, in that I'm
18 using this screen, the other screen available, to put up the
19 transcript references from the past testimony, so I do need this
15:10:16 20 screen on here in order to follow the answers.

21 MS IRURA: Your Honour, a technician will be at hand in a
22 moment.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, I must observe that the
24 LiveNote is not very useful in the state in which it is for you
15:11:03 25 to follow the answers, really. If I were you I would follow -
26 I'd listen to what the witness is saying, because obviously
27 LiveNote is not accurate and therefore its use to you in real
28 time is very limited.

29 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, I'll continue whilst this is looked

1 at.

2 Q. Now, listen to this, Mr Sesay. And I'm looking at
3 testimony of 4 February 2008, page 3046, line 4:

15:11:56 4 "Q. When Mohamed went to Kono what period are we talking
5 of here?

6 A. It was in 1993, late 1992, 1993 Mohamed was in Kono.

7 Q. Which Mohamed is this?

8 A. Mohamed Tarawalli, alias Zino.

9 Q. And what happened in Kono at the time?

15:12:12 10 A. At that time Mohamed Tarawalli went to Kono. Before he
11 went there we had a meeting, the RUF had a meeting, the RUF
12 leadership summoned a meeting and that was Foday Sankoh.
13 He said he just returning back from Mr Taylor, and now he
14 said he's there to organise us so that we will use this
15:12:32 15 ammunition to attack Kono so that we will be able to get
16 diamonds and money that will help us to get more
17 ammunition. That was what he said Taylor told him. So he
18 sent Mohamed Tarawalli on that particular mission. Luckily
19 for Mohamed Tarawalli, he succeeded".

15:12:54 20 Is that true?

21 A. That is a lie.

22 Q. Well, let's look at two aspects of it. Firstly, did
23 Mohamed Tarawalli lead a mission to capture Kono in late 1992,
24 '93?

15:13:14 25 A. Yes. But it was not Mohamed Tarawalli who started the
26 mission. Mohamed Tarawalli only joined the mission later.
27 Initially it was Morris Kallon who was the commander who crossed
28 the Moa River and attacked Sandaru. He was the target commander.
29 And after the capture of Sandaru, Morris Kallon was the target

1 commander. Mosquito and myself, all of us attacked Gandorhun and
2 we captured Gandorhun. Mohamed Tarawalli later joined us in
3 Gandorhun and went to Kono.

15:14:01 4 Q. Secondly, do you recall a meeting May - organised by Foday
5 Sankoh in late 1992/93, at which he made an announcement about
6 the need to obtain diamonds to pay for ammunition?

7 A. No. Mr Sankoh did not hold such a meeting. In fact, the
8 first attack on Koidu Town was in October 1992. Mr Sankoh did
9 not hold such a mission. Why the RUF could penetrate in Kono was
15:14:43 10 because of the pressure that RUF got from Daru, from the Kuiwa
11 area. The RUF was not having such operation from the Moa River
12 up to Sandaru. So when the RUF captured Sandaru, they got huge
13 amounts of ammunition and arms. Because at this time the RUF had
14 serious arms constraints, so the RUF attacked Gandorhun and they
15:15:14 15 captured a huge amount of arms and ammunition, including twin
16 barrels, grenade launchers. So Mr Sankoh did not talk about
17 attacking Kono to get diamonds. In fact, when the RUF captured
18 Kono they went up to Sewafe. I was the ambush commander in
19 Sewafe. Throughout the stay of the RUF in Kono they did not mine
15:15:45 20 diamonds there, not at all, right up to the time the RUF was
21 pushed back.

22 Q. Who is Toyota?

23 A. That is Mr Sankoh's code name at that time.

24 Q. Who is Ebony?

15:16:08 25 A. I knew a radio operator called Ebony Prince.

26 Q. And where was he based?

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry, excuse me. Mr Sesay, you were not
28 asked about Ebony Prince. You were asked who is Ebony. Do you
29 know who is Ebony or not?

1 THE WITNESS: No. The Ebony I know, that is Prince.
2 That's why I said the only Ebony I know is Ebony Prince.

3 MR GRIFFITHS:

4 Q. Did you ever hear Charles Taylor referred to as Ebony?

15:16:53 5 A. No. I did not know that code name for him.

6 Q. Page 3050, 4 February 2008:

7 "They had code names. Even when they spoke directly, when
8 they were speaking directly to each other, they referred to
9 themselves - Mr Taylor called Sankoh Toyota and Mr Sankoh, who
10 was Toyota, referred to Mr Taylor as Ebony at that point in time.

11 But at times they used to refer to themselves as subjects, when
12 they never wanted to use the same code at all times. But

13 sometimes when we went on the Liberian net we referred - we

14 called Mr Taylor's radio station Butterfly and then when they

15:17:45 15 went to our radio net they would call 35, so we would know

16 automatically that they were calling from Liberia."

17 Were you aware of any of that, Mr Sesay?

18 A. I was not aware of that because the time that this subject
19 came up, the one that we are discussing now, that they came from
20 Liberia to Pujehun and --

21 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
22 repeat this part of his answer and may he be kindly asked to
23 repeat slowly.

24 MR GRIFFITHS:

15:18:24 25 Q. Can you start again with this answer, please?

26 A. I said this person in question that we are discussing, the
27 time that they came to the Kailahun District, in '92, at that
28 time the Liberians had withdrawn. The NPFL had been withdrawn.
29 At that time, Mr Taylor and Mr Sankoh's relationship had broken

1 down, before our advance to Kono.

2 Q. Also this, same page:

3 "In that year, 1994, the government troops attacked us and
4 we were restless. We always took our ammunitions and flee. And
15:19:16 5 we always took our ammunition and carried them on our heads. But
6 during this period, in my presence Mr Sankoh called Mr Taylor and
7 Mr Taylor said, 'You should stop attacking.' He said, 'You
8 should use your guerilla tactics at this point so that you will
9 be able to gain from the government troops.'"

15:19:39 10 And then he goes on to explain what guerilla tactics meant.
11 Do you know of any such instruction coming from Charles Taylor to
12 Foday Sankoh to switch to guerilla tactics, Mr Sesay?

13 A. No, no. That was Mr Sankoh's idea. When the government
14 troops, that is the NPRC, had pushed us up to Bendu - Koindu,
15:20:12 15 Mr Sankoh said he was not going to cross into Liberia, that he
16 was going into the jungle. And this person and Mr Sankoh from
17 January to December 1994, they were not together. Mr Sankoh was
18 in Zogoda and he was in Giema. That is a very far distance.

19 Q. Next matter. Are you aware of any contact between Foday
15:20:47 20 Sankoh and Charles Taylor after the capture of Sierra Rutile?

