



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF  
THE SPECIAL COURT  
V.  
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

MONDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2009  
9.30 A.M.  
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

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Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Ms Doreen Kiggundu

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura  
Mr Benedict Williams

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis  
Mr Mohamed A Bangura  
Mr Christopher Santora  
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay  
Taylor:

Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC  
Mr Morris Anyah

1 Monday, 14 September 2009

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:28:15 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. We'll take appearances,  
6 please.

7 MS HOLLIS: Good morning, Mr President, your Honours,  
8 opposing counsel. This morning for the Prosecution, Brenda J  
9 Hollis, Mohamed A Bangura, Christopher Santora and our case  
09:32:02 10 manager, Maja Dimitrova.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Ms Hollis.

12 MR GRIFFITHS: Good morning, Mr President, your Honours,  
13 counsel opposite. For the Defence today myself Courtenay  
14 Griffiths assisted by my learned friend Mr Morris Anyah and we're  
09:32:18 15 also joined today by our legal assistant, Mr Simon Chapman, who  
16 has been with us before.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Griffiths. Just before we  
18 proceed, I'll remind you Mr Taylor you're still bound by the  
19 declaration to tell the truth. Yes, Mr Griffiths.

09:32:57 20 DANKANNAH DR CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR:

21 [On former affirmation]

22 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR GRIFFITHS: [Continued]

23 Q. Mr Taylor, last Thursday when we adjourned we were looking  
24 at the evidence of a witness TF1-567. Do you recall that?

09:33:12 25 A. Yes, I do.

26 Q. And we were looking at his account of having travelled with  
27 Foday Sankoh to the Executive Mansion in Gbarnga, where he claims  
28 that he collected a pick-up truck full of arms, yes?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. And you will recall in particular you pointing out that it  
2 was the Prosecutor who had mentioned the word "truck" when the  
3 witness had himself used the word "pick-up". Yes?

4 A. I think "vehicle."

09:33:59 5 Q. "Vehicle"?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. The point where we had reached was page 12843 of the  
8 transcript of 2 July 2008. The witness spoke to this effect:

9 "Q. And, if you know, what type of communication did he  
09:34:23 10 have?

11 A. Well, at that time when he wanted to communicate to  
12 Sierra Leone he used to go to the Mansion Ground. The  
13 operator was there and he was called Butterfly. That was  
14 where he communicated.

09:34:41 15 Q. Who was Butterfly?

16 A. Butterfly was an operator for Charles Taylor."  
17 Now let's pause. Now, Mr Taylor, do you accept that you  
18 had a radio operator called Butterfly?

19 A. Yes, I do.

09:35:01 20 Q. What was that individual's real name?

21 A. Yanks Smythe.

22 Q. A name mentioned before. He was later to become the  
23 Liberian ambassador to Libya, wasn't he?

24 A. That's correct.

09:35:17 25 Q. And he was a Special Forces as well, wasn't he?

26 A. That is correct.

27 Q. Originally of Gambian descent?

28 A. That is correct.

29 Q. And the witness's evidence continued in this way:

1 "Q. What happened once you arrived back in Pendembu?

2 A. When we got to Pendembu, Foday Sankoh gave these  
3 materials to the battle group commander.

4 Q. Do you know how this material was going to be used?

09:35:45 5 A. He said they should be distributed to the front lines.

6 Q. Now, you said you made a second trip to Gbarnga. Can  
7 you tell us again what year that was that you made this  
8 second trip?

9 A. It happened in 1992.

09:36:06 10 Q. What happened on this second trip?

11 A. During the second trip we used the same route through  
12 Koindu in Mendekoma. That was where we crossed and got to  
13 Gbarnga. When we got there, Foday Sankoh went to greet his  
14 brother Charles again. Later he told us that he had  
09:36:25 15 received a radio message at Cape Mount area. He said his  
16 brother Charles had told him that the soldiers, the RUF  
17 soldiers from Pujehun, had retreated and come to Bomi Hills  
18 and Bopolu."

19 Pause there. Mr Taylor, you will see there that the  
09:36:50 20 witness is suggesting that you provided Foday Sankoh with  
21 information about the retreat of RUF soldiers from Pujehun. Do  
22 you understand that?

23 A. Yes, I do.

24 Q. Let's just read the passage again so that we get the full  
09:37:07 25 sense of it:

26 "During the second trip we used the same route through  
27 Koindu in Mendekoma. That was where we crossed and got to  
28 Gbarnga. When we got there, Foday Sankoh went to greet his  
29 brother Charles again. Later he told us that he had received a

1 radio message at Cape Mount area. He said his brother Charles  
2 had told him that the soldiers, the RUF soldiers from Pujehun,  
3 had retreated and have come to Bomi Hills and Bopolu."

4 Firstly, did you provide such information to Foday Sankoh?

09:37:46

5 A. No, I did not.

6 Q. Secondly, were you aware of an RUF retreat from Pujehun to  
7 Bomi Hills and Bopolu?

8 A. No, I was not aware.

09:38:09

9 Q. On a more general level, Mr Taylor, that answer suggests  
10 that you had more detailed knowledge of the movements of RUF  
11 soldiers than Foday Sankoh himself. Was that the case?

12 A. That was not the case. That was not the case.

13 Q. "Q. Now, you said that he had received a message. Who  
14 received this message?

09:38:30

15 A. Well, he said a signal message has come from Cape Mount  
16 area to the mansion. He said his brother has told him, his  
17 brother Charles has told him.

18 Q. You said this message came from Cape Mount. What do  
19 you mean by Cape Mount?

09:38:49

20 A. Cape Mount County. This is an area where the NPFL was  
21 in control. That is the area, Cape Mount County.

22 Q. You said the RUF soldiers had come to Bomi Hills and  
23 Bopolu. Did you know another name for Bomi Hills?

24 A. Yes, Bomi Hills, they call there Tubmanburg.

09:39:13

25 Q. So what happened after Foday Sankoh got this news?

26 A. Well, later he told us his brother Charles had said  
27 that he will help him with food to take for the soldiers.  
28 At that time his brother provided food, rice and other  
29 items and so we went."

1 Is that true, Mr Taylor?

2 A. No, that is not true. And maybe to put this in  
3 perspective: If he's talking about 1992 then he's got to be  
4 talking about anywhere between January and May. That's the only  
09:39:49 5 period he can be talking about. By this particular time in 1992  
6 there is cooperation between the RUF and the NPFL on that border  
7 where our special operations people are fighting ULIMO. Now, as  
8 to the details of where the fighting, who is retreating, I would  
9 not have those details so I would not discuss this with Foday  
09:40:19 10 Sankoh. In fact, Foday Sankoh would have to get this information  
11 himself.

12 On the issue of food and other supplies, these little boys  
13 do not know. Foday Sankoh came to Gbarnga. I've told this  
14 Court. I did give Foday Sankoh small amounts of arms and  
09:40:34 15 ammunition fighting on that border. I did not provide food and  
16 different - Foday Sankoh came to Gbarnga. He bought food,  
17 different non-military items and different things. For me  
18 security was important on that border because the Sierra Leonean  
19 government, okay, had armed and trained ULIMO and they were  
09:40:57 20 fighting us. And our determination was to fight them in Sierra  
21 Leone so we would not have to fight them in Liberia. I have not  
22 denied that, so he doesn't know what he is talking about.

23 But his boss bought the food. If I had given Foday Sankoh  
24 food, I would say I did. I didn't give him food. He bought  
09:41:16 25 whatever he needed. Whatever little security assistance we could  
26 give while our men were fighting in there, we did give up until  
27 May of 1992, beginning around August of 1991. If he is talking  
28 out of that period he has generalised - in fact the way the  
29 questions are asked here by the Prosecutor is so generalised that

1 - but I can just say if it's any time after May of 1992 it is  
2 totally incorrect.

09:42:10 3 Q. Very well. Now, the witness went on, and this is at page  
4 12853 of the transcript of 2 July 2008, to speak of a situation  
5 where Mosquito had killed one sole NPFL who they said had raped  
6 someone so he killed the soldier. This caused problems between  
7 himself and the NPFL soldiers. Do you have any knowledge of  
8 that, Mr Taylor?

09:42:32 9 A. No, I have no knowledge of this particular situation, no.  
10 Because in fact Mosquito, if he is referring to Mosquito as in  
11 Sam Bockarie, I didn't even know of a Sam Bockarie, neither did  
12 Foday Sankoh within that period bring - between August '91 and  
13 May '92 he never brought Sam Bockarie with him to Gbarnga and I  
14 don't think any of the witnesses before this Court have said so.  
09:42:54 15 I did not know any Bockarie and I didn't know of this incident.  
16 I really question if it actually happened.

17 Q. The account goes on in this way. The witness goes on to  
18 say that he returned from Tubmanburg to Gbarnga and he is asked  
19 this:

09:43:16 20 "Q. What happened after you arrived back in Gbarnga?

21 A. After we had arrived Foday Sankoh went to his brother  
22 Charles Taylor.

23 Q. And what happened after he went to his brother Charles  
24 Taylor?

09:43:31 25 A. Well, he told him that he and his brother had arranged  
26 that this was the time that they were to capture Kono  
27 because Kono was a diamond mining area and that they should  
28 try and capture there. Later Charles Taylor gave the arms  
29 and ammunition."

1 Mr Taylor, did you have such a discussion with  
2 Foday Sankoh?

3 A. No. In fact, I don't know - I don't know if this so-called  
4 Kono was captured in 1992. I have no idea of what was going on  
09:44:04 5 inside Sierra Leone. But Foday Sankoh and I did not have any  
6 discussion as to the capture of Kono. Maybe when Kono was  
7 captured, I think it may be an important part, you know, whether  
8 it was captured pre '93 or after that particular time. I don't  
9 know anything about the capture of Kono, if Kono was captured  
09:44:34 10 during that particular time. Really we didn't have that  
11 discussion. But then this could be confused with the same  
12 discussion that we're hearing about about the capture of Kono  
13 somewhere in '98. I'm not sure if he is talking about the same  
14 period.

09:44:49 15 Q. My understanding of the evidence this witness is giving is  
16 that he made two trips in '91 and '92?

17 A. I'm not sure if Kono - I don't know of any capture of Kono  
18 in that period in 1992 - before May of 1992. I'm not aware.  
19 Neither did we have that conversation.

09:45:18 20 Q. The questioning continued in this way, page 12854:

21 "Q. Mr Witness, you said that Foday Sankoh went to his  
22 brother Charles Taylor and, 'He told him that he and his  
23 brother had arranged that was the time that they were to  
24 capture Kono.' Now when you say that he told him that he  
09:45:42 25 and his brother had arranged, who told who?

26 A. Well, he was trying to talk to us that he and his  
27 brother - he and Charles Taylor have arranged that Charles  
28 Taylor was to help with arms and ammunition to go and  
29 capture Kono because Kono had diamonds.



1 Q. Just to be absolutely clear, when you say he and  
2 Charles Taylor, who is the he?

3 A. Foday Sankoh.

09:46:17

4 Q. These arms and ammunition that you received, could you  
5 tell us what types of arms and ammunition?

6 A. The arms and ammunition were plenty. He gave up to 50  
7 boxes. 50 boxes of AK rounds. That is 100 sardine tins  
8 were contained in two boxes. That is 100. He gave rice,  
9 he gave RPG boxes, GPMG and others that I cannot recall."

09:46:46

10 Mr Taylor, did you provide arms and ammunition in such  
11 quantities to Foday Sankoh in order to capture Kono?

09:47:16

12 A. Never did. But there may be three issues here appear to me  
13 to be confusing. Number one, if we recall a letter that was  
14 written by Foday Sankoh to me in 1992 complaining about a few  
15 boxes of AK ammunition, so I don't see how we can jump from a few  
16 boxes to 50. If I had 50 boxes of AK I would have captured  
17 Monrovia in 1992. So I'm not sure if he's talking about - you  
18 know these boys hear things around. I'm not sure if he's talking  
19 about this particular situation that he is explaining and  
20 confusing it with the later Kono. Remember we heard some  
21 testimony here about the so-called Fitti-Fatta in Kono and all  
22 that kind of stuff. I'm not sure if - you know, these boys just  
23 bring information.

09:47:37

24 There is absolutely no - I don't have that quantity of  
25 ammunition back in 1992 that I will give Foday Sankoh 50 boxes.  
26 Impossible. There's no such thing. No. And probably, I'm just  
27 going through this transcript, maybe we ought to check in the  
28 records because if we look at testimony before this Court, in  
29 1996, based on testimony given here, when Foday Sankoh returns

09:47:59

1 from Abidjan from the peace talks he goes back. Remember the  
2 letters that he wrote to Mohamed Talibi. If we look at those and  
3 this rush to begin to mine, Foday Sankoh says, according to  
4 testimony before this Court, in that letter to Talibi - I'm not  
09:48:55 5 quoting it directly - that they were going to begin to work to  
6 get things going.

7 So we may have to check and see if there was any attack on  
8 Kono or capture of Kono back in 1992. But I think there's just  
9 so much confusion here with this hearsay - what these boys hear  
09:49:13 10 one part and multiple. But to cut short, I never had that  
11 quantity of ammunition in 1992 and never gave Foday Sankoh that  
12 amount and that's why Foday Sankoh kept complaining and  
13 requesting from me ammunition that I really didn't have.

14 Q. And it continues:

09:49:34 15 "Q. And when you talk about sardine tins what are you  
16 talking about?

17 A. Well, in the box - the box - in the box - the tins that  
18 were in - the tins in which the ammunition were we used to  
19 call them sardine tins.

09:49:47 20 Q. And what happened after you received these materials?

21 A. Well, after we had received these materials  
22 Foday Sankoh said that we were to go back to Sierra Leone.  
23 But at that time some other soldiers for whom he had left  
24 an instruction at Bomi Hills to meet him at Gbarnga were  
09:50:09 25 already on the ground. So he put Mosquito in charge of the  
26 group to go with the truck that contained the arms and  
27 ammunition, so we moved.

28 Q. This truck that contained the arms and ammunition,  
29 whose truck was it?

1 A. Well, the truck was a DAF truck. It had come from the  
2 mansion from Charles Taylor.

3 Q. And what size truck was this?

4 A. Well, it was a six-tyred truck.

09:50:39 5 Q. And when you say it was a DAF truck, what do you mean  
6 by DAF?

7 A. Well, the vehicle, that was the name of the vehicle in  
8 front of it. In front of vehicle it was written DAF, DAF.

9 Q. Now you said that Foday Sankoh put Sam Bockarie in  
09:50:53 10 charge of the truck and we moved. What do you mean we  
11 moved?

12 A. We went to Sierra Leone.

13 Q. At this time when you left Gbarnga where was Philip  
14 Palmer?

09:51:04 15 A. Well, the other group that were coming, Philip Palmer  
16 came to Gbarnga. He stayed in charge of the other  
17 materials and to control the other soldiers that were  
18 coming."

19 Pause there. Firstly, this witness is placing Mosquito,  
09:51:23 20 Sam Bockarie, in Gbarnga at this time in 1992, Mr Taylor. Did  
21 you meet Mosquito at this time in 1992?

22 A. Never met - never met Sam Bockarie at this particular time,  
23 and even based on their own testimony here I don't think any  
24 witness that this Prosecution produced ever said or could come  
09:51:49 25 back and say that Sam Bockarie was brought to Gbarnga between '91  
26 and '92. Sam Bockarie - in fact, I met nobody. But the most  
27 senior people in the RUF based on evidence and information before  
28 this Court, at this time the most senior people are who? Mohamed  
29 Tarawalli and Rashid something. Sam Bockarie is really nothing.

1 And in fact I don't even get to meet any of these people and no  
2 witness - none of these witnesses have been here to say this  
3 person came and I met this person. No, I never met Sam Bockarie  
4 in this period. And, quite frankly, not even meeting. I doubt  
09:52:35 5 very much if any witness have said that or if he ever put foot in  
6 Gbarnga at this time. I doubt it.

7 Q. Now, the second aspect of this testimony that I want to ask  
8 you about is the truck. A six-tyred DAF truck. Firstly, were  
9 you in possession of such a vehicle?

09:53:03 10 A. In '91/'92 we had MAN trucks, not DAF trucks. MAN diesel,  
11 M-A-N. MAN.

12 Q. MAN. Where are they from?

13 A. I think these MANs are - I think they are German made if  
14 I'm not mistaken. We had MAN trucks, not DAF trucks.

09:53:30 15 Q. And a six-wheeler truck, Mr Taylor?

16 A. Yes, most of the trucks have either six - six or ten. They  
17 were six-wheeler trucks but they were MAN trucks, not DAFs.

18 Q. Now, did you provide a six-wheeler truck - let's forget the  
19 brand name for the minute - full of arms to Foday Sankoh?

09:53:54 20 A. Never. Never did. The ammunition that went to  
21 Foday Sankoh went in small what we call pick-up trucks that these  
22 are little half-tonne pick-up trucks. No, never.

23 Q. Now, at this time, Mr Taylor, in 1992, did you know a man  
24 called Philip Palmer?

09:54:18 25 A. No, I didn't know him.

26 Q. Did Foday Sankoh leave someone in charge --

27 JUDGE DOHERTY: Just a moment, Mr Griffiths, please. I  
28 note that your previous question related to arms but the answer  
29 relates to ammunition. Are we just treating it all as the same?

1 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well.

2 THE WITNESS: During this period, your Honour, most of the  
3 things delivered were ammunition, not arms.

4 MR GRIFFITHS:

09:54:54 5 Q. Now, the witness's testimony continued in this way:

6 "A. Well, the other group that were coming, Philip Palmer  
7 came to Gbarnga. He stayed in charge of the other  
8 materials and to control the other soldiers that were  
9 coming.

09:55:10 10 Q. And who gave him this assignment?

11 A. It was Foday Sankoh who gave him this assignment.

12 Q. Now on this second trip to Gbarnga did you see Charles  
13 Taylor?

14 A. Yes, I saw him.

09:55:22 15 Q. How did it happen that you saw Charles Taylor?

16 A. It happened when we were returning to Sierra Leone. We  
17 passed through the Mansion Ground. As we were approaching  
18 Charles Taylor's mansion area in Gbarnga, we were  
19 approaching the motor pool and at that time Charles Taylor  
09:55:40 20 was outside and so Foday Sankoh told the driver to slow  
21 down. When he slowed down he told him to stop. When he  
22 stopped Foday Sankoh alighted and went and met his brother  
23 Charles. It was since - it was then that I knew him.

24 Q. The residence that Foday Sankoh had in Gbarnga, what  
09:56:04 25 was the distance between that residence and Charles  
26 Taylor's mansion?

27 A. It was not far at all. You would be there and looking  
28 at the mansion.

29 Q. Can you give us any idea of the distance?

1 A. If you're walking on foot you could spend about 15  
2 minutes."

3 Pause. What about that time estimate, Mr Taylor, to walk  
4 from the Executive Mansion to, as you described it, the  
09:56:38 5 guesthouse in the - was it called the Far East?

6 A. Yes. I would say - I would put it to a little more than  
7 15. I would put it to about 20 minutes. But I wouldn't fuss  
8 about that big difference. But then I would draw attention to  
9 the fact that if we took his 15 minutes - if we took his 15  
09:57:09 10 minutes and compared it to another witness's statement here that  
11 this guesthouse where Foday Sankoh stayed was a street away, one  
12 would hardly take an entire 15 minutes to walk across the street,  
13 you know, to get to the Executive Mansion. So, I mean, you know,  
14 when you listen to these testimonies, you know, you have to be  
09:57:36 15 very careful how these boys speak. So the 15 minutes I would say  
16 is a little short but 20 minutes. But walking for 15 minutes  
17 would take you at least a few blocks.

18 But then, there's another thing I want to draw the Court's  
19 attention to where - when you were reading a few lines before, he  
09:58:01 20 mentions that they're driving and they stop and he gets down and  
21 that is where he knows - he doesn't know me. How would you just  
22 see me and you know - he doesn't know me. Maybe he wanted to say  
23 he saw me, but that's the problem with how these boys speak. So  
24 he gets out of the vehicle and says that's when he knew me. How  
09:58:19 25 can you know me? You don't know me. You saw me. So when you  
26 ask them, "You know - oh, yes, I know Charles Taylor." Maybe you  
27 saw me at a distance and then you say, "I know him." I'm talking  
28 about a few lines forward.

29 Q. I know exactly where you mean.

1 A. You see, so when these guys are talking, that's why we get  
2 mixed information. Of course, if you are a bodyguard to  
3 Foday Sankoh and you are on a jeep and the jeep stops and he  
4 says, "Stop here here," and he walks over to me and you are at a  
09:58:50 5 distance to see me, of course, anyone must say that that's got to  
6 be - if he is present, there's got to be some truth to it. But  
7 the fact that you know me and then he maybe talk about things  
8 happening in my living room.

9 So, I mean, this is - so I'm not going to fuss with 15  
09:59:09 10 minutes. I think it could be about 20, but then it contrasts  
11 very sharply with what another witness said that Foday Sankoh  
12 lived just, you know - I mean, a street away from me, which is  
13 not true.

14 Q. Now, let's go on and deal with another aspects of this  
09:59:28 15 witness's evidence. Page 12864 of the transcript of 2 July 2008.  
16 And just to put the particular passage that I want to deal with  
17 in context, we will deal with some earlier events:

18 "Q. How long did you stay in Koidu Town after Foday Sankoh  
19 left?

09:59:51 20 A. I was there for some time and later. When the enemies  
21 advanced, we all moved from there and went to Gandorhun.

22 Q. Now, during the time were you in Koidu, after Foday  
23 Sankoh left, did you receive any communications from  
24 Foday Sankoh?

10:00:09 25 A. Whilst we were in Gandorhun, at one time Mosquito said  
26 that Foday Sankoh had sent a message to him that he had  
27 received an urgent message from his brother Charles that he  
28 was supposed to go and meet him in Gbarnga.

29 Q. You said this is while you were in Gandorhun. How long

1 were you in Gandorhun?

2 A. We spent some time in Gandorhun.

3 Q. Now, what year are you talking about?

4 A. Here I'm talking about 1992.

10:00:51 5 Q. And do you have any recollection as to what part of  
6 1992 this was when you were in Gandorhun?

7 A. This happened at the time we were approaching the end  
8 of 1992."

9 Have you got the date?

10:01:10 10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. And he continues:

12 "Q. While you were in Gandorhun, did you receive any other  
13 communications from Foday Sankoh?

14 A. Yes. Whilst we were there, another message came.

10:01:25 15 Foday Sankoh sent a message to Mosquito that he had arrived  
16 in Gbarnga and he said his brother Charles had given him  
17 arms and ammunition. But he said that ULIMO had blocked  
18 the road between Voinjama and Kolahun, but he said his  
19 brother told him not to be worried, that he was going to  
10:01:48 20 give him manpower to come and clear the way. And that he  
21 was going to come and meet us back. So that was the  
22 message that he sent."

23 Pause there, Mr Taylor. First of all, note the date, end  
24 of 1992. Note also what the witness is saying. "Foday Sankoh

10:02:12 25 gets to Gbarnga, but having got to Gbarnga, ULIMO blocked the  
26 road between Voinjama and Kolahun." So you were promising him  
27 manpower to clear the route. Is this true or false, Mr Taylor?

28 A. Totally false. And if we go back through countless amounts  
29 of hours of evidence before this Court, even Prosecution



1 witnesses have said here very clearly that by May of 1992 all  
2 contacts with the RUF had ceased. Where would Foday Sankoh pass  
3 by the end of 1992 to be in Gbarnga? Except he flew, there's no  
4 way that Foday Sankoh would be in Gbarnga after May of 1992. And  
10:03:02 5 so if he is saying that at the end of 1992, Foday Sankoh is  
6 supposed to be in Gbarnga, maybe he is talking about another  
7 Foday Sankoh.

8 And because they are so wrapped up in this lie,  
9 Sam Bockarie is featuring here very, very prominently, and he  
10:03:21 10 probably - all of us, I don't know what the cross-examination  
11 went like. I've forgotten, but, I mean, at this particular time  
12 you are talking about other senior people in the RUF that even I  
13 haven't met which involve Tarawalli and other people that are  
14 Special Forces. So a little Mosquito would not really be counted  
10:03:47 15 as being important. So this is totally untrue. It's a lie.

16 There's no way that there is Foday Sankoh or any other person -  
17 even the guesthouse is not operational by the end of 1992. It is  
18 totally, totally false. He has got it all mixed up.

19 Q. What about this business of ULIMO blocking the road?

10:04:09 20 A. But ULIMO, by June, July, and I would say - I will put it  
21 to about August of 1992, ULIMO is already - has blocked not - is  
22 in control of Lofa. Is in control of Lofa County by this  
23 particular time, totally. They are around the St Paul bridge.  
24 There is no way that - NPFL is not in that area. Only ULIMO now  
10:04:43 25 has the full Lofa and all the way down through Bomi. The map  
26 that was marked here by a Prosecution witness, I'm talking about  
27 Mr Sherif. If you look at that area, by this time ULIMO is  
28 occupying that. There's no way, at the end of 1992, there is any  
29 NPFL in that area that would encourage any movement from the RUF

1 after May of 1992. There is no link. There's no connection.  
2 Their witnesses have also confirmed this.

3 Q. So, Mr Taylor, if you're telling us that by June, July of  
4 1992 ULIMO had control of Lofa County, can you help us as to how  
10:05:37 5 Foday Sankoh managed to bypass them to get to Gbarnga?

6 A. I really don't know. That's why I'm saying it's  
7 impossible. It just didn't happen. It just did not happen, and  
8 witnesses will say that.

9 Q. Do you recall an instance where you told Foday Sankoh that  
10:05:56 10 you would give him manpower in order to clear a route back to  
11 Sierra Leone?

12 A. No. No. No. Why would I give him manpower? I have  
13 withdrawn my men. I have withdrawn my men under this so-called -  
14 after this so-called Top Final. I've withdrawn my people.

10:06:15 15 There's no relationship. What is Foday Sankoh going to be doing  
16 at the end of the year in there? No. No. It just never  
17 happened.

18 Q. And by the end of 1992, Mr Taylor, what was your focus as  
19 leader of the NPFL?

10:06:30 20 A. By the end of 1992, we are involved in several peace  
21 negotiations around this time, around the end of 1992 going into  
22 1993. We have by the middle - by this time the NPRAG is in full  
23 swing. We are really concentrating mostly on our various peace  
24 processes with ULIMO. In fact, they haven't - I'm not sure if  
10:07:11 25 they have split at this time, but it's between ULIMO and the  
26 various warring factions.

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Sorry. What was that acronym? NPR  
28 something.

29 THE WITNESS: Oh, we've gone through that here,

1 your Honour. NPRAG. That's the National Patriotic  
2 Reconstruction Assembly Government. We have it on the records,  
3 your Honour.