21 A. At that time, Mr Sankoh and Mr Taylor had no business in
22 '95, no.

23 Q. Well, not according to this witness because he told these
24 judges on 4 February 2008, page 3058, line 5:

15:21:09 25 "Now you were talking about advices that were given to
26 Mr Sankoh following the capture of Sierra Rutile and one of
27 those pieces of advice was that the RUF should set up
28 diplomatic relations with the outside world, as you stated
29 it. Apart from that, was any other advice given or

1 anything else?

2 A. Yes. I recall some that I can say now. In fact, this
3 was a message from Mr Taylor to Foday Sankoh saying for now
4 those people have moved to that point, they should try and
15:21:44 5 make an arrangement to choose a particular area where they
6 should construct an airstrip for aeroplane to be alighting
7 there and it was a written message from Mr Taylor to Foday
8 Sankoh. After Mr Sankoh had received the message, he sent
9 the message to Kailahun and then he appointed somebody who
10 was called Peter B Vandi and said to him that he should be
11 with the civilians day and night and that they should make
12 sure that they do the job.

13 Q. And what was the job?

14 A. For them to construct an airfield."

15:22:24 15 Is there any truth in that?

16 A. No, that is not the truth. The construction of the
17 airfield took place but it was not for Mr Taylor. And it was not
18 Mr Taylor who advised Mr Sankoh to get a diplomatic delegation
19 out of Sierra Leone. Mr Sankoh had taken that decision on his
15:22:51 20 own, from December '94. And the construction of the field --

21 Q. Go on.

22 A. The construction of the field was after Mr Sankoh had gone
23 to the Ivory Coast with Maada Bio to the peace talks, so they
24 left us --

15:23:20 25 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours can the witness kindly
26 repeat this part of his answer.

27 MR GRIFFITHS:

28 Q. Mr Sesay, sadly, you have to go back to - you said, "The
29 construction of the field was after Mr Sankoh had gone to the

1 Ivory Coast with Maada Bio to the peace talks, so they left us."
2 Go on, continue from there.

3 A. Yes. I said they left me in Abidjan and they were on their
4 way to Libya, Mr Sankoh, Faya Musa, Deen-Jalloh, Peter Vandi and
15:24:06 5 others. So, when they got to Burkina Faso, Mr Sankoh said Peter
6 Vandi should return, because at that time Peter Vandi was the
7 area commander for the Kailahun District. So, Peter Vandi
8 returned to Abidjan where he met me, and Mr Sankoh communicated
9 with Dr Barrie, saying that he should provide transportation for
15:24:27 10 myself and Peter Vandi, that we should come through Guinea and to
11 return to Kailahun, Sierra Leone, because he had given an
12 assignment to Peter Vandi to do. That was the first time Peter
13 Vandi came. When Peter Vandi came we started to construct the
14 field in Buedu.

15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, I don't know why you're all of
16 a sudden rushing just because you're now being examined by
17 Mr Griffiths. You were doing very well in the morning. Now,
18 please slow down again. There is no need for you to rush your
19 testimony.

15:25:04 20 MR GRIFFITHS:

21 Q. Mr Sesay, tell me, in or about May of 2000, did you have a
22 satellite phone?

23 A. May 2000, yes, I had the phone that Mr Sankoh had given to
24 me in January 2000.

15:25:20 25 Q. That phone that you had in or around May 2000, did it come
26 from Liberia?

27 A. No, no. It was the phone that Mr Sankoh gave to me.

28 Q. Well, not according to this witness; 5 February 2008, page
29 3083, line 13:

1 "Yes, the time Sam Bockarie left and went to Liberia to
2 Mr Taylor, and again when Foday Sankoh was arrested in Freetown
3 during the May incident 2000, Issa took over as a leader, as
4 acting leader of the RUF. During that time again, Issa had a
15:26:01 5 satellite phone through Liberia. So he himself was talking to
6 Mr Taylor, so whatever they discussed, he would do the same thing
7 by sending messages to all commanders through field radio
8 communication, and even if the RUF spokesman or whomsoever was
9 representing BBC Focus on Africa or the VOA, they would use the
15:26:26 10 same satellite phone to talk."

11 Is that true?

12 A. That is a lie, because that person testified against me as
13 Prosecution witness, but he did not say that at the time that he
14 was testifying against me, no. And I did not have a satellite
15:26:46 15 phone in - from Liberia in May 2000. All of those things that he
16 was saying that I communicated with Mr Taylor on the telephone,
17 he testified against me as a Prosecution witness, but he did not
18 mention those.

19 Q. Now, were you given - ever given any order by Charles
15:27:22 20 Taylor, and I mean you personally, Mr Sesay, to hold - to
21 organise - to reorganise in Kono?

22 A. No, no. Mr Taylor never gave me such orders because, from
23 the time RUF captured Kono, that was how it was up to the time of
24 the disarmament, so how could we have reorganised? I did not
15:27:55 25 receive such orders from Mr Taylor.

26 Q. Page 3102 testimony of 5 February 2008, line 10:

27 "Immediately we got to Koidu, there was a now communication
28 between the authorities, Issa Sesay, Superman and Sam Bockarie
29 for them to reorganise and base in Kono. For us not to lose

1 Kono. The first message that we monitored, that we received in
2 our message logbook, according to Sam Bockarie, he said he had
3 consulted Mr Taylor in Liberia, saying that in Kono, as long as
4 we have Kono, we will not fail in taking over the rest of Sierra
15:28:37 5 Leone again, because we already knew that Kono was one of the
6 prominent diamond areas in Sierra Leone. Therefore, all the
7 troops should be on stand-by there, except Issa Sesay, Johnny
8 Paul Koroma, and the securities who were going to escort them to
9 Buedu. Therefore, Issa Sesay should organise Superman as the
15:29:00 10 overall commander for Kono District jungle and Morris Kallon
11 should act as his deputy and that they should make sure that they
12 hold fast to the ground and should not allow to lose the ground
13 before he left but, before Issa left, he said we were guerillas
14 and anywhere a guerilla was you should make the area fearsome.
15:29:25 15 In the RUF, when we talk about making the area fearsome, it is a
16 word that carries different meanings. It means we should burn
17 down houses, destroy other properties, killing and construct
18 roadblocks and destroy bridges. That would help in making the
19 area fearsome. That was the instruction he gave."

15:29:50 20 Now, Mr Sesay, taking things in stages, did you ever give
21 this man such an instruction?