4 MR GRIFFITHS:

10:07:39 5 Q. Now, another aspect of this witness's evidence, Mr Taylor.  
6 Page 12866 of the transcript of 2 July 2008:

7 "Q. If you remember, how long did the RUF hold Koidu?

8 A. That was just around the end of '92 that we were pushed  
9 out of there.

10:08:13 10 Q. And do you remember for what period of time the RUF  
11 controlled Koidu?

12 A. I can't recall that again.

13 Q. Now, what happened once you arrived in Kailahun Town?

14 A. When we arrived in Kailahun, Foday Sankoh called a  
10:08:36 15 meeting. At this meeting there was Ajami, who was the MP  
16 commander, and Mosquito was there and other people were  
17 there. And during this meeting, he said that he went and  
18 met his brother Charles and in this meeting, too, he said,  
19 the diamonds that Mosquito handed over to him, he said he  
10:08:59 20 gave him some for him to keep - to keep them for him.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Who is the 'he', Ms Hollis?

22 MS HOLLIS:

23 Q. So who gave some diamonds to whom?

24 A. Foday Sankoh gave the diamonds to Charles. That was  
10:09:17 25 what Foday Sankoh told us during the meeting.

26 Q. And did Foday Sankoh explain to Charles Taylor why he  
27 was giving him the diamonds?

28 A. He said he gave him for him to give a little more arms  
29 and ammunition for him to bring them back."

1 We'll continue with that in a moment, but note again, this  
2 is the end of 1992, Mr Taylor.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Understand that?

10:09:50 5 A. Yes, I do.

6 Q. This is after this witness claims they made a second trip  
7 to Gbarnga when you provided arms and ammunition for the capture  
8 of Kono. Do you understand that?

9 A. Yes, I do.

10:10:03 10 Q. And that following the capture of Koidu Town, the context  
11 is that you were being given diamonds by Foday Sankoh in return  
12 for arms. This is at the end of 1992, Mr Taylor. True or false?

13 A. Totally false. Totally false. And I think Prosecution own  
14 witnesses have sufficiently verified that before this Court, that  
10:10:30 15 there were no link, no link between the RUF and the NPFL after  
16 May of 1992. So all this thing about there's supposed to be  
17 people coming in and going after me in 1992 is totally false.  
18 Totally false.

19 Q. "Q. When Foday Sankoh was in Kailahun, to your knowledge,  
10:10:59 20 did he bring anything back with him from Gbarnga?"  
21 Remember, this is the end of '92.

22 A. Uh-huh.

23 Q. "A. Yes, he brought a good amount of ammunition with rice,  
24 salt. He brought them.

10:11:12 25 Q. And do you recall the types of ammunition that he  
26 brought back?

27 A. He brought RPGs, RPG boxes, AK rounds, GPMG and some  
28 others that I cannot recall now.

29 Q. And what did he do with this ammunition that he brought

1 back from Gbarnga?

2 A. He gave them to the G4 and they kept them in the  
3 warehouse, and he was Joseph Brown. And later they were  
4 distributed to the front lines.

10:11:48 5 Q. And if you know, at the time of this meeting in  
6 Kailahun Town with Foday Sankoh, how many people were in  
7 the RUF?

8 A. There were more than 10,000 people.

9 Q. Now, you've told the Court about ULIMO cutting the road  
10:12:06 10 for a period of time in Liberia. First of all, who is  
11 ULIMO?

12 A. According to what we heard, ULIMO were fighting under  
13 Alhaji Kromah. Alhaji Kromah was the leader for the  
14 leader of ULIMO at that time.

10:12:24 15 Q. Did ULIMO ever block the route in Liberia again after  
16 that.

17 A. Yes, that later happened in 1993. ULIMO blocked the  
18 road. They captured Kolahun, Foya, Voinjama. ULIMO  
19 captured all of these areas.

10:12:47 20 Q. When they captured these areas in 1993 what access, if  
21 any, did the RUF have to Charles Taylor?

22 A. Well, after ULIMO had captured all of those areas  
23 Foday Sankoh called to Gbarnga and told his brother Charles  
24 and Charles Taylor suggested to him that he should send  
10:13:04 25 some soldiers from Sierra Leone to go to him so that he  
26 will be able to give him some arms and ammunition. So  
27 Foday Sankoh selected some Liberian soldiers who were with  
28 him, including Morris Kallon, for them to go.

29 Q. And did Morris Kallon and these others go to Charles

1 Taylor?

2 A. Well, they went, but later we understood that they did  
3 not arrive there at all.

10:13:33

4 Q. And how did you come to understand that they did not  
5 arrive there?

6 A. When they went after a week Foday Sankoh communicated  
7 with Gbarnga but they told him that they have not been able  
8 to see them. That was how I came to know.

10:13:49

9 Q. To your recollection for what period of time did ULIMO  
10 cut off access between the RUF and Charles Taylor?

11 A. It was in 1993.

12 Q. Until when?

13 A. Until 1998."

10:14:09

14 Now there's much there that we need to deal with,  
15 Mr Taylor. Let's start from the end and work backwards. When do  
16 you say ULIMO cut off the border between Sierra Leone and  
17 Liberia?

18 A. I'll say the border was totally cut off by August of 1992.  
19 It was totally cut off.

10:14:27

20 Q. What do you say to the suggestion that it wasn't until 1993  
21 that that occurred?

22 A. Well, then this will contrast sharply with what all the  
23 other witnesses have said that all contacts were cut off with the  
24 RUF.

10:14:43

25 Q. What about the time frame that this witness gives for ULIMO  
26 blocking the border: 1993 to 1998. What do you say to that?

27 A. That's totally inaccurate also, because if we talk about  
28 actual blocking of the border, ULIMO blocks off the border up  
29 until the - I would say - I would put it to about January of

1 1997. That is following the disarmament programme when all of  
2 the factions demobilised and become political parties. So if  
3 we're looking at blockage, I would say ULIMO blockage ends in I  
4 would say January of 1997.

10:15:35 5 Q. So do I take it then, Mr Taylor, that you neither accept  
6 the start date or the end date given by this witness?

7 A. That is correct.

8 Q. Now, the other matter that I want to deal with in that  
9 passage that I read out is this: Do you recall a mission being  
10 sent by Foday Sankoh to Gbarnga led by one Morris Kallon?

11 A. No. No.

12 Q. Do you know Morris Kallon?

13 A. Well, I've heard the name here. I don't - I don't know  
14 Morris Kallon. Morris Kallon was in several meetings, but I  
15 don't quite remember the feature, but I have met him in a  
16 meeting.

17 Q. Where?

18 A. Well, during the peace negotiations of the large  
19 delegations that came I understand on one of the occasions there  
20 was a Morris Kallon in the delegation. But when these  
21 delegations come there are so many you remember the leader of the  
22 delegation but you don't - I don't remember the faces, but I  
23 remember the name.

24 Q. When do you recall possibly meeting him?

10:16:57 25 A. Oh, this has to be somewhere, if I'm not mistaken, in '99.  
26 I would say beginning, early to middle 1999. During the many  
27 negotiations that name came up, Morris Kallon.

28 Q. Now, another aspect of the testimony that this witness gave  
29 in that passage I've just read out was that it was at your

1 suggestion, Mr Taylor, that Foday Sankoh sent this mission led by  
2 Morris Kallon but they never arrived in Gbarnga. Do you recall  
3 making such a suggestion to Foday Sankoh?

10:17:45 4 A. There is no contact I have with Foday Sankoh so it's  
5 impossible to suggest anything like this, what he's talking about  
6 in 1993 to Foday Sankoh. I have no contact whatsoever.

7 Q. Let's be careful, Mr Taylor. He's talking about the end of  
8 1992?

10:18:07 9 A. I thought he said here in - are we sure here? Because  
10 aren't we talking about the period he says that the cut off  
11 occurred in 1993?

12 Q. Yes, you're right. He is speaking of 1993.

13 A. So the contact with Foday Sankoh - oh, boy. You know,  
14 that's the problem with these cases. I, Charles Taylor, as of  
10:18:36 15 May of 1992, had no contact with Foday Sankoh. I've told this  
16 Court the period that I had contact with Foday Sankoh. These  
17 little boys with their fabrications and lies. There is no  
18 contact, there's no communication with Foday Sankoh. The next  
19 time after 1992 May that I meet Foday Sankoh is that I meet him  
10:19:04 20 in Lome. None whatsoever. None whatsoever. This is a lie.

21 Q. Mr Taylor the witness continues in this vein:

22 "Q. To your recollection for what period of time did ULIMO  
23 cut off the access between the RUF and Charles Taylor?

24 A. It was in 1993.

10:19:40 25 Q. Until when?

26 A. Until 1998 again.

27 Q. Now when the access was once again opened between the  
28 RUF and Charles Taylor, where were you?

29 A. At that time I was in Kailahun District. I was based



1 in a town called Balahun.

2 Q. During this time that the access across the border was  
3 cut off was there any contact between the RUF and Charles  
4 Taylor?

10:20:10 5 A. I did not get that clearly.

6 Q. During the time that the border was cut off between the  
7 RUF and Charles Taylor was there any contact between the  
8 RUF and Charles Taylor?

9 A. Since the time ULIMO captured the road we did not have  
10:20:33 10 road contact. We only had contact through communication.

11 Q. What type of communication?

12 A. Radio communication.

13 Q. Were you present for any of these communications  
14 between the RUF and Charles Taylor?

10:20:49 15 A. Yes. When the communication was taking place they did  
16 not talk directly to Charles Taylor. Sometimes  
17 Foday Sankoh would communicate with the operator that was  
18 with Charles Taylor that was called Butterfly. It was  
19 through him that the communication went on."

10:21:14 20 Is that true, Mr Taylor?

21 A. That is not true. There is no way that Butterfly, as  
22 Special Forces, would have been in contact with Foday Sankoh.  
23 There is absolutely no way that would happen. And to be - what  
24 would happen in these communication periods would be this: That  
10:21:34 25 code Butterfly would refer to the radio operator that will be  
26 responsible for receiving and communicating for the mansion,  
27 because there were several other radio posts. But everybody knew  
28 the angle and the bad blood that had developed because of this  
29 fighting between the RUF and the NPFL. There's no way Butterfly

1 ever got in touch with Foday Sankoh to receive or transmit any  
2 messages from me.

3 Now, having said that, I don't - I have no way of verifying  
4 as to whether of the many radio stations, one like some of the  
10:22:25 5 Liberians that stayed over there would call other stations and  
6 there's one thing I'm sure the Court will consider. Within that  
7 period people had developed relationships. Now, I don't doubt  
8 whether one little RUF radio operator will call somebody in  
9 another part of Liberia. But as far as the official contact, me  
10:22:49 10 or any senior general in the NPFL having contact receiving or  
11 transmitting information, that would just not - in fact it did  
12 not happen. There was just too much bad blood. No.

13 Q. But the witness continues in this vein:

14 "Q. And were you yourself present for any of these  
10:23:12 15 communications?

16 A. Yes. These communications that you were present for,  
17 what was the communication about?

18 A. At that time he" - that being Foday Sankoh - "was  
19 trying to tell his brother Charles the prevailing  
10:23:31 20 conditions in the RUF controlled zones.

21 Q. And if you know, what was Charles Taylor's response to  
22 this communication?

23 A. Well, at that time Charles Taylor was not talking  
24 directly to Foday Sankoh. He would tell his operator the  
10:23:49 25 message and the operator in return would send a message to  
26 Foday Sankoh."

27 Then there was an exchange which needn't bother us, but  
28 then the examination continued in this way, page 12870:

29 "Q. Now let's clear up what we were talking about. You

1 said you were present when Foday Sankoh would send messages  
2 to Charles Taylor. Were you ever present when Charles  
3 Taylor sent messages back to Foday Sankoh?

10:24:24

4 A. Yes. When Foday Sankoh was giving the message to the  
5 operators who in turn sent them, he explained the  
6 prevailing conditions in the RUF and that we were now  
7 suffering and we were not getting support from him and at  
8 that time whilst we were advancing the areas that we got -  
9 that we got to, those were the messages that he sent and he  
10 said, okay, things happen that way because that is a  
11 guerilla warfare.

10:24:46

12 Q. Who said things happened that way because that is  
13 guerilla warfare?

14 A. That was the message that came from Charles Taylor."

10:25:03

15 Do you have any recollection of such a conversation,  
16 Mr Taylor?

17 A. None whatsoever. It just didn't happen.

18 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, you appreciate that what the witness is  
19 saying is that these communications were going on during that  
20 period when, according to the witness, '93 to '98, the border is  
21 being blocked by ULIMO?

10:25:16

22 A. Uh-huh.

23 Q. During that period, Mr Taylor, did you maintain radio  
24 contact with Foday Sankoh?

10:25:32

25 A. None whatsoever. None.

26 Q. Now help us, Mr Taylor. Bearing in mind that the witness  
27 says that the road was blocked and, to quote, "They were unable  
28 to get" - they were not getting any support from you, help us:  
29 How would radio communications help Mr Sankoh? Can you help us?

1 A. Well, no, I can't because radio communication would not  
2 help. But, you know, the funny thing about this is that why  
3 would I sit before this Court and accept the fact that between  
4 August '91 and May '92 that there were contacts with Foday Sankoh  
10:26:29 5 and he came to Gbarnga, and that I did give Foday Sankoh, for  
6 security reasons at that time, because the Government of  
7 Sierra Leone was supporting ULIMO, I did assist in making sure  
8 that the borders were protected. But I will sit before this  
9 Court and say that, after the border is closed, "Hey, I'm not in  
10:26:52 10 radio communication." There is nothing - would a radio call have  
11 what I would say more strength than having admitted to the  
12 security cooperation? What would a radio call amount to as  
13 compared to me saying that, in fact, yes, between '91 - August  
14 and '92 May, that I did even give him some ammunition for  
10:27:18 15 security reasons. It just did not happen.

16 If it had happened, I would sit here and tell these judges  
17 that, "Yes, even though the roads were closed, but I talked to  
18 him." It didn't happen. I was upset with Foday Sankoh because  
19 he sat there and permitted this fight to occur and some of our  
10:27:34 20 good people died. So I wouldn't mislead this Court. I would  
21 tell them that I gave ammunition between that time, but I will  
22 come later and say, "Oh, but I didn't call on the radio."  
23 Nonsense.

24 I mean, these boys don't know what they are talking, and  
10:27:48 25 they are just wrapped up in these lies that - I don't know how  
26 they put them together, and they try to hold - I did not speak or  
27 communicate or receive communication from Foday Sankoh any more  
28 following that break-up in 1992. I never did. If I had done it,  
29 I would say I did. I never talked to Foday Sankoh again. The

1 next time I see Foday Sankoh is when I meet him in Lome in '99.  
2 No contact. Foday Sankoh, because of this bad blood, Foday  
3 Sankoh goes away from Sierra Leone in 1996. He goes to a peace  
4 discussion. No contact. There's not one witness that has come  
10:28:31 5 before this Court and say, "While Foday Sankoh was in Abidjan, he  
6 called Charles Taylor on the telephone," or he sent some -  
7 nothing. Nothing. Nothing. It is a lie, counsel. It is a lie.  
8 There is no such thing.

9 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Taylor, what is this bad blood you  
10:28:48 10 keep referring to, please?

11 THE WITNESS: Oh, okay. I mean, the bad blood had  
12 developed from the clashes that occurred between the RUF. I'm  
13 using it, please, your Honour, as a figure of speech that there  
14 was a lot of anger after the Top 20, Top 40 and Top Final clashes  
10:29:09 15 that caused our people to get killed. I held Foday Sankoh  
16 responsible. I felt that he could have stopped it, and I'm just  
17 using it figuratively.

18 MR GRIFFITHS:

19 Q. Now, moving on with the testimony of this witness. The  
10:29:26 20 witness went on to say this:

21 "A. When I was in Tongo, I used to mine on my own. So  
22 whenever I got diamonds, I would come to Kenema to sell or  
23 sometimes I would come to visit Sam Bockarie. That was  
24 what I was doing.

10:29:44 25 Q. And when you visited Sam Bockarie, were there other  
26 people with Sam Bockarie?

27 A. Yes. I can remember at one time when I went to visit  
28 him, I met someone with him who they called Jungle. That  
29 is Daniel Tamba. I knew him since 1992. So I asked him

1           what had happened, and so he told me that the Pa had sent  
2           him. That is Charles Taylor. He said that he had sent him  
3           to Mosquito and had told him not to be involved that much  
4           in the AFRC government. So when he said that, Mosquito  
10:30:28 5           looked at him in a way. So from then on, he did not speak  
6           any more.

7           Q. You said you knew this Jungle, Daniel Tamba, since  
8           1992. How did you meet him in 1992?

9           A. Well, it happened during the time when Foday Sankoh and  
10:30:48 10           I were going to Gbarnga. I knew him."

11           Now, Mr Taylor, do you know a Jungle, Daniel Tamba?

12          A. No, I don't. I know the name, but I don't know - I don't  
13           know him.

14          Q. Where do you know the name from?

10:31:06 15          A. From this Court about Daniel Tamba and Jungle.

16          Q. Had you sent a Daniel Tamba, also known as Jungle, to carry  
17           a message to Mosquito?

18          A. Well, the years that we're talking about here, am I  
19           correct, and I stand corrected, are we talking about, did we say  
10:31:31 20           '94 to '96? Is that the time? If we go back on that page, I  
21           think the --

22          Q. Remember, the witness said that, "He said that he had sent  
23           him to Mosquito and had told him not to be involved that much in  
24           the AFRC government." Now, when did the AFRC come to power,  
10:31:53 25           Mr Taylor?

26          A. To the best of my recollection, the AFRC comes to power in  
27           1997. May 1997.

28          Q. 25 May 1997?

29          A. May 1997, yes.

1 Q. Now, remember, this is the witness who says the border was  
2 closed from 1993 to 1998. So help us, Mr Taylor, how are you  
3 able to send Jungle, Daniel Tamba, to take that message to  
4 Mosquito?

10:32:24 5 A. I don't. I don't. So - I mean, I just don't. I don't  
6 know the - I don't know a Jungle, but maybe just as a reminder to  
7 the Court, and I'm sure the records read, we've had testimony  
8 before this Court about Jungle. But maybe, counsel, that 1994,  
9 '96, those two years mentioned in the earlier clipping, I'm not  
10:32:54 10 sure what the relevance is to the 1997 situation, but, you know,  
11 it may be something that as we look at another witness that came  
12 before this Court that explained the Jungle situation, I think it  
13 may clear up a lot of things for the Court.

14 Q. Now, let's just assume for argument's sake that this  
10:33:21 15 witness is correct about this, Mr Taylor. Help us, what would be  
16 your motive in advising Mosquito to not to get involved with the  
17 AFRC government? Do you follow me?

18 A. Yes, I follow you. But, I mean, I couldn't even do that  
19 because, again, counsel, the evidence before this Court is that  
10:33:46 20 Mosquito's boss, Foday Sankoh, has already instructed him in May  
21 to join the AFRC. So he's - so the RUF is already a part of the  
22 AFRC, based on Foday Sankoh's instruction, and that was played  
23 apparently on - it was recorded and played on Sierra Leonean  
24 radio.

10:34:05 25 So, in fact, you know, it would mean nothing to me, but  
26 this - the way how these things go, he is totally misleading  
27 everybody with the way he presents this. He doesn't know what he  
28 is talking about, and so he has presented this information in  
29 here. There is no - I gain nothing from - I'm not an adviser to

1 the RUF. Why in 1997, at the time he is talking about, when I'm  
2 doing my campaigning and Foday Sankoh, who has entered Ivory  
3 Coast since 1996, has had no contact, has given his orders that I  
4 would then send somebody called Jungle - and don't let's forget  
10:34:49 5 now, by this time in 1997, we have, what? Even though we have  
6 demobilisation and we have disarmament, but the beginning of  
7 1997, at this time, ULIMO is still posted in Lofa even though  
8 ECOMOG is deploying. And where does Jungle come from? I mean,  
9 who would Jungle be to me, okay, at this time that I'm not  
10:35:20 10 President, I'm not elected as President of Liberia yet, what  
11 would - the whole thing is a fabrication. That's what it is.  
12 Q. Now, who is Jungle? Well, the witness continues in this  
13 vein:

14 "Q. Well, you said you knew this Jungle, Daniel Tamba,  
10:35:38 15 since 1992. How did you meet him in 1992?

16 A. Well, it happened during the time when Foday Sankoh and  
17 I were going to Gbarnga. I knew him. He was at Charles  
18 Taylor's Mansion Ground. He, that being Jungle, was in a  
19 group called SBU. That was the time I knew him. That was  
10:36:00 20 the time I knew him."

21 So the witness is saying Daniel Tamba is an SBU, Mr Taylor,  
22 and that you sent that individual to Mosquito. What do you say  
23 about that?

24 A. That's a lie. Total nonsense. And I remind this Court  
10:36:24 25 again, the explanation of this Daniel Tamba calling him Jungle  
26 was explained here I think at best by a Prosecution witness.  
27 Daniel Tamba, Jungle, was the commander in - the deputy commander  
28 in Lofa. No SBU, nothing, in Lofa at the time ULIMO cut off the  
29 NPFL, and he and NPFL soldiers fled into Sierra Leone. Being a



1 Kissi, he became very close to Sam Bockarie in 1992. That's  
2 Prosecution evidence before this Court. I've forgotten the  
3 number, but it's one of the last protected witnesses that  
4 testified before this Court. Okay. Jungle was a full grown man  
10:37:15 5 commanding in Lofa that got cut off by ULIMO in 1992, and that's  
6 the fact that their witnesses have put before this Court.

7 Q. Well, the witness continues to speak about this man Jungle,  
8 Mr Taylor. Page 12898 of the transcript of 2 July:

9 "Q. You've said that the SLA burnt down Koidu Town. Now,  
10:37:52 10 when you say SLA, who do you mean?

11 A. Those were the SLAs that were part of the AFRC  
12 government. Those were the ones I was trying to refer to.

13 Q. Can you tell us when was your next trip to Buedu?

14 A. The other trip I made to Buedu, other soldiers were  
10:38:10 15 passing by who gave me information that Jungle had come to  
16 Buedu, and so I went there. When I went to Buedu, I saw  
17 Jungle. What Jungle told me was that Charles Taylor sent  
18 him to Mosquito and that Charles Taylor had known that the  
19 juntas had retreated from Freetown. So that was the reason  
10:38:36 20 why he sent him to come and call Mosquito for him to go and  
21 meet him in Monrovia. That is what he told me."

22 Now, Mr Taylor, let's look at that carefully, shall we?

23 Juntas had retreated from Freetown. What year is that then?

24 A. The juntas retreated from Freetown. I would associate that  
10:39:12 25 with the intervention, and that would be February of 1998.

26 Q. Now, what the witness is therefore saying is that at that  
27 time you sent Jungle to call Mosquito to go to Monrovia to meet  
28 you, 1998.

29 A. You know, this is such a big lie, I don't know how to put

1 it. I do not at all meet Sam Bockarie. For the first time, I  
2 met Sam Bockarie in September of 1998. Not before then at any  
3 time. Not before then.

10:40:02

4 Q. But, Mr Taylor, help us. This witness is saying that it  
5 was Jungle who took your message to Mosquito to come to Monrovia.  
6 Now, has any other Prosecution witness said that you sent them to  
7 call Mosquito?

10:40:32

8 A. None. Well, they - yes. Yes. One of them - there was one  
9 Prosecution witness, Mr Sheriff said I sent him to go and bring  
10 Mosquito to Monrovia.

11 Q. Right. So that's why I'm asking, Mr Taylor. Who did you  
12 send? Was it Jungle or was it Sheriff or was it somebody else?

13 A. Neither. None of them. None of them. At this period,  
14 it's none.

10:40:46

15 Q. Well, are you sure about that?

16 A. I'm very sure. When I do - when I do get to warn - to talk  
17 to Mosquito in September of 1998 after - after the trip of Eddie  
18 Kanneh to my ambassador in Conakry and arrangements are made for  
19 Mosquito to come to Liberia in September of 1998, I don't send  
20 Jungle. I don't send anybody else. I sent someone different to  
21 go and meet Mosquito at the border.

10:41:10

22 Q. And who was that?

23 A. I sent General Menkarzon to go and get him.

24 Q. "Q. What happened after had you this conversation with  
25 Jungle?

10:41:31

26 A. Later I returned to Balahun.

27 Q. Now, while you were in Buedu at this time, did you  
28 attend any meetings in Buedu?

29 A. Yes. Whilst I was there I attended a meeting in which

1 Sam Bockarie, Issa Sesay and other people were present.  
2 During this meeting Sam Bockarie did say that the Papay,  
3 that is Charles Taylor, sent Jungle to meet him and he said  
4 he had known that we have retreated to this area and he  
10:42:02 5 said he should go and see him. So he, Mosquito, left Issa  
6 as the commander for him to be able to go. After that, I  
7 returned to Balahun.

8 Q. Did you learn whether Sam Bockarie actually went to see  
9 Charles Taylor?

10:42:20 10 A. Yes. Later I got information that Mosquito and Jungle  
11 have gone to see Charles Taylor."

12 True or false, Mr Taylor?

13 A. Totally false. Totally false.

14 Q. The witness continues at page 12900:

10:43:38 15 "Q. And when you say that he shouldn't have taken the  
16 action regarding the diamonds, what are you talking about?

17 A. That he shouldn't have undertaken such an operation in  
18 his absence. He, Mosquito, was supposed to be around  
19 before he could take those diamonds. And the other things  
10:43:56 20 he did was he took Johnny Paul Koroma's wife from him for  
21 some time and so Mosquito was not happy with that.

22 Q. And what diamonds are you talking about that were  
23 taken?

24 A. Well, after Mosquito had said that Issa Sesay said that  
10:44:13 25 he got information that Johnny Paul Koroma and the other  
26 people like Gullit and Rambo were trying to escape to go to  
27 Liberia with the diamonds. So he said that was the reason  
28 why he took the diamonds from them.

29 Q. Now, on this occasion whilst you were in Buedu did you

1 attend any meeting?

2 A. Yes. There was a meeting that was convened by Issa  
3 Sesay and that included SYB Rogers, Mike Lamin, Rashid  
4 Sandy together with some other people that I cannot recall.

10:44:49 5 And during that meeting he did say he went to see - he  
6 said Charles Taylor called him for him to go and meet with  
7 him. But he said before he could arrive there, he said  
8 Benjamin Yeaten, who was 50, 50 was the person he met and  
9 he was the one who took him to Charles Taylor. He said  
10:45:10 10 when he got to Charles Taylor, Charles Taylor did say that  
11 he was his brother revolutionary. He said Foday Sankoh was  
12 his revolutionary brother and so he said he was happy for  
13 the action taken by Sam Bockarie in the absence of  
14 Foday Sankoh, that he was in control of the RUF up to that  
10:45:29 15 moment and so he said he was happy."