22 A. I did not give that man such an instruction. I did not
23 give any RUF such an instruction in Kono. And when he was
24 testifying against me, he did not say that I gave such an
15:30:14 25 instruction in Kono, that we should kill people in Kono. Up to
26 the time I left Kono, Kono was not burnt down, and the meeting
27 was not chaired by Issa. It was Johnny Paul who chaired the
28 meeting. It was Johnny Paul who appointed the commanders in
29 Kono. It was not Issa. He's just telling lies. Johnny Paul,

1 Mike Lamin and I went to Kailahun. All the other people stayed
2 in the Kono District.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, when you say up to the time you
4 left Kono was not burnt down, you mean Koidu?

15:30:59 5 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord, I mean Koidu Town had not yet
6 been burnt down, the time myself, Johnny Paul and Mike Lamin left
7 Koidu Town. And I did not give any instruction. I was not the
8 one who set up the command structure in Kono. It was Johnny Paul
9 who appointed the commanders.

15:31:19 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: And what period is this that you're
11 talking about, when Kono was not yet burnt down?

12 THE WITNESS: My Lord, this is late February 1998. That is
13 when we departed from Kono.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: But I thought you told us this morning
15:31:38 15 that everything in Koidu was burnt, there was nothing to burn any
16 more. Isn't that what you said this morning?

17 THE WITNESS: My Lord, I said that but the month that
18 I spoke about this morning, I said Kono was burned between April
19 and May 1998; because when the RUF and the AFRC took Kono from
15:32:01 20 the CDF, it was in late February. RUF/AFRC stayed in Kono
21 throughout March, to April, and Kono started being burnt.

22 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
23 repeat this part of his answer slowly.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: You said Kono started being burnt when?

15:32:26 25 THE WITNESS: I said April, that is when I heard Kono being
26 burnt. They started burning Kono, up to May when ECOMOG captured
27 Koidu Town.

28 MR GRIFFITHS:

29 Q. Mr Sesay, do you recall Sam Bockarie ever being advised by

1 Charles Taylor to build an airstrip in Buedu?

2 A. No. It was not Mr Taylor who advised Sam Bockarie.

3 Q. Page 3105, testimony of 5 February 2008:

4 "They used to give orders with regards attacks and

15:33:27 5 ambushing and this always happened. They always gave orders, but

6 before the orders were given Sam Bockarie, I can recall,

7 transmitted a message that he had finally had an arrangement with

8 Mr Taylor, because we were now in Kono, and we should be able to

9 take care of Kono. He said Mr Taylor has told him that they

15:33:48 10 should try and organise and reprepare the airfield at Buedu, so

11 in there they could need civilians to do the work on the field.

12 The RUF sent over 200 to 300 civilians to Kailahun to do forced

13 labour, to work on the field day and night with security escorts,

14 because that we also got rid of some civilians for the mining

15:34:14 15 purposes in Koidu Town."

16 Is that true?

17 A. That's a lie, because he did not testify like this in my

18 trial; in the trial, he did not testify like this against me.

19 They didn't take civilians from Kono to go and construct that

15:34:34 20 airfield in Buedu because - because at the time - because at the

21 time that the work on that field started, he was not in Kono. He

22 had gone. At that time he was with Gullit and others at the Camp

23 Rosos area.

24 Q. Now, do you recall, Mr Sesay, an event when the bank in

15:35:14 25 Kono was broken into and money taken?

26 A. Yes. It was in March when that bank was broken into and

27 the money taken.

28 Q. What - to what use was that money put?

29 A. Well, what I heard was that the money that was taken from

1 the looters by Superman, he gave that to Kennedy, and Kennedy
2 took that to Sam Bockarie in Buedu. Sam Bockarie used some of
3 that money to buy ammunition from the ex-ULIMO fighters. He used
4 some to buy food and medicines.

15:36:00 5 Q. Page 3107, testimony of 5 February, line 13:

6 "Q. You said this money which was taken from the bank was,
7 the contents were checked and recorded and sent to
8 Mosquito. Do you know what happened to the money itself?

9 A. Yes. Later, Mosquito sent a message and said that he
10 was going on a trip, and where he was going on this trip
11 was Liberia to see Mr Taylor. He said he was going to
12 arrange for arms ammunition and food. So when he left with
13 the money he returned with arms and ammunition from
14 Mr Taylor. Immediately after his return he sent a message
15 saying that he has brought arms and ammunition in supply
16 from Mr Taylor, out of the money that was - that he
17 received from the RUF in Koidu Town, after the bank was
18 destroyed."

19 Is that true?

15:37:00 20 A. That's a lie. It's a lie.

21 Q. Did you ever hear of Mr Taylor sending an herbalist to
22 Buedu?

23 A. No, it was not Mr Taylor who sent him.

24 Q. Mr Sesay, I am just looking at taking salient points of
15:37:29 25 this witness's evidence, so let me go to another point.

26 When the UN peacekeepers were detained, were you ordered by
27 Charles Taylor to release them?

28 A. No. I was not ordered.

29 Q. In return for - in return for releasing the peacekeepers,

1 Mr Sesay, did you get anything in return from Charles Taylor?

2 A. No. He did not give me anything, except the diesel that
3 I asked for to transport the people, when he gave me the \$5,000.
4 Apart from that, he did not give me anything else.

15:38:32 5 Q. Listen to this, then, page 3269, testimony of 6 February
6 2008, line 21:

7 "Q. After the arrest of the UN peacekeepers, as you have
8 mentioned, were they eventually released?

9 A. Yes, they released them but they were not released in
15:38:54 10 Sierra Leone. After we had arrested the UN and all the
11 arms and ammunition, communication vehicles from them, Issa
12 had to inform Mr Taylor through a satellite phone that the
13 UN personnel were under detention. Immediately after
14 Mr Taylor got the story, he ordered Issa saying, 'bring
15:39:14 15 these people here to me in Liberia.' That was the message
16 Mr Taylor sent. And Issa Sesay in Makeni, he called
17 everybody and told all the authorities and fighters on the
18 ground and they loaded these people from Makeni. In fact,
19 they were stripped naked. They travelled from Makeni to
15:39:36 20 Yengema. Yengema is a very short distance from Koidu Town,
21 which is in Kono. From Yengema, he crossed with them to
22 Liberia. He transferred all of them to Foya. It was a
23 helicopter that came from Monrovia sent by Mr Taylor, and
24 when this helicopter came, it brought a lot of ammunition
15:40:01 25 from Liberia and dropped them at Foya. In return, it took
26 the peacekeeping forces, loaded them into the helicopter
27 and took them to Liberia to Mr Taylor."

28 Do you follow? So you take the peacekeepers to Foya, a
29 helicopter arrives from Monrovia, loaded with ammunition, and

1 that helicopter, having been unloaded, then returned with the
2 peacekeepers. Is that what happened?