16 Was that how the meeting with Sam Bockarie went, Mr Taylor?

17 A. Depending on the time that he is talking about, there's no  
18 meeting with Sam Bockarie in the period he is talking about here.

19 Q. But he is speaking of a meeting where Benjamin Yeaten  
10:45:53 20 brings Sam Bockarie to you. Do you recall that?

21 A. Well, no. You know, the period in question here, he's  
22 talking about a different period. He's talking about the  
23 beginning of 1998 and that's the problem. So there is no such  
24 meeting, so, I mean, I refute all of this matter.

10:46:16 25 Now, of course as Sam Bockarie comes to Liberia subsequent  
26 of September of 1998, the contact individual there on the ground  
27 when he comes in responsible for security of him and again some  
28 other Sierra Leoneans is Benjamin Yeaten. So I'm not sure which  
29 period he is talking about here, because he has got the time

1 mixed up when Sam Bockarie actually comes to Monrovia. So I  
2 can't accept the proposition that he is giving here except he is  
3 talking about after September of 1998 and I don't think this is  
4 what he's talking about.

10:46:54 5 Q. Well, he continues in this vein:

6 "Q. Now, when you said that at this meeting he said he  
7 went to see Charles Taylor, who said he went to see Charles  
8 Taylor?

9 A. It was Mosquito who was addressing the meeting. He  
10:47:09 10 said he, Mosquito, went to Monrovia to see Charles Taylor.

11 Q. And then you said he said that when he got to Charles  
12 Taylor, Charles Taylor did say that he was his  
13 revolutionary brother. Now who is the they who got to  
14 Charles Taylor?

10:47:31 15 A. Mosquito went to Charles Taylor. He said it was  
16 Charles Taylor who told him that Foday Sankoh was his  
17 revolutionary brother.

18 Q. Now, you have mentioned the person SYB Rogers. Who is  
19 that?

10:47:44 20 A. SYB Rogers, he was one senior person that Foday Sankoh  
21 respected. He was a civilian and he was a War Council  
22 chairman.

23 Q. At this meeting what, if anything, did Issa do with the  
24 diamonds?

10:48:01 25 A. Issa Sesay gave those diamonds - the diamonds they were  
26 nine - they were nine plastic diamonds that he took from  
27 Johnny Paul. There were nine plastics and he gave to  
28 Mosquito, Sam Bockarie.

29 Q. So when you say nine plastic diamonds, what are you

1 telling us?

2 A. The diamonds were in the plastic. Up to nine plastics.

3 Q. Now you said that Issa Sesay gave Sam Bockarie the  
4 diamonds he had taken from Johnny Paul Koroma and I think

10:48:30 5 you mentioned two other people. Who were these other  
6 people?

7 A. Those other people were also soldiers under Johnny Paul  
8 Koroma. They were called Gullit and Rambo. He was a  
9 security to Johnny Paul Koroma.

10:48:46 10 Q. Who is a security to Johnny Paul Koroma?

11 A. It was Rambo.

12 Q. Do you know him by any other name?

13 A. No.

14 Q. After Issa Sesay gave these diamonds to Sam Bockarie,  
10:49:03 15 what did Sam Bockarie do?

16 A. Sam Bockarie said that he was going to take those  
17 diamonds to Charles Taylor for safekeeping until the return  
18 of Foday Sankoh from prison."

19 Any truth in that, Mr Taylor?

10:49:20 20 A. There is no truth to this.

21 Q. Were you given diamonds for safekeeping by Sam Bockarie?

22 A. No, I was not.

23 Q. "Q. Now what did you do after this meeting?

24 A. I went back to Balahun.

10:49:43 25 Q. And when did you next go to Buedu?

26 A. I was there for some time. And later I went back to  
27 Buedu, but this time round I met Jungle again and I met  
28 Mosqui to who had returned with Jungle, his bodyguard Foday,  
29 JR, together with some other Liberian securities like

1 Zigzag Marzah and JR and others. "

2 Who is JR, Mr Taylor?

3 A. I don't - I don't know JR.

4 Q. "Q. Now you said that you met Foday there. Who was his  
10:50:27 5 security - whose security was Foday?

6 A. Foday was a security to Mosquito. "

7 Do you know this Foday, Mr Taylor?

8 A. No, I don't.

9 Q. "Q. Do you know Foday's last name?

10:50:40 10 A. I can't remember that.

11 Q. And you mentioned a person you called JR. Who was  
12 that?

13 A. That is Junior Vandii. He was one of the Black Guards.

14 Q. And you mentioned Zigzag Marzah. Who was that?

10:50:53 15 A. Well he, Sam Bockarie introduced the Liberian brothers,  
16 that is Zigzag Marzah and others, and he said these are the  
17 Liberian brothers sent by Charles Taylor.

18 Q. What happened after Sam Bockarie introduced these  
19 people as his Liberian brothers sent by Charles Taylor?

10:51:13 20 A. So I heard Mosquito say that they should unload the  
21 vehicle in which they brought the ammunition and Mosquito  
22 said they should unload the ammunitions and I saw that it  
23 was Zigzag Marzah who was driving the vehicle and later  
24 Mosquito advised them to return that particular night for  
10:51:34 25 security reasons. "

26 You see the clear implication of that, don't you,

27 Mr Taylor?

28 A. Yes, I do.

29 Q. You sent Zigzag Marzah along with Jungle and others with

1 arms and ammunition to Mosquito. Did you?

2 A. Never did. Never, never did send any arms or ammunition to  
3 Mosquito via Zigzag Marzah or Jungle. Never did.

4 Q. And then it continues:

10:52:26 5 "Q. You said that you heard Mosquito say that they should  
6 unload the vehicle in which they had brought the  
7 ammunition. Who is the they you are referring to?

8 A. Mosquito said that the vehicle brought by Jungle and  
9 others should be unloaded.

10:52:42 10 Q. And who unloaded the vehicle, if you know?

11 A. Soldiers who were under Sam Bockarie.

12 Q. Do you recall the types of ammunition that were in the  
13 truck?

14 A. I saw RPG boxes and AK rounds.

10:53:00 15 Q. And you also said that Mosquito advised them to return  
16 that particular night for security reasons. Who was he  
17 telling to return that night for security reasons?

18 A. He was trying to tell Jungle and Zigzag Marzah that  
19 they should go back. He said he did not want them to be

10:53:21 20 there until daybreak so that that would prevent other  
21 civilians from knowing about the mission they were running.

22 Q. What happened then after Mosquito told these people to  
23 go back that night for security reasons?

24 A. After that I returned to Balahun. I was there.

10:53:41 25 Q. These Liberians that were there, Zigzag and others, do  
26 you recall what they were wearing?

27 A. Well, I saw them in overall, blue/black, and it was  
28 written by the side of the pocket 'SOD police'.

29 Q. Did you learn what that meant, SOD?



1 A. Well, later I understood that SOD was a police branch  
2 that was serving directly under Charles Taylor and they  
3 were called Special Operations Division.

4 Q. And how did you learn this?

10:54:16 5 A. It was Jungle who told me."

6 Are you aware of a unit called SOD, Mr Taylor?

7 A. No, I'm not aware.

8 Q. Was there such a unit in Liberia after you became  
9 President?

10:54:30 10 A. No.

11 Q. Special Operations Division?

12 A. No, not to my knowledge, no. Because the unit serving at  
13 the mansion was the SSS, not the SOD. No.

14 Q. And what about these overalls blue/black, who wore such a  
10:54:50 15 uniform?

16 A. Blue/black uniform was used by the Liberian National  
17 Police.

18 Q. What about the SSS?

19 A. No, the SSS wore a very sky blue shirt and a dark blue  
10:55:10 20 pants. Top very sky - I mean, sky blue almost as the screen of  
21 this set here. Very sky. Two different colours that were  
22 distinguishable. You could tell the difference.

23 Q. So who wore blue/black?

24 A. The police - the national police wore blue/black but not  
10:55:33 25 overalls. They wore a blue/black similar to what the securities  
26 around here use.

27 Q. Which securities are we talking about?

28 A. We're talking about the Court securities. About the same  
29 colour of the uniforms.

1 Q. Like the gentleman sitting behind me?

2 A. That is correct.

3 Q. And that was the uniform of the Liberian police?

4 A. Yes, but not overalls.

10:55:52 5 Q. Not overalls?

6 A. No. Shirt and trousers, yes.

7 Q. The witness continues, page 12906:

8 "Q. The time that you were in Buedu and you saw Zigzag  
9 Marzah and the other Liberians in those SOD uniforms, can  
10 you tell us when that was?

10:57:06

11 A. Yes, that happened at the time that Issa Sesay had  
12 handed over the diamonds to Mosquito when he went to  
13 Monrovia and when he returned. It was that time that I saw  
14 Zigzag Marzah and the others.

10:57:27

15 Q. Do you have any recollection of what month this  
16 occurred?

17 A. I cannot recall the month.

18 Q. Before you returned back to Balahun, did you attend  
19 any meetings in Buedu?

10:57:43

20 A. I can't recall that.

21 Q. After this time, did you ever see these Liberians in  
22 Buedu again?

23 A. Yes. I used to see them there again.

24 Q. And how often did you see them there?

10:57:59

25 A. Well, at that time I was no longer based in Buedu. I  
26 was in Balahun. I will go there and return. Sampson,  
27 Jungle and others used to come, and the time they used to  
28 come, according to what they told me, they used to come  
29 with a truck that contained arms and ammunition, food and

1 other things that were in there. They said they will  
2 normally stop the truck at Voinjama and then they will use  
3 small vans to transport the arms and ammunition, together  
4 with the other items, to Buedu, or sometimes if the road  
10:58:41 5 condition was better, the truck will come as far as Buedu.

6 Q. Did they tell you who they received these arms and  
7 ammunition from?

8 A. Well, Jungle and others were saying that it was the  
9 Papa, Charles Taylor, who used to give the arms and  
10:58:58 10 ammunition."

11 Mr Taylor, were you supplying arms and ammunition, using  
12 the route as described by this witness, to Mosquito when he was  
13 head of the RUF?

14 A. Never did. Not a day. Never did. No. Now, whether  
10:59:24 15 Jungle and them went into Sierra Leone - we were talking about  
16 1998 and here is a man in a different area. Late 1998, 1999,  
17 there is no way that I am in position to dispute that arms or  
18 ammunition went into Sierra Leone during this particular time.

19 There is sufficient information before this Court to verify how  
10:59:54 20 they got there, whether the purchasing of material in Lofa at the  
21 time. But I, Charles Taylor, as President of Liberia at that  
22 time, in the first instance, did not have arms and ammunition to  
23 even give - even if there was a desire to do it, I didn't have  
24 it. Okay? I did not have arms and ammunition at this particular  
11:00:17 25 time.

26 If we look at this time in 1998, I'm busy negotiating with  
27 the international community on what to do with the arms and  
28 ammunition that have been seized from the disarmament programme.  
29 I don't have arms and ammunition at this time and don't send

1 them.

2 Now, whether these people are doing their little purchasing  
3 in Lofa, as most of the witnesses have said, I am not in a  
4 position to dispute that. But I - my government and myself - did  
11:00:47 5 not have weapons and did not send any weapons to anybody called  
6 Sam Bockarie in that period, no.

7 Q. The witness continues:

8 "Q. Did you ever see the trucks that were used to bring  
9 the arms and ammunition to Buedu?

11:01:05 10 A. At one time I saw a military truck come to Buedu.

11 Q. And how big was this truck?

12 A. It was - it was a ten-tyred truck. It had two in  
13 front, two in the middle and then - two in front, four in  
14 the middle and then two at the back.

11:01:25 15 Q. While you were based in Balahun, to your knowledge,  
16 how many times did Sam Bockarie go to Liberia?

17 A. I understood that he came there three times.

18 Q. And who did he go with to Liberia these three times?

19 A. He went with Jungle, and the other time, according to  
11:01:56 20 he, Mosquito, because I was not there, what he told me was  
21 that Varmuyan Sherif at a point in time came to him. So  
22 the two of them went. That is what he told me.

23 Q. Did he tell you what Varmuyan Sherif was?

24 A. Well, he told me that Varmuyan Sherif was sent by the  
11:02:14 25 Papa to come and see him so that the two of them will go.

26 Q. Did you ever meet Varmuyan Sherif?

27 A. No, I did not meet him in Buedu. It was Mosquito who  
28 told me that.

29 Q. Did you ever meet him in any other location?

1 A. Yes, I met him in Monrovia."

2 Now, do you understand - first of all, Mr Taylor, did you  
3 ever send a ten-tyred military truck loaded with arms to Buedu?

11:02:54

4 A. Never did. And I don't think he is serious about what he  
5 is saying. Even the description of the truck, two tyres in the  
6 front, what he said, six in the middle and two at the back, I  
7 haven't ever - I don't even know if that kind of truck exists.  
8 Two tyres in the front, six in the middle and two at the back?

11:03:14

9 Q. Two in the front, four in the middle and then two at the  
10 back.

11 A. I haven't seen any truck configured like that where - no.  
12 But, in fact, the shortcut is, I never sent a so-called ten-tyre  
13 truck. I mean, I have seen ten-tyre trucks. I know what a  
14 ten-tyre truck looks like, but it's never looked that way before.

11:03:39

15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Taylor, what if the witness got the  
16 description of the truck wrong. Did you send any type of truck  
17 down there?

18 THE WITNESS: No, that's what I'm saying, I did not send a  
19 ten-tyre truck to Sierra Leone. Any kind of truck.

11:03:50

20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Forget about ten tyres. Did you send any  
21 truck down there?

22 THE WITNESS: No, Your Honour, I did not sent any truck to  
23 Sierra Leone with arms and ammunition, no.

24 MR GRIFFITHS:

11:03:58

25 Q. Now, this witness suggests that Mosquito went to Liberia on  
26 three occasions. Do you agree or disagree with that?

27 A. I disagree.

28 Q. How many times do you say he went to Liberia?

29 A. Oh, I would put Mosquito going to Liberia at least a half

1 dozen times in all, yes, about a half dozen times.

2 Q. And then he goes on, that Mosquito had gone with Jungle and  
3 he had also gone with Varmuyan Sherif. True or false, Mr Taylor?

4 A. That's false. How would he - how would he travel to  
11:04:37 5 Liberia with Varmuyan Sherif? In fact, if we look at the  
6 records, we know that Mosquito does know Varmuyan Sherif from the  
7 time that they were dealing with ULIMO. We know that. We also  
8 know that when the contact is made in August of 1998 for Mosquito  
9 to come to Liberia, Varmuyan Sherif is mentioned as the contact  
11:05:06 10 in Monrovia. So I don't see how then - you know, the time here  
11 is very important. Because I don't see how he could come to  
12 Monrovia subsequent to that time with Varmuyan because Varmuyan  
13 Sherif is in Monrovia. So I do not think this account is  
14 accurate at all. It is not.

11:05:34 15 Q. Mr Taylor, do you know of a mission called Fitti-Fatta?

16 A. Well, no, I don't - I've heard of it here. No, I don't.  
17 I've heard of it in this Court.

18 Q. It was a mission to re-attack Koidu Town. Do you have  
19 anything to do with that?

11:05:57 20 A. None whatsoever. No. No.

21 Q. Let's move on then and deal with another aspect of the  
22 witness's account. Page 12912 of the transcript of 2 July 2008:

23 "Q. What happened after you went to Superman Ground?

24 A. When I had been at Superman's Ground, later  
11:06:37 25 Sam Bockarie called Issa to go to Buedu. So I joined Issa  
26 Sesay, and the two of us went to Buedu. He said we should  
27 try to recapture Koidu Town. So he was trying to go to  
28 Monrovia to meet the Pa, that is, Charles Taylor, and that  
29 Issa Sesay was to stay in charge when he went. So we

1 waited there until Mosquito went to Monrovia.

2 Q. Can you tell us when this was that Mosquito went to  
3 Monrovia?

4 A. This happened in October."

11:07:14 5 What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

6 A. There is a trip that Mosquito makes to Monrovia in October  
7 of 1998.

8 Q. "Q. Can you tell us what year this is?

9 A. It happened in 1998.

11:07:31 10 Q. You said that you went to Buedu with Issa Sesay. How  
11 long were you in Buedu?

12 A. We spent up to two months.

13 Q. And what happened then?

14 A. Later Mosquito came with a lot of ammunition.

11:07:44 15 Q. And what happened after he came with a lot of  
16 ammunition?

17 A. After he had come with these ammunition, he said that

18 the Pa, that is, Charles Taylor, had told him that we

19 should try and capture Kono. He said we should try and

11:07:57 20 capture Kono and other mining areas so that we will be able  
21 to get diamonds and hence get more arms and ammunition. So

22 he handed over these materials to Issa Sesay. Since then

23 we moved to Koidu Town - sorry, to Superman's Ground.

24 Q. You said he came with a lot of ammunition. What kinds  
11:08:17 25 of ammunition did he come with?

26 A. RGP bombs, AK rounds, GPMG rounds. He came with

27 camouflage. He came with guns and others that I cannot

28 recall."

29 Now, did you provide that kind of supply, Mr Taylor, for

1 the capture of - to try and capture Kono?

2 A. Never did. Never did. When Issa - when Sam Bockarie came  
3 to Liberia in October of 1998, that was his second trip. That  
4 trip that he came for, it was the discussion again of trying to  
11:09:04 5 pursue this peace deal that had been done earlier in 1996. That  
6 was the second trip that Sam Bockarie came. At this particular  
7 time, again - I guess where this whole thing gets mixed up, and  
8 as they were constructing this theory of what they thought, one  
9 of the things that slipped, and I think, just through the grace  
11:09:36 10 of God, is the fact that this is built on the belief that Taylor  
11 was weapons, and it so happened that God knows we had no weapons  
12 in this period. And because we had no weapons, we could not give  
13 anybody any weapons. We had no weapons.

14 Now, whether Sam Bockarie came through Lofa, as they had  
11:09:58 15 been buying and maybe picked up a few things, and when you get  
16 back, you just hear - say, "Oh, is he back? Yes. Did he bring  
17 anything? Yes." Because he went to Charles Taylor, what he is  
18 coming back with probably came from Charles Taylor. I never gave  
19 Sam Bockarie any weapons during that period or no other period.  
11:10:16 20 I did not have weapons for myself. The Government of Liberia did  
21 not have weapons. So they missed it and they tried to construct  
22 this whole lie on the fact that we are supposed to be awash in  
23 arms. I do not have, neither do I give to Sam Bockarie.

24 Q. The witness continues:

11:10:39 25 "Q. What happened when you arrived back in Superman  
26 Ground?

27 A. When we got to Superman's Ground, Issa Sesay called a  
28 meeting. At this meeting he called, Morris Kallon was at  
29 this meeting, Akin Turay was at this meeting, Banya was at



1 this meeting, Gassama Mansaray was at this meeting and  
2 other people whose names I cannot recall now. During this  
3 meeting, he, Issa Sesay, said that master had come, that is  
4 Mosquito. He said so he had gone and met with the Pa, that  
11:11:15 5 is Charles Taylor. He said he had given a lot of arms and  
6 ammunition for us to capture Koidu Town and for us to  
7 capture the other areas, those areas that were mining  
8 areas. He said that Charles Taylor had said that - he said  
9 Mosquito said Charles Taylor had said that if we did not  
11:11:37 10 capture these mining areas, he will not supply us arms and  
11 ammunition any more."

12 Shaking your head really doesn't help us, Mr Taylor. What  
13 are you saying to that?

14 A. It's a lie. It is totally false, totally, totally, totally  
11:12:01 15 false. Totally false.

16 Q. "A. He said so we should try very hard to capture these  
17 areas. So at this meeting he organised a command as to how  
18 they were to carry out the mission. He appointed Rambo,  
19 that is Boston Flomo, that he should be the head for the  
11:12:24 20 mission, and Morris Kallon, he was to go - he was to go and  
21 mount an ambush in the Gold Town area?"

22 Now, moving forward to page 12915 of the transcript of 2  
23 July 2008:

24 "Q. Mr Witness, you said that you went to Buedu, you and  
11:13:12 25 Issa Sesay, in about October and that Sam Bockarie left and  
26 was gone for about two months and he came back with a lot  
27 of ammunition. Can you tell us when it was that he came  
28 back to Buedu?

29 A. It was in December 1998 that he returned."

1 Now, do you recall Sam Bockarie spending that length of  
2 time in Liberia, Mr Taylor?

3 A. No. The month mentioned here in December of 1998,  
4 Sam Bockarie did spend some time out of Sierra Leone. Late  
11:14:05 5 November, going into December, Sam Bockarie did travel through  
6 Liberia.

7 Q. To go where?

8 A. To go to meet with the chairman of the OAU at the time,  
9 Blaise Compaore, and that took - that whole time, passing through  
11:14:25 10 Liberia and coming back, took close to two weeks that he was out  
11 of Sierra Leone and Liberia, too.

12 Q. What about this time period given by the witness of two  
13 months, what do you say about that?

14 A. No, no, no. Two months? No. No. About two weeks. Maybe  
11:14:43 15 he misspoke there. About two weeks.

16 Q. Page 12917 of the transcript, last line:

17 "Q. Now, let me ask you, before you left Koidu Town, going  
18 towards Makeni, are you aware of any communications that  
19 occurred after the capture of Koidu Town?

11:15:14 20 A. Yes. Communication took place at Buedu and another  
21 communication took place in Monrovia where the operator who  
22 was in Monrovia who was with Benjamin Yeaten called  
23 Sunlight - communication took place there when the operator  
24 was trying to tell the other operator how he had captured  
11:15:37 25 Koidu, how he had captured arms and ammunition, and how we  
26 had captured all the Nigerian soldiers. That communication  
27 took place.

28 Q. And tell us again, who was Sunlight?

29 A. Sunlight was a radio operator who was with Benjamin

1 Yeaten.

2 Q. How do you know about these communications?

3 A. I was in the radio room when the communication was  
4 going on."

11:16:03 5 Now, Mr Taylor, taking things in stages, did Benjamin  
6 Yeaten have a radio operator called Sunlight?

7 A. I don't know. He very well could have. I don't know,  
8 counsel. I don't know.

9 Q. Are you aware of communications, radio communications  
11:16:20 10 between the RUF and Benjamin Yeaten through his radio operator at  
11 or about the time that Koidu and some Nigerian soldiers were  
12 captured?

13 A. No. But to be factual about it, I would not dispute that -  
14 well, the first thing is that Benjamin Yeaten, I mean, he as  
11:16:49 15 director would have a radio operator. I don't know his code.  
16 The second thing factually is that I would not dispute the fact  
17 that the operator of Benjamin - because of Benjamin coordinating  
18 the security, it would not be out of reason for his operator to  
19 call Sam Bockarie, okay? So I don't - but I don't know the name  
11:17:13 20 of the operator. So I wouldn't have the details, and so I don't  
21 have a quarrel with the fact that maybe there's communication. I  
22 don't.

23 Q. Well, help us with this, Mr Taylor: The witness speaks of  
24 the capture of Nigerian soldiers. Do you recall an incident when  
11:17:33 25 some Nigerian soldiers were captured in Sierra Leone by the RUF?

26 A. No. There was no specific incident like that I recall, no.

27 Q. I ask because you were involved at some stage in the  
28 release of some UN hostages, weren't you?

29 A. Yes. But they were mostly - to the best of my

1 recollection, I don't recall Nigerians. I know there were  
2 Kenyans, there were some Indians and other nationalities. I  
3 think Malians. I don't recall Nigerians.

4 But, counsel, if I may just draw your attention to -  
11:18:17 5 because the Prosecution did not correct it. This issue of the  
6 two months of Sam Bockarie being out of Liberia, I mean - out of  
7 Sierra Leone and the time that the witness is suggesting is  
8 around December, if I'm right about that.

9 Q. Uh-huh.

11:18:35 10 A. Well, if Sam Bockarie spends two months out of Sierra Leone  
11 in December, then he is not in Sierra Leone during the January 6  
12 invasion of 1999. So I suggested that --

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Ms Hollis.

14 MS HOLLIS: I think that's a misstatement of the evidence  
11:18:59 15 that's before this Court that the Defence counsel has referred  
16 to. The witness indicated that Sam Bockarie left in, as he  
17 recalled it, October and returned in December. Not that he left  
18 in December for two months.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Griffiths, did you want to reply  
11:19:18 20 to that?

21 MR GRIFFITHS:

22 Q. Page 12915 of the transcript:

23 "Q. Mr Witness, you said that you went to Buedu, you and  
24 Issa Sesay, in about October, and that Sam Bockarie left  
11:19:31 25 and was gone for about two months and he came back with a  
26 lot of ammunition. Can you tell us when it was that he  
27 came back to Buedu?

28 A. It was in December 1998 that he returned."

29 So what the witness is suggesting is that Bockarie was out

1 of Sierra Leone from October to December 1998. Do you know  
2 anything about that, Mr Taylor?

3 A. That is incorrect, no. That is totally incorrect. That is  
4 incorrect.

11:20:01 5 Q. Why do you say that?

6 A. Because Bockarie came to Liberia in October. He returned  
7 to Sierra Leone. He came back in November and he went to Burkina  
8 Faso and he was out for two weeks. So he was not in Liberia for  
9 two months or even two weeks, the two weeks he spent outside of  
10 both Sierra Leone and Liberia.

11:20:25

11 Q. Moving on, page 12969, testimony of 4 July 2008:

12 "Q. Now, in addition to this meeting and this briefing  
13 that was given to Foday Sankoh, were there any other  
14 briefings or reports given to him while were you in Lome?

11:21:00

15 A. Yes. I also added - I told him about the operations -  
16 about how the operations had been going on. I spoke and we  
17 had been Black Guards to him and we went too, myself,  
18 Junior Vandi and Morie Jibao. So we also sat down and we  
19 gave our own situation report about all that had been  
20 obtaining. So we all sat together and prepared a document  
21 which we handed over to him.

11:21:24

22 Q. And after you handed the document over to him, what  
23 happened then?

24 A. Well, after that we were now at Lome when at one point  
11:21:41 25 in time I saw Jungle come there, that is Daniel Tamba.  
26 That was when we went - we went there anew. And when we  
27 went, we were taking dinner. So I saw him and Foday Sankoh  
28 sitting aside discussing. So what he said was - he said  
29 the Pa, Charles Taylor, sent him to come to see you, to

1           come and see conditions with you. So he was saying that.  
2           It was just that that I overheard. We were there for two  
3           weeks, but during the two weeks, Jungle went there two  
4           times. So after the two weeks, Foday Sankoh said we should  
11:22:24 5           go back to Sierra Leone to Mosqui to so that we inform them  
6           about how the discussion was going on. So we went back."  
7           You see what's being suggested there, Mr Taylor?