3 A. That was not what happened - that is not what happened
4 because he was not there when I and the UN and the peacekeepers,
15:40:48 5 we went to Foya, we got there, we were in Foya Town at the
6 airfield when the commander called Monrovia, the helicopter came,
7 and he met me and the UN at the airfield, and when they came and
8 distributed the uniforms, Sampson distributed the uniforms to
9 them, gave everybody his own uniform and they boarded the
15:41:08 10 helicopter and they flew to Foya. He was not there.

11 Q. The helicopter that came for these men, whose helicopter
12 was it?

13 A. It was Mr Taylor's helicopter.

14 Q. And can you remember what colour it was?

15:41:29 15 A. Yes. It was a combat colour, it was an ATU helicopter.

16 Q. Now this: Mr Sesay, did you ever receive an order from
17 Charles Taylor in relation to those UN peacekeepers, that you
18 should keep the light weapons taken from them?

19 A. No. I did not get that order. The order that I got from
15:42:13 20 Mr Taylor and the other two leaders was that I was to return the
21 equipment that I seized to UNAMSIL.

22 Q. Well, listen to this, page 3271, testimony of 6 February
23 2008:

24 "Q. Mr Witness, you said that the helicopter which took
15:42:37 25 the peacekeepers across to Liberia from Foya had brought
26 with it weapons, arms and ammunition which were given to
27 you, to Issa Sesay, and he brought them to the RUF. Do you
28 know what those arms and ammunition were used for later?

29 A. Yes. According to Issa Sesay, he said Mr Taylor had

- 1 said, since we had arrested and molested the UN, let us
2 expect fighting. So the light weapons that we had taken
3 from the UN, we should keep them, and even the ammunition
4 that he was sending, we should reserve them in case they
15:43:20 5 are tempted to attack our positions. We would use this
6 against the UN. That was why he sent the ammunition."
7 Did you receive any such instruction from Charles Taylor?
8 A. Not at all.
9 Q. And did you give, in response, any such instruction to
15:43:37 10 anyone?
11 A. I did not give such instruction to anybody because even
12 before the release of the UNAMSIL, the government troops had been
13 attacking our positions in Lunsar, so fighting was going on. The
14 government helicopter gunship killed over 15 people at the market
15:44:04 15 in Makeni, civilians. The same thing happened in Magburaka. So
16 those attacks were going on before Mr Taylor called me, through
17 Benjamin Yeaten, when he sent him to call me from Pendembu.
18 Q. Mr Sesay, I want to move on from that witness. Do you know
19 Dauda Aruna Forni e?
15:44:40 20 A. Yes, very well.
21 Q. Was he a member of the RUF?
22 A. Yes.
23 Q. What role did he play within the RUF?
24 A. He was a radio operator.
15:44:53 25 Q. Was he involved in entering Freetown in January 1999?
26 A. May the Lord forbid, no.
27 Q. Was he involved in - let me start again. When did he join
28 the RUF?
29 A. In '91 in Pujehun District.

1 Q. And is he known by any other name?

2 A. Yes. He was called Daf.

3 Q. Mr Sesay, do you know, have you heard of a Scorpion unit?

4 A. No. I've never come across that unit.

15:45:42 5 Q. Have you come across the Zimbabwe unit?

6 A. No.

7 Q. What about the Special Task Force unit?

8 A. Yes. It used to function within the RUF.

9 Q. And what about SS Cobra? Have you heard of them?

15:46:14 10 A. No. I've not heard of SS Cobra. I've only heard about
11 Cobra unit.

12 Q. Very well. Could we go to the testimony of 1 December
13 2008, given in open session, page 21322.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: We have that page.

15:47:16 15 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes. In fact, could we go back a couple of
16 pages further, just so that we get the full context of this. So
17 can we start at page 21320, please. This is after the RUF had
18 been pushed from Pujehun into Liberia. Line 1:

19 "A. I did not know of any specific base for Foday Sankoh
15:47:53 20 but he used to come to Bomi Hills, he used to move to
21 various areas. Sometimes he would come to us in Bomi
22 Hills. Sometimes he would go to the Kailahun area.
23 Sometimes he would be in Gbarnga so he was moving around so
24 I do not actually know any specific base for him at that
15:48:11 25 time.

26 Q. How do you know that?

27 A. He, in fact, met us at a base at a point in time. He
28 spoke to us, for us to be courageous, for us to listen to
29 instructions, for us to do what we were there for, purely

1 so that he would be able to carry out the liberation
2 struggle, and he told us briefly the reason why he brought
3 the war."

4 Jump a couple of lines to line 17:

15:48:45 5 "Q. You said Sankoh told you to listen to instructions.

6 Instructions from who, Mr Witness?

7 A. From the various commanders, and he was there also when
8 he gave an instruction, that is he, Foday Sankoh, gave
9 instruction that some of us should be sent to the various
10 units.

15:49:02

11 Q. Now, you've mentioned that you particularly went to the
12 signal unit. I'm going to ask you about that, but before
13 I ask you about that, can you describe the units that
14 were in Tubmanburg or Bomi Hills at this time?

15:49:22

15 A. We had the signal unit, we had the military police, the
16 G2 unit was there, the artillery unit was there, the S4
17 unit was there. There were various units, but to name a
18 few, those were the ones I recall now.

19 Q. Now, you said, referring to the Black Kadaffa unit,
15:49:43 20 that they would cross into Sierra Leone. Is that correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Do you know if any other units were crossing back and
23 forth to Sierra Leone?

24 A. Yes. We were in Bomi Hills, and whilst we were there,
15:49:56 25 we used to see some reinforcements coming from some other
26 parts of the NPFL-liberated zones who used to come, like
27 for example, the Red Scorpion unit, they had a scorpion
28 inscription on their T-shirts. They had a death squad and
29 they had a human skull on their T-shirts. They had the

1 Zimbabwe unit. Those are the few units that I can recall."

2 Line 18:

3 "Q. Before I ask you more about these units, how do you
4 know that these units were crossing back and forth into
15:50:32 5 Sierra Leone? How do you know that?

6 A. Well, we used to see T-shirts that were - that those
7 units wore, they had the logos on them, the ones I have
8 named, and we used to interact with them, and even when
9 I was in signal units I was fortunate to know so many
10 things, for me to understand so many things."

11 Now, are you aware of such units named by the witness
12 crossing backwards and forwards into Sierra Leone, Mr Sesay?

13 A. No. I was not aware of those units coming into Sierra
14 Leone and returning, no. I only knew what happened when the
15:51:19 15 NPRC, the ULIMO, when the ULIMO forced the RUF out of Pujehun,
16 and the RUF came from Bomi Hills and rejoined the RUF in
17 Kailahun. The others abandoned the RUF.

18 Q. Have you ever heard the name Tree Top?

19 A. What stop?

15:51:48 20 Q. Tree Top.