8           A. Yes.

9           Q. You sent Jungle to Lome to assess the situation. True or  
11:22:43 10          false?

11          A. Totally false. Totally false. This Court, I have told, I  
12          sent the former foreign minister of the Republic of Liberia who  
13          was stationed on the ground in Lome. I had a delegation in Lome.  
14          I had a delegation from April until July. D Musuleng-Cooper sat  
11:23:10 15          there.

16                 Who is Jungle? I had a full delegation there dealing with  
17          the peace talks all along. All along. I had officials down  
18          there. So what would a Jungle may be doing in Lome that was sent  
19          to see conditions when I have an official delegation down there  
11:23:32 20          from April? I have an official delegation in Lome. All the way  
21          I'm kept briefed on everything that is going on by my delegation  
22          and by President Eyadema, okay? And in July, when things got  
23          very bad, around 5 July, Eyadema sent an aircraft for me. That's  
24          a lie. I didn't send no Jungle. I had an official delegation  
11:24:00 25          down there of which there was nobody called Jungle that was a  
26          part of it. I had a delegation there.

27          Q. And then he continues, page 12970:

28                 "Q. Now, Mr Witness, you mentioned that you saw Jungle in  
29          Lome and you saw him speaking with Foday Sankoh. How many

1 times did you see Jungle in Lome?

2 A. I saw Jungle two times in Lome.

3 Q. Now, you have explained what happened on one occasion  
4 when you saw him. Can you tell us what happened on the  
11:24:37 5 second occasion that you saw him?

6 A. Well, the next time he came, we all went and ate at the  
7 same place but where we were eating, we were a little bit  
8 far off from him, so he was sitting very close to  
9 Foday Sankoh, discussing with him, but I did not actually  
11:25:01 10 overhear what they discussed at that time. But they went  
11 there, actually, but I did not hear what they discussed at  
12 that particular time.

13 Q. In addition to Jungle, did you see anyone else in Lome  
14 who was not a part of your delegation?

11:25:17 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Who did you see?

17 A. General Ibrahim was there. Ibrahim Bah."

18 Pause there. Do you remember us looking at United Nations  
19 documentation regarding Omrie Golley and Ibrahim Bah going to  
11:25:35 20 Lome, Mr Taylor?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. In what capacity were they going to Lome?

23 A. In fact, that's two of the most senior members of the  
24 delegation. These were the first two.

11:25:47 25 Q. Of which delegation?

26 A. Of the RUF delegation that was arranged by the UN.

27 Q. But, Mr Taylor, this man is saying that he was not a part  
28 of the delegation.

29 A. But, counsel, that's the whole point about some of these

1 boys; they don't know. And when you ask them questions, they  
2 come up with stories just to be heard. They don't know. And  
3 they're asking - they really don't know. So I'm not even sure if  
4 this man - I don't know whether I can attach the word "lie" to  
11:26:18 5 this. He really doesn't know. He doesn't know, okay? And this  
6 boy knows very well that this very Jungle that they keep talking  
7 about that has been, it's where they know that Jungle is a part  
8 of that RUF - I mean, group, as at the time they flee this Gissi  
9 boy, and they were aware that there's evidence led before this  
11:26:37 10 Court that in 1996, when Foday Sankoh is in Abidjan, Jungle is -  
11 visits him there, okay? And they have already testified here,  
12 there had been no contact while he is in Abidjan. He really  
13 doesn't know, counsel. So I cannot even say that he lied. He  
14 just doesn't know and he is making things up and I guess it  
11:27:02 15 amounts to a lie, really, but this is a high degree of ignorance.  
16 Q. "... who was not a part of your delegation?  
17 A. Yes.  
18 Q. Who did you see?  
19 A. General Ibrahim was there. Ibrahim Bah.  
11:27:17 20 Q. Who is General Ibrahim Bah?  
21 A. General Ibrahim Bah, Foday Sankoh told me that he was  
22 his friend and General Ibrahim Bah was with the NPFL."  
23 True or false, Mr Taylor.  
24 A. Well, if we use the word - if we use the NPFL as we know it  
11:27:37 25 at that - way back in - and I'll give the specific years. If  
26 we're going back to as far, as I would say, '93, I would say NPFL  
27 because Bah left around late '93, '94 with his boss. So --  
28 Q. Who is his boss?  
29 A. Kukoi Samba Sanyang. So if this is the - if we focus in on



1 that period, I would say Bah was a part of the NPFL.

2 Q. "... but he was from Burkina." Was he?

3 A. Bah is not from Burkina Faso.

4 Q. Who?

5 A. Bah is not from Burkina Faso.

6 Q. "... and according to Foday Sankoh, he was the person - he  
7 was the person that was living outside helping the  
8 establishment of the RUF movement, and Golley too was  
9 there.

11:28:30 10 Q. You said Gullit was there?

11 A. Golley. Golley.

12 Q. Who is Golley?

13 A. Omrie Golley. Omrie Golley was the spokesman for the  
14 RUF. He was there also.

11:28:40 15 Q. And when you saw Ibrahim Bah there, what is he doing?

16 A. Ibrahim Bah - at any time Jungle went to Monrovia to  
17 see Charles Taylor, the two of them went together.

18 Q. And when you say Ibrahim Bah in Lome, what was he  
19 doing?

11:29:03 20 A. Ibrahim Bah was there and at any time there was  
21 supposed to be any movement to go out, Pa Sankoh used to  
22 send him on such missions and at any time Jungle came to  
23 see Pa Sankoh in Lome, Pa Sankoh will send him to go with  
24 him to go and see Charles Taylor."

11:29:22 25 Is that true, Mr Taylor?

26 A. Totally false. Totally false.

27 Q. Was Jungle and Ibrahim Bah visiting you together in  
28 Monrovia?

29 A. Never. No. That's a lie. Never.

1 Q. And whilst in Lome did you meet with Ibrahim Bah?

2 A. No, I did not. I did not.

3 Q. You were one of how many Presidents in Lome, Mr Taylor?

4 A. One of four - five. I would say totally five.

11:29:57 5 Q. And we've looked at pictures of you in a hotel room with  
6 the others, have we not?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And you've told us in the course of your testimony that on  
9 occasions those meetings would go on well into the night?

11:30:11 10 A. That is correct.

11 Q. Were you also at the time, Mr Taylor, meeting with Ibrahim  
12 Bah?

13 A. Who is Ibrahim Bah? No, not at all. Not at all. In fact,  
14 in those meetings that we had to meet Sankoh, Bah did not show up

11:30:30 15 with Sankoh, no.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think we're almost at the end of the  
17 tape, Mr Griffiths. We'll take a break now and resume at 12  
18 o'clock.

19 [Break taken at 11.30 p.m.]

11:58:04 20 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, please continue, Mr Griffiths.

22 MR GRIFFITHS: May it please your Honours:

23 Q. Mr Taylor, we were looking at what this witness said about  
24 Ibrahim Bah before the break, and let's continue with that, shall I

12:01:47 25 we:

26 "Q. So in addition to these missions to see  
27 Charles Taylor, do you know what other missions Sankoh sent  
28 Ibrahim Bah to do?

29 A. No. But he used to tell us that he was sending him to

1 his brother Charles.

2 Q. How long did you yourself remain in Lome?

3 A. I was there for two weeks.

4 Q. Why did you leave?

12:02:11 5 A. Sankoh - Foday Sankoh told us that we should go back to  
6 Mosquito and others to explain to them how the discussions  
7 were going on, so we went.

8 Q. And you said 'we went'. Who is it who went?

9 A. I went with other people like Dr Williams who was our  
12:02:30 10 head when we were going.

11 Q. Can you tell us who is Dr Williams?

12 A. Dr Williams was a medical personnel in the RUF, so we  
13 used to call him Dr Williams.

14 Q. When you left Lome, where did you go?

12:02:42 15 A. We went back to Monrovia. They took us back to the  
16 same guesthouse that they had taken us before when we got  
17 there. So when we got to Monrovia, I later saw Benjamin  
18 Yeaten come to the place and he told us he was Benjamin  
19 Yeaten and he said his dad, Charles Taylor, knows that we  
12:03:07 20 have arrived. So he came, brought a parcel and he gave it

21 to the commander who was with us, that is Dr Williams, but  
22 I did not actually know what was in the parcel. But

23 Dr Williams later gave me 200 US dollars and he said, 'The  
24 Pa said we should buy some items' because we were going to

12:03:37 25 go back inside. So we later bought these items that we  
26 needed, and the following day Benjamin Yeaten came again.  
27 He said that he will not be able to go and escort us, but  
28 his friend Joe Tuah will go and escort us. So he took us  
29 back to the same airport, Spriggs field, and we loaded into

1 to the UN helicopter and it took us to Vahun."

2 Pause there. Now, Mr Taylor, we're talking about transport  
3 of RUF representatives to Lome and back, yes?

4 A. Yes.

12:04:15 5 Q. Did they return to Sierra Leone via Monrovia?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And the route as described by this individual, Spriggs  
8 Payne airfield, we know where that is, UN helicopter to Vahun, is  
9 that correct?

12:04:44 10 A. Counsel, that could very well be correct. If any one of  
11 them that were in Lome - he claims he was in Lome - came back to  
12 Monrovia, this means that they were still under UN auspices. And  
13 the fact that they would use the UN helicopter from Monrovia to  
14 go back through Vahun at their level, we're talking about - if he  
12:05:16 15 says he stayed in Lome for two weeks, they started going into

16 Lome in April of 1999, so assuming when he got in Lome, that  
17 could be around the end of April, early May, I wouldn't fuss with  
18 this. I don't know the intricate details, but it's possible that  
19 a few of them could have come back. And if they came back, I do  
12:05:40 20 not think he would be lying if he says that it would not be  
21 unusual for me to send a small envelope, if I learned that some  
22 of the delegates were coming back to Monrovia, it would not be  
23 unusual. I would do it. So even though I don't --

24 Q. A small envelope containing what?

12:05:57 25 A. Money. I would send a few hundred dollars, say, "While  
26 you're here, buy your sneakers." I would do that. So I don't  
27 recall the specific details of that, but I'm saying it's not  
28 unusual. So I do not deny this. I don't recall, but this is  
29 something that I would normally do, give a little envelope, "Buy

1 things on your way." And the UN is transporting them. So I  
2 can't fight with this one, no. I think something like this could  
3 have happened. I want to agree with him.

12:06:35

4 Q. And the use of the guesthouse, Mr Taylor? Again, do you  
5 quarrel with that?

6 A. No, I do not. I do not.

7 Q. Very well. Moving on, yes:

8 "... and we loaded into the UN helicopter and it took us to  
9 Vahun.

12:07:15

10 Q. Now, if I can stop you there a moment. You said that  
11 when you were in the guesthouse, the Pa said we should buy  
12 some items because we were going to go back inside. Now,  
13 first of all, who do you mean when you refer to the Pa?

12:07:29

14 A. Well, it was Benjamin Yeaten who came to us and said  
15 the Pa said he knows that you have arrived, so he gave the  
16 parcel. He said, 'Pa Taylor gave this parcel for me to  
17 bring.' So he said, 'You should buy some items to take  
18 back to Sierra Leone.'

12:07:40

19 Q. And you said that Benjamin Yeaten came to the  
20 guesthouse and said he could not escort you, but his friend  
21 Joe Tuah will go and escort us. Now, who was Joe Tuah?

22 A. Joe Tuah was one of the Special Forces."

23 Was he?

24 A. Yes, Joe Tuah was a Special Force, yes.

12:07:58

25 Q. "They were all trained in Libya and that was what I later  
26 understood. I also later understood that he was a minister  
27 without portfolio in Charles Taylor's government."

28 Was he?

29 A. No, Joe was not.

1 Q. He was not what?

2 A. He was not a minister without portfolio in my government,  
3 no.

4 Q. What was he?

12:08:17 5 A. Joe Tuah was serving as an assistant director in the SSS.

6 Q. "Q. What do you understand it to mean, a minister without  
7 portfolio?

8 A. Well, what I understood was he was in the government,  
9 but he did not have a specific position.

12:08:38 10 Q. Did you learn his nationality?

11 A. He was a Liberian."

12 Was he a Liberian, Mr Taylor?

13 A. Yes, he is a Liberian.

14 Q. "Q. What happened when you arrive at Vahun?

12:08:49 15 A. When we arrived at Vahun, at that time Mosquito had  
16 sent vehicles to pick us up. So the vehicles picked us up  
17 and we went and met him in Buedu.

18 Q. Do you know how it was that Sam Bockarie knew to send  
19 vehicles to Vahun to pick you up?

12:09:07 20 A. Well, before we left, there was somebody called  
21 Memunatu Deen. She was also an RUF operator, so she went  
22 to Benjamin Yeaten's house to communicate, to send a  
23 message".

24 Does the name Memunatu Deen mean anything to you,

12:09:26 25 Mr Taylor?

26 A. Yes, I've heard the name, yes.

27 Q. When did you first hear the name?

28 A. Quite frankly, I first heard that name here, but I did know  
29 that there was a lady that was operating the RUF radio in

1 Monrovia at the time. I really did not know her name. I  
2 associated that name when I got here.

3 Q. So let me make sure I understand. You were aware of a  
4 female radio operator, is that right?

12:09:57 5 A. That is correct, yes.