21 A. No, no, no.

22 Q. Was that not Charles Taylor's radio station?

23 A. Well, I never heard that. This is my first time of hearing
24 that kind of name, Tree Top.

15:52:08 25 Q. Well, this witness told this court - yes. Testimony of 1
26 December 2008, page 21358, line 9:

27 "Q. Mr Witness, you've referred to code names. At this
28 time whilst you were in Bomi Hills, can you remember some
29 of the code names of some of the commanders?

1 A. Yes. Like, for example, Mr Taylor, we used to call him
2 Ebony. Foday Sankoh was Toyota. Foday Sankoh was Toyota.
3 General Degbon was Energy. Like, for some of the call
4 signs, those who were in Pendembu, they were 35 or 35.
15:53:08 5 Mr Taylor's radio station was Tree Top at a point in time.
6 But really the code names were not static. They changed
7 from time, with time, really. They used to change with
8 time.

9 Q. And how long did you remain in Liberia?

15:53:28 10 A. I was in Liberia up until late 1992."

11 Were you aware of such code names and such contact between
12 the RUF and the NPFL in late 1992? Or in 1992, Mr Sesay?

13 A. I do not understand. I do not get the question clearly.

14 Q. In 1992, were you aware of such code names being used by
15:54:01 15 the RUF during contact with the NPFL?

16 A. No. In late '92, the RUF and the NPFL had problems because
17 of the withdrawal of the NPFL from the RUF-controlled areas, so
18 I did not know about communication that was existing between
19 Mr Taylor and Mr Sankoh.

15:54:31 20 Q. And in November 1992, are you aware of a meeting involving
21 Mr Sankoh and Mr Taylor in Kakata in Liberia?

22 A. No. No. I never heard of such a meeting.

23 Q. Page 21364, testimony of 1 December 2008, line 13:

24 "A. The message said we should prepare to go back to
15:55:18 25 Sierra Leone through Kailahun to go and join our colleague
26 RUF fighters in Kailahun.

27 Q. Okay. Originally this question was about you leaving
28 Liberia and you have said now that you have reached this
29 location, Kakata, and now you have described a message that

1 CO Li on sent wi th - about having Si erra Leoneans go back
2 to Si erra Leone; is that correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. After this message was transmitted by CO Li on, what
15:55:48 5 happened?

6 A. Well, two days after that, Pa Sankoh came to Kakata,
7 and fortunately enough he met a good number of us around
8 the police - I mean the MP headquarters in Kakata. He came
9 in the convoy with Mr Taylor. He alighted and spoke to us
15:56:04 10 briefly but Mr Taylor did not talk to us. He was still
11 seated in his vehicle. Mr Taylor did not alight. He was
12 still seated in his own vehicle, his own jeep. Pa Sankoh
13 alighted and came and spoke to us. He said, 'My children,
14 my brothers, my sisters, all of us know what the struggle
15:56:26 15 is all about.' He said, 'You should prepare.' And he,
16 Foday Sankoh, was now saying that he was going to Gbarnga
17 and on arriving there he said he was going to send a
18 vehicle or a truck to pick us up from Kakata."

19 Tell me, when those RUF members returned to Sierra Leone,
15:56:46 20 did any of them tell you about this encounter with Mr Taylor in
21 Kakata?

22 A. No, those who came did not say that. In fact, most of them
23 came through Bomi Hills, Lofa Bridge, to Kailahun.

24 Q. Did their journey take them through Kakata?

15:57:09 25 A. No, no. They did not go through Kakata. It was through
26 the borderline, Bomi Hills, Lofa, on to Kailahun.

27 Q. Again, Mr Sesay, I'm seeking to be very selective as to
28 which topics I deal with with this witness so let's jump to
29 another topic altogether. Do you recall in late 1997, Memunatu

1 Deen, a field radio operator, and one Fonti Kanu, a battalion
2 commander for Daru, travelling to Liberia to collect ammunition,
3 AK rounds, GPMG rounds, RPG, that had been given to them by
4 Mr Taylor?

15:58:02 5 A. No, no, because in late '97, Fonti Kanu was there - Fonti
6 Kanu was in Burkina Faso because that was where he'd been sent by
7 Johnny Paul. He was the one who came with that flight to
8 Magburaka. He was not in Kailahun at all, at that time, in late
9 '97.

15:58:30 10 Q. Testimony of this witness from 2 December, page 21432, line
11 20:

12 "I recall that there was a point in time whilst we were in
13 Kenema, it was in late 1997, there was one Memunatu Deen who was
14 a radio operator, a field radio operator for the RUF, and one
15 Fonti Kanu, who is now a late man. He was the battalion
16 commander for Daru. They travelled to Monrovia - no, wrong,
17 wrong. I want to say Liberia. They travelled to Liberia, Fonti
18 and Memuna, and they went and brought with them some ammunition.
19 They brought some ammunition. On their return, when they arrived

15:59:18 20 at Daru they contacted Mosquito. So that was one of the
21 shipments that I know about, that I will say it was a means by
22 which we got ammunition. Specifically that is the means that
23 I recall that we got ammunition through during the AFRC days."

24 Is that correct?

15:59:38 25 A. That's a lie. It was not Fonti Kanu who was the battalion
26 commander in Daru in '97. And in '97 Fonti Kanu was in Burkina
27 Faso. Memuna was in Abidjan. I never heard that they came to
28 Kailahun with ammunition. I never heard that in '97.

29 Q. Now, in late '97 - no, let me start again. When was the

1 Magburaka shipment?

2 A. It was in late '97.

3 Q. Apart from the Magburaka shipment, to your knowledge,
4 Mr Sesay, did the RUF or the AFRC receive any arms from Liberia?

16:00:31 5 A. No. The AFRC - during the time of the AFRC and the RUF, it
6 was only the arms that arrived at the Magburaka airfield that I
7 knew about.

8 Q. As far as you're aware, did Daf ever travel to Liberia with
9 Mosquito?

16:00:55 10 A. Yes, in '98. But in '97, no.

11 Q. In '98 - when in '98 did Daf travel with Mosquito to
12 Liberia?

13 A. Daf travelled with Sam Bockarie in October 1998 and he came
14 back.

16:01:16 15 Q. Did he go with Mosquito to Liberia on any other occasion,
16 to your knowledge?

17 A. No, because in December he was in Buedu, Sam Bockarie left
18 him there. It was Ebony Prince that Sam Bockarie went with.

19 Q. Well, according to Daf, and this is testimony from page
16:01:49 20 21442:

21 After the ECOMOG had flushed the RUF out of most of the
22 areas that they occupied, the RUF had retreated to Kailahun
23 District and needed ammunition to stop the ECOMOG advance. This
24 message was sent to Benjamin Yeaten. And the response was for
16:02:13 25 Mosquito to travel to Monrovia on the instructions of Mr Taylor."
26 Benjamin Yeaten met the witness, that's Daf, Mosquito, Jungle and
27 others between Gbarnga and Kakata and travelled with them to
28 Monrovia, saying that the Papay had sent him to receive them and
29 in Monrovia they stayed at Benjamin Yeaten's house behind White

1 Flower and Mosquito told the witness, Daf, that he was going to
2 meet President Taylor along with Jungle, Rashid and Yeaten.

3 After this meeting, Mosquito told the witness that they
4 were to return to Sierra Leone. On their way, they met a truck
16:02:58 5 loaded with ammunition on the outskirts of the town towards
6 Kakata. Mosquito told the witness that during the meeting
7 Mr Taylor had said he would be ready to give support to the best
8 of his ability at that time but that he did not have sufficient
9 ammunition. That was why they were not returning with much
16:03:20 10 ammunition. And this was - all of that was in early 1998.

11 In early 1998, was there such a visit by Mosquito to
12 Liberia in company with Daf?

13 A. No, such a visit did not take place. I did not know about
14 that because in early '98 I was in Buedu. I did not know of such
16:03:54 15 a visit.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, if you were in Buedu how would
17 you know someone visited Liberia? How would you know?

18 THE WITNESS: My Lord, like this chair and this chair, this
19 is Sam Bockarie's house and this is my house. It's just a road
16:04:17 20 that is in between us. How could Sam Bockarie go on patrol
21 without me knowing? And when we got to Buedu, Johnny Paul met
22 Sam Bockarie there, the chief of defence staff, then Sam Bockarie
23 said I should become the field commander. So if Sam Bockarie was
24 going on patrol, he would tell me.

16:04:48 25 MR GRIFFITHS:

26 Q. Now, let me seek your assistance with this, Mr Sesay. As
27 far as you're aware, how many trips did this individual make to
28 Monrovia with Sam Bockarie?

29 A. Well, Sam Bockarie - I was in Pendembu when this witness

1 sent a radio message from Sam Bockarie in October from Monrovia
2 to my own operator, Elevation, in Pendembu. At that time, I knew
3 because Elevation told me that it was Daf who sent the message,
4 so I knew that he travelled with Sam Bockarie. But when Sam
16:05:55 5 Bockarie was travelling in November, he called me. I was in
6 Buedu until Sam Bockarie returned. I was there with Daf. It was
7 Ebony Prince who went with Sam Bockarie on this trip. And
8 I stayed in Kailahun. So I knew about one trip when he went with
9 Sam Bockarie in 1998. In May he, the very witness, and Mike
16:06:23 10 Lamin passed through Monrovia to Lome to join Mr Sankoh. He was
11 in Lome with Mr Sankoh until he came back with Mr Sankoh in
12 October, in Monrovia. Then from Monrovia he came to Buedu
13 together with Sam Bockarie. That's what I know about.

14 Q. Well, on 2 December 2008, and the passage begins at or
16:06:50 15 about page 21511, and I don't intend to go through it in detail,
16 but the witness told these judges that prior to the 6th of
17 January 1999 he made several trips to Monrovia with Sam Bockarie.
18 Is that true?

19 A. No. That's not true, because the first time that Sam
16:07:14 20 Bockarie went to Monrovia was in September '98, so I did not see
21 - I know that he and this witness went on that October trip.
22 That was the only time that I knew that he went with Sam Bockarie
23 in December '98, because in '99 he went together with Mike Lamin,
24 not Sam Bockarie.

16:07:41 25 Q. Did Daf, as far as you're aware, ever travel to Liberia to
26 collect ammunition from Voinjama?

27 A. I never heard that. Daf was a radio operator.

28 Q. Page 21524, beginning at line 20.

29 Around mid-1998 the witness travelled to Voinjama to go

1 receive some ammunition, the same happened in areas like Vahun
2 and Foya along the border area. The ammunition was kept
3 underground by ex-combatants, that was before disarmament in
4 Liberia and was what led to the election of Mr Taylor.

16:08:32 5 Are you aware of Daf being involved in any such mission?

6 A. Daf was not involved in that mission. It was Kennedy who
7 bought those ammunition from ex-ULIMO fighters in '98. Daf was
8 not part of that. He did not participate.

9 Q. Now, I want to look at - and this is the main point I want
16:09:03 10 to deal with in respect of this particular witness. And can
11 I begin at page 21564, testimony of 3 December 2008. And this is
12 specifically in relation to the Freetown invasion. Yes. Now, in
13 fact, could I amend the reference. Could we just start at page
14 21562, please, two pages before. Line 14:

16:09:59 15 "Q. You've already referred to 6 January 1999 invasion of
16 Freetown. Were you specifically - where were you
17 specifically on the 6th of January 1999?

18 A. I was in Buedu.

19 Q. And on that day, what were you doing?

16:10:17 20 A. On 6 January 1999, on that particular day I was
21 monitoring constantly."

22 And then he goes on to deal with what he would do with the
23 messages he received.

24 "Q. Well, you're referring to a transmitting station,
16:10:35 25 you've made reference to two transmitting stations in
26 Buedu. Which transmitting station are you referring to?

27 A. Mosquito's transmitting station.

28 Q. And just to be clear, you yourself were taking messages
29 from the monitoring station to the transmitting station; is

1 that correct?

2 A. Yes. "

3 And then he goes on, line 10:

4 "Q. Describe some of the things you heard on this
16:11:07 5 particular day, the 6th of January 1999?

6 A. On that day, of January 1999, we monitored so many
7 messages from the ECOMOG forces pertaining air mission
8 requests and also pertaining the advance of our men into
9 the city and how the ECOMOG was to send air raids to

16:11:28 10 various areas within the RUF liberated zones.

11 Q. Aside from ECOMOG transmissions, describe what else you
12 heard?

13 A. Do you mean on the radio?

14 Q. Yes. "

16:11:47 15 And then he goes on to list what he was listening to.

16 Let's go over the page, please, line 8:

17 "A. I saw a message in that message logbook which said
18 that our men had captured the State House.

19 Q. Who are you referring to?

16:12:06 20 A. Our men who were in Freetown, the RUF/AFRC combatants
21 who had entered Freetown, and it read that they had
22 captured the State House and certain parts of the city."

23 Mr Sesay, where were you at the time of the Freetown
24 invasion?

16:12:26 25 A. I was in Makeni.

26 Q. Did you have access to a radio at that time?

27 A. Yes. I had a radio operator and he had a radio.

28 Q. Do you recall any message to the effect that "our men",
29 that is, RUF and AFRC, had captured State House in Freetown?

1 A. My station did not receive such a message.

2 Q. Back to the page.

3 "Q. Who was the message from specifically, do you know?

4 A. Yes. The message was from Gullit, and he was Black
16:13:12 5 Jah, that was his code name. Gullit was one of the bosses
6 in the AFRC. He was one of the bosses in AFRC and Gullit
7 was one of the most senior commanders, and to be specific
8 he was the one who led the troops that entered Freetown.

9 Q. So who was at the transmitting station with you? Who
16:13:32 10 else were there on this day, 6 January?

11 A. I met all the operators. In fact, almost all the
12 operators by then were in the transmitting room. Like
13 Seibatu, Tiger, Tourist. Almost all the operators were in
14 the station on that particular day.

16:13:55 15 Q. Now, on that particular day, what station was the
16 transmitting station in Buedu in contact with?

17 A. The transmitting station in Buedu was in contact with
18 the various call signs within the RUF liberated zones, like
19 Superman, Gullit, Issa, Rambo, Akim and others."

16:14:20 20 So what he was telling the judges was that he was in
21 contact with all these various call signs, including you, on 6
22 January.

23 "Q. Now, again, I'm confining my question specifically to
24 6 January. You said that the station you were at, the
16:14:42 25 transmitting station, was in contact with Gullit. Describe
26 what you mean by that.

27 A. By that I mean that Gullit was sending direct
28 information to Mosquito's station and Mosquito's station
29 was asking to know about the activities that were going on

1 directly and to know the areas that had been captured. And
2 Gullit also from his side was trying to request for more
3 materials and reinforcements from Mosquito, for Mosquito to
4 send more reinforcements and more ammunition for them
16:15:18 5 because he said they had just entered the city and they
6 need more manpower to consolidate the grounds that they had
7 captured and to even make further advances.

8 Q. Now, how were these messages being sent?

9 A. Well, the operators, Gullit had one of the operators
16:15:40 10 with him that I knew, like Elongima and King Perry, the
11 RUF radio operator was there with him, Alfred Brown,
12 another RUF radio operator was there, and some other SLA
13 operators were there with them in Freetown. So whenever
14 Gullit sent a message, the operator would write it down and
16:16:01 15 code it and they would have sent that, and after sending it
16 Mosquito's operators would receive that decoded form and
17 they would hand that over to Mosquito. So that was how the
18 communication and the operations went on. And seldom
19 Mosquito spoke directly with Gullit on the air regarding
16:16:21 20 issues on the front line."

21 And then, please, let's jump to page 21569. And we are
22 still looking at the same events. Line 1:

23 "Q. Going back to the day of 6 January that you described,
24 you said that Sam Bockarie was in contact with Gullit. You
16:17:05 25 said first of all that he was in contact through radio
26 operators and then you said also directly, seldom directly.
27 Now, speaking of 6 January specifically, let's just start
28 with that day, do you remember any of the other discussions
29 that occurred between them?"

1 And he goes on to list some of those.

2 Line 21:

3 "Q. Now, you said earlier that you were often listening to
4 the BBC during the course of the time you were in Buedu; is
16:17:40 5 that correct? Were you listening to the BBC on 6 January
6 1999?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Do you recall any of the programmes?

9 A. Yes, I recall when I recall when one of the SLAs
16:17:55 10 entered State House and called the BBC and he said that we,
11 and when I say we I mean the RUF/AFRC, he said that, we
12 have entered Freetown. And that they were in control of
13 the State House."

14 Can we now jump, please, to page 21583. I'm trying to set
16:18:19 15 the context for this particular question. Yes, line 6, please:

16 "Q. Again, I will ask you to further describe things as
17 necessary. But just this question here. I am just asking
18 you the time that passed, the time that elapsed from the
19 moment Mosquito received the message from Gullit through

16:19:07 20 King Perry to the time he contacted Benjamin. You said it
21 was that very morning, just when Sam Bockarie got the
22 message, because at that time and then you started talking
23 about something else. How much time transpired?

24 A. It was not up to one hour. It was not up to one hour.

16:19:33 25 Q. And how in this particular instance did Sam Bockarie
26 make contact with Benjamin?"

27 So just pause there. So we have this situation being
28 described to these judges by this witness. Messages received
29 from Gullit and within an hour, Bockarie contacts Benjamin

1 Yeaten. Do you know anything about that?

2 A. No.

3 Q. This is on 6 January.

4 A. I don't know anything about that. I know that Gullit spoke
16:20:09 5 to Sam Bockarie but it was not on 6 January. Because I heard
6 that when they said Gullit spoke to Sam Bockarie, but it was not
7 on 6 January and I never heard Sam Bockarie call Benjamin
8 regarding that.

9 Q. Did Sam Bockarie himself ever mention such a telephone call
16:20:40 10 to you?

11 A. No, no. Telling me about Benjamin, about Freetown?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. No, no.

14 Q. Let's jump to page 21586, line 3:

16:21:12 15 "A. I knew also - was after he had spoken to Benjamin,
16 they spoke for some time, after some time Benjamin came
17 back to Mosquito and called him on the sat phone and he
18 gave him instructions to make sure that he told Gullit and
19 others to dispatch all those big names that he had
16:21:32 20 mentioned, to call for them to be with him in Buedu at the
21 headquarters, these were the people released from Pademba
22 Road. To call for them to be with him in Buedu at the
23 headquarters that they should not be at the front line. He
24 said that was the instructions from Mr Taylor. And
16:21:52 25 Mosquito told the operator in charge, that was one Mohamed
26 Kabbah, I can recall, and on that very day, he was the one
27 on duty and he sent the message. I was there when Mohamed
28 Kabbah encoded the message and sent it to Gullit and others
29 for them to send back those people to the rear for safety."

1 Did you ever hear such a thing, Mr Sesay?

2 A. I did not hear that. I never heard that. Those
3 politicians who were at Pademba Road, who were released by
4 Gullit, they were with Gullit and others, including President
16:22:38 5 Momoh, they were with Gullit and others in Freetown until Gullit
6 and others retreated from Freetown in February '99.

7 Q. Now --

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Before you proceed. Mr Sesay, is this
9 not the incident you were telling us about this morning, whereby
16:23:07 10 Bockarie is supposed to have sent you to Waterloo to collect
11 Gibril Massaquoi and the politicians? Is this not the same
12 incident that this witness is alluding to?

13 THE WITNESS: Yes, but the way the witness put it is
14 different from the reality. This witness, according to the
16:23:30 15 lawyer moments ago, is claiming that during the time that those
16 people were released from Pademba Road, that was the time
17 Mosqui to sent a message that those people should not be in
18 Freetown, they should be sent to the rear, and that is not what
19 happened. Because those people were with Gullit and others
16:23:50 20 throughout the time that they were in Freetown, right up to
21 February when they retreated to Benguema, Waterloo. That was
22 when Sam Bockarie said I should go and call Gibril and those
23 people and that they should go and stay with them in Buedu, he
24 wanted to talk to them.

16:24:08 25 MR GRIFFITHS:

26 Q. Now, were you aware of any involvement by Benjamin Yeaten,
27 Charles Taylor, in terms of the events of 6 January 1999?

28 A. I don't know of any of their involvement. That is Benjamin
29 Yeaten and Mr Taylor that - on the invasion of Freetown, January

1 6, '99. As far as I know, they had nothing to do with January 6
2 invasion, Charles Taylor and Benjamin Yeaten, and that was the
3 actual thing that happened.

16:25:09 4 Q. Now, the diamonds that you took to Monrovia which were
5 lost, who were you to give them to?

6 A. Ibrahim Bah was to come and pick me to give it to Diendere.

7 Q. According to this witness, testimony of 4 December, page
8 21689, speaking of the problems between Superman and Bockarie, he
9 says, "I would give the year that it was sometime around, that
16:25:38 10 was approaching mid-1998", line 17:

11 "The main problem, even though there were some minor
12 problems, but the main factor was diamond that was given to
13 Mr Issa by Mr Mosquito to be taken to Mr Taylor in Monrovia and
14 Mr Issa came back and said that the diamonds had gone missing."

16:26:03 15 Were you to give the diamonds to Mr Taylor?

16 A. No, no. That is not what Bockarie sent me for. And
17 Bockarie and Superman, from 1992, they had been having problems,
18 right up to '97, to '96, so --

19 Q. Now, one other matter. In October 1997, did Sam Bockarie
16:26:52 20 leave Sierra Leone?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. To go where?

23 A. Monrovia, with the very Daf.

24 Q. October 1997, Mr Sesay.

16:27:10 25 A. Oh, okay. No. Sam Bockarie was in Kenema, October '97.

26 Q. Did Sam Bockarie leave Sierra Leone in October 1997?

27 A. No. I never heard that Sam Bockarie left except that he
28 went to Freetown in '97, he would go to Freetown and return to
29 Kenema.

1 Q. Testimony of Daf from 5 October 2008, page 21798 - 5
2 December 2008, line 8:

3 "Q. In October 1997, where were you?

4 A. Around October 1997, I was around Tongo, around Tongo,
16:28:00 5 at that time, that time you are talking about, around that
6 time I was around Tongo, that was 1997.

7 Q. And when you were around Tongo, do you mean you were
8 working for the RUF or working for yourself?

9 A. I was working for the RUF and at the same time working
16:28:16 10 for myself.

11 Q. We will come back to that in due course, now just
12 before we leave this question of arms and ammunition and
13 General Ibrahim Bah, are you aware of a trip to Burkina
14 Faso by members of the RUF to request arms and ammunition?
16:28:36 15 That was a trip that was arranged with the assistance of
16 Ibrahim Bah?

17 A. When was that?

18 Q. At any time.

19 A. I know about a trip to Burkina Faso but I know about a
16:28:48 20 trip to Burkina Faso."

21 Line 29:

22 "The one trip that I know about to Burkina Faso was the one
23 that Sam Bockarie and others did and it was Mr Taylor who did the
24 effective arrangement for that. That is what I know about."

16:29:20 25 Now, first of all, do you know of any such a trip in
26 October 1997, Mr Sesay?

27 A. No. Such a trip --

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Koumjian?

29 MR KOUMJIAN: I'll wait for the answer.

1 MR GRIFFITHS:

2 Q. When do you know of such a trip?

3 MR KOUMJIAN: Excuse me, if there is going to be another
4 question. I would have to read a little further in the

16:29:51 5 transcript but my understanding from what has been read, the
6 witness has not said, the witness Daf, when testifying, that the
7 trip to Burkina Faso was in 1997. He was talking about another
8 trip in 1997, then the subject switched to Bah, but someone can
9 correct me if I'm wrong.

16:30:15 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, was the trip in 1997?

11 MR GRIFFITHS: That's what I'm trying to inquire with the
12 witness.

13 Q. Do you know of any such trip in 1997, Mr Sesay?

14 A. No.

16:30:31 15 Q. Do you know of such a trip in 1998?

16 A. Yes. I know about a trip in '98, but it was not in
17 October. It was in November.

18 Q. Now, what about this: Do you know of Sam Bockarie placing
19 Daf in a dungeon because Daf had written a letter to Foday Sankoh
16:31:02 20 asking Sankoh to use Charles Taylor to tell Bockarie to disarm?
21 Do you know of such a thing?

22 A. I know of Sam Bockarie beating Daf and Junior Vandi
23 together in December 1999 before Sam Bockarie's departure. But
24 they were sending radio messages, that is Junior Vandi and Daf,
16:31:34 25 they were writing letters and sending messages to Mr Sankoh
26 saying that Sam Bockarie was inciting the fighters in Kailahun
27 against Mr Sankoh's leadership. And the letters were discovered
28 and Sam Bockarie said they were the ones who had written them.
29 So Sam Bockarie held a meeting in Dodo Kortuma, Kailahun Town,

1 and he spoke to the RUF about the - about the way that he was
2 unhappy about Mr Sankoh's behaviour with the disarmament. That
3 was the information they were about to pass on to Mr Sankoh and
4 the letter leaked to Sam Bockarie and Sam Bockarie caught both of
16:32:18 5 them and flogged them and put them into the dungeon.

6 Q. And was that letter anything to do with Charles Taylor?

7 A. That had nothing to do with Mr Taylor. They were trying to
8 inform Mr Sankoh about the - about the disloyalty of Sam Bockarie
9 towards Mr Sankoh. That was what they wanted to inform Mr Sankoh
16:32:43 10 about through that letter.

11 Q. And did you see that letter?

12 A. No, I did not see the letter but when I got to Buedu -
13 because they were at the MP. When I got to Buedu, both of them,
14 you could see the scars of the beating that they had given to
16:33:04 15 them and even the mark of the rope that was used to tie them up.
16 That had nothing to do with Mr Taylor.

17 MR GRIFFITHS: Thank you very much. I'm moving on to
18 another witness and that's a convenient point.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just a note that at page 160, line 24,
16:33:23 20 the witness said, "I know of Sam Bockarie beating Daf and Junior
21 Vandi."

22 We have come to the end of today's proceedings. Mr Sesay,
23 as usual you are not to discuss your evidence. We will continue
24 tomorrow at 9.

16:34:15 25 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.34 p.m.
26 to be reconvened on Thursday, 12 August 2010
27 at 9.00 a.m.]

28
29

I N D E X

WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENCE:

DCT-172	45945
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR CHEKERA	45945
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR GRIFFITHS	46039