6 Q. Did you have a name for that person at the time?

7 A. No, I did not have a name, no.

8 Q. When did you first learn of the name?

9 A. I associated that name here in this courtroom.

12:10:08 10 Q. And help us with this, Mr Taylor: The witness's account is  
11 that this individual, this female, Memunatu Deen, an RUF  
12 operator, went to Benjamin Yeaten's house to communicate. Was  
13 there a radio at the RUF guesthouse?

14 A. Yes, there was one there.

12:10:32 15 Q. Can you understand why it would be necessary to use the  
16 radio at Benjamin Yeaten's house?

17 A. Really, I don't know. I don't know why she would do that,  
18 but, I mean, there was one there at the RUF guesthouse that she  
19 could have used. But there was a radio at Benjamin Yeaten's  
12:10:50 20 house now, so I don't know what to say about this.

21 Q. All right. Moving on. The witness, in speaking of  
22 communications, Mr Taylor, said at page 12977 of the transcript:

23 "Q. To your knowledge, in addition to these radio  
24 communications, did Foday Sankoh have any other  
12:11:35 25 communications capability?

26 A. Yes, Foday Sankoh had a telephone. He had a telephone.  
27 Sometimes he communicated to Monrovia. Sometimes he will  
28 say he had spoken to his brother Charles."

29 Were you aware of Foday Sankoh having such a telephone?

1 A. No, I was not aware of Foday Sankoh having such a  
2 telephone.

3 Q. Did you communicate with Mr Sankoh by such means?

4 A. Never talked to Foday Sankoh on the telephone, no, never.

12:12:10 5 Q. How did you communicate with him, for example, in that  
6 period following the Lome agreement, when attempts were being  
7 made to get him to come to Monrovia to meet with Johnny Paul  
8 Koroma? How did you communicate with him?

9 A. Well, I called him. I called him. But the period in  
12:12:29 10 question here, that's what some of these questions - I did call  
11 him. After Lome, he had a phone with him.

12 Q. So in what period, can you help us, did you communicate  
13 with Sankoh by telephone?

14 A. From about July - I communicated with him in July of 1999,  
12:13:01 15 August of 1999. He finally - I would guess the beginning of  
16 September he finally comes to Liberia. Those are the three  
17 months of 1999.

18 Q. Thereafter did you communicate with him by phone?

19 A. Yes. He goes to Sierra Leone, I do communicate with him  
12:13:19 20 when the UN host ages from - when the hostage situation first  
21 comes up in 2000, I do communicate with him by phone.

22 Q. Now, the witness went on:

23 "Q. Now, you indicated that you remained in Monrovia until  
24 Foday Sankoh came to Monrovia. During that time that you  
12:14:00 25 were all in Monrovia, do you know what Sam Bockarie did?

26 A. Sam Bockarie was in Monrovia to wait for Foday Sankoh.  
27 When he was there, Foday Sankoh told Sam Bockarie to send a  
28 message to Johnny Paul Koroma so that the two of them can  
29 meet in Monrovia before ever going to Freetown. So Sam



1 Bockarie sent the message to Johnny Paul Koroma, who in  
2 turn came and met us in Monrovia in the same guesthouse.  
3 When Johnny Paul Koroma came later, he too sent for some of  
4 his soldiers who were in Freetown. When they came they  
12:14:38 5 were lodged at a hotel called Hotel Boulevard, but it had  
6 been changed to Hotel Royal."

7 Now, Mr Taylor, what do you know about that?

8 A. Your Honours, this - the facts of this matter are so far  
9 from what this witness is talking about. Johnny Paul Koroma does  
12:15:02 10 not come to Monrovia as a result of some communication from Sam  
11 Bockarie or Foday Sankoh or whoever. Johnny Paul Koroma comes to  
12 Liberia as a result of negotiations conducted by me to release  
13 the hostages that had been taken by the West Side Boys at Okra  
14 Hills.

12:15:33 15 Johnny Paul Koroma is incarcerated by the RUF. The West  
16 Side Boys at Okra Hills seize some hostages and demand that  
17 Johnny Paul Koroma be released. Johnny Paul Koroma's release is  
18 negotiated by me, and he is brought to Monrovia. It does not  
19 happen as this witness is describing. It doesn't. That's how  
12:15:59 20 Johnny Paul Koroma gets to Monrovia.

21 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, let's put it in context, because perhaps I  
22 should have started reading at a slightly earlier stage:

23 "Q. Now, you testified that you were taken from Foya to  
24 Monrovia, you and Sam Bockarie and others in a helicopter,  
12:16:20 25 and you told us the name of the group that had the  
26 helicopter. Would you tell us that name again?

27 A. It was a blue and white helicopter. It was a  
28 Weasua Airlines.

29 Q. Now, you indicated that you remained in Monrovia until

1 Foday Sankoh came to Monrovia. During that time that you  
2 were all in Monrovia, do you know what Sam Bockarie did?

3 A. Sam Bockarie was in Monrovia to wait for Foday Sankoh.  
4 When he was there, Foday Sankoh told Sam Bockarie to send a  
12:16:55 5 message to Johnny Paul Koroma."

6 Now help us, Mr Taylor. Firstly, was Sam Bockarie in  
7 Monrovia when Foday Sankoh arrived in Monrovia after the Lome  
8 peace talks?

9 A. Yes, yes.

12:17:16 10 Q. Sam Bockarie was in Monrovia then?

11 A. He came to Monrovia, yes.

12 Q. To meet Foday Sankoh?

13 A. That is correct.

14 Q. Now help us with this: Who came to Monrovia first, Foday  
12:17:30 15 Sankoh or Johnny Paul Koroma?

16 A. Johnny Paul Koroma came to Monrovia first.

17 Q. But according to this witness, let's remind ourselves:

18 "When he was there, Foday Sankoh told Sam Bockarie to send  
19 a message to Johnny Paul Koroma. So Sam Bockarie sent the  
12:17:50 20 message to Johnny Paul Koroma, who in turn came and met us in  
21 Monrovia."

22 So according to the witness, Sankoh is in Monrovia before  
23 Johnny Paul Koroma and it's Sankoh who sends a message via Sam  
24 Bockarie to get Johnny Paul Koroma to come?

12:18:13 25 A. That's totally false. That's totally false. But there is  
26 records before this Court already from - if you look at the  
27 discussions in September, you look at UN documents. When Johnny  
28 Paul Koroma arrives in Monrovia, all of that is before this  
29 Court. Johnny Paul Koroma arrives in Monrovia in August. He is

1 there waiting. Foday Sankoh doesn't get there until September  
2 before all the meetings occur, and they leave together in  
3 October. Johnny Paul Koroma arrives in Monrovia first in August  
4 of 1999. Foday Sankoh does not get there until September 1999.

12:18:53 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Taylor, just to make this clear. What  
6 you've just said, does that come from your conclusions of  
7 evidence given by other people in this Court?

8 THE WITNESS: No.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Or does that come from your knowledge?

12:19:07 10 THE WITNESS: It's my knowledge and documentary evidence  
11 that I have testified to before this Court personally since I've  
12 sat in this chair. That's what I'm talking about. UN documents.  
13 When Johnny Paul Koroma arrives in Monrovia it is reported that  
14 he arrives in Monrovia. He holds a press conference. It is all  
12:19:30 15 - we've presented that in documentary evidence here.

16 MR GRIFFITHS:

17 Q. Now, the witness goes on:

18 "So Sam Bockarie sent the message to Johnny Paul Koroma,  
19 who in turn came and met us in Monrovia in the same guesthouse."

12:19:45 20 Now help us, Mr Taylor. You told us that Johnny Paul  
21 Koroma comes to Monrovia because of the Okra Hills incident, yes?

22 A. That is correct.

23 Q. How was contact made with him in order to get him to come  
24 to Monrovia?

12:20:04 25 A. We made the contact. The Liberian government made the  
26 contact.

27 Q. With whom?

28 A. With Sam Bockarie.

29 Q. And where was Sam Bockarie at the time of the contact?

1 A. He was in Sierra Leone when communication was made with Sam  
2 Bockarie to have Johnny Paul Koroma released. For the  
3 information, who are the West Side Boys holding? They're holding  
4 UN personnel, they're holding officials also of the RUF, and the  
12:20:33 5 West Side Boys had said we contact Sam Bockarie directly. Sam  
6 Bockarie insists that Johnny Paul Koroma is not being held, but  
7 he is being held, okay? He's under house arrest. I negotiate  
8 for his release, and he comes to Liberia. But at that time Sam  
9 Bockarie is still in his area there in Sierra Leone.

12:20:59 10 Q. Now, it goes on:

11 "So Sam Bockarie sent the message to Johnny Paul Koroma,  
12 who in turn came and met us in Monrovia in the same guesthouse."

13 Did Johnny Paul Koroma stay in the RUF guesthouse?

14 A. Johnny Paul Koroma was so annoyed. He stayed at Hotel  
12:21:16 15 Africa. That's where I put Johnny Paul Koroma. We gave him all  
16 respect. Johnny Paul Koroma would not have even gone close to -  
17 he didn't want to see or talk to anybody calling itself RUF  
18 because --

19 Q. Why?

12:21:28 20 A. -- of how they had treated him.

21 Q. Why? What had they done to him?

22 A. They had incarcerated him. He said he was being held under  
23 house arrest. His wife had been abused. He didn't want to talk  
24 - in fact, that was the reason of me holding those several days  
12:21:43 25 of peace negotiations between he and Foday Sankoh to bring them  
26 together. This was one angry man. He didn't want to hear. He  
27 felt that these people had disrespected him, they had  
28 incarcerated him, they had ill treated him, and he didn't want to  
29 hear anything about the RUF. This was the mood that Johnny Paul

1 Koroma was in.

2 Q. So a simple question: Did stay in the same guesthouse?

3 A. No, he stayed at Hotel Africa.

4 Q. "When Johnny Paul Koroma came later, he too sent for some  
12:22:10 5 of his soldiers who were in Freetown."

6 True or false?

7 A. That is true. That is true. We arranged for the West Side  
8 Boys, yeah.

9 Q. Why?

12:22:22 10 A. Well, Johnny Paul Koroma when he got in Monrovia said he  
11 didn't know the details of what happened and why the West Side  
12 Boys, his boys, had acted. He wanted to see them. I, along with  
13 Tejan Kabbah and the United Nations, arranged for the West Side  
14 Boys to fly out of Lungi Airport on an aircraft provided by the  
12:22:44 15 United Nations assistance to Monrovia to meet with Johnny Paul  
16 Koroma, yes.

17 Q. And were they lodged in a hotel called Hotel Boulevard?

18 A. Yes, they were lodged at Boulevard Hotel, yes.

19 Q. "When Johnny Paul Koroma came, I saw Joe Tuah go to the  
12:23:04 20 guesthouse. I saw him give a parcel to Joe Tuah. Joe Tuah gave  
21 a parcel to Johnny Paul Koroma. Johnny Paul Koroma told us that  
22 it was Charles Taylor that had sent the parcel to him. He said  
23 the parcel contained \$15,000 US to take care of him and his  
24 family."

12:23:26 25 Now, taking it in stages: You've already dealt with the  
26 fact that Johnny Paul Koroma was not at the guesthouse, yes?

27 A. That is correct.

28 Q. But independently of that, Mr Taylor, did you provide  
29 Johnny Paul Koroma with \$15,000 US?

1 A. I provided Johnny Paul - I don't recall, but it could have  
2 been somewhere close to \$10,000. Between \$5,000 to \$10,000.

3 Q. What for?

12:24:08

4 A. In fact, when Johnny Paul Koroma met me in my office - and  
5 this boy's got it wrong. In my office when the West Side Boys  
6 arrived, Johnny Paul Koroma brought the group. There were  
7 several of them. I don't even remember them, okay? At the end  
8 of the discussion, as was usual, I gave an envelope. These boys  
9 were looking very much - they were not - they were - in fact,

12:24:27

10 I like people coming from the bush, really. I gave Johnny Paul an  
11 envelope. I said, "Well get your boys something to wear. Let  
12 them buy some things as they prepare to return." But this  
13 occurred in my office at the Executive Mansion. Now, I can tell  
14 that this man - in fact, your Honours, to remind you, there's a

12:24:49

15 witness who claims he was in that meeting at the Executive  
16 Mansion that has stated before this Court that that envelope was  
17 given in my office. Now, here is a man that probably heard about  
18 it and has put it all the way to the guesthouse. It is not true.  
19 I did give an envelope to Johnny Paul Koroma and the West Side  
20 Boys in my office. There was nothing unusual about that. But  
21 not at the guesthouse.

12:25:11

22 Q. And he continues - was it Joe Tuah who you sent to the  
23 guesthouse, Mr Taylor, with \$15,000 in an envelope?

24 A. No. No I never did that, no.

12:25:30

25 Q. "Q. Now, if I can just ask you to pause there for a  
26 moment. You said that Foday Sankoh told Sam Bockarie to  
27 send a message to Johnny Paul Koroma so that the two of  
28 them can meet in Monrovia before going to Freetown. What  
29 two are you talking about who were to meet in Monrovia?

1 A. That is Johnny Paul Koroma was to come to Monrovia  
2 while Foday Sankoh - when he comes from the Lome peace  
3 talks, they were to meet in Monrovia before proceeding to  
4 Freetown. That was what I was trying to talk about.

12:26:08 5 Q. Who was it who was to meet in Monrovia?

6 A. Foday Sankoh was to meet Johnny Paul Koroma in  
7 Monrovia. The two of them were to meet his brother Charles  
8 before ever they proceeded to Freetown.

9 Q. When did Foday Sankoh come to Monrovia?

12:26:29 10 A. Foday Sankoh came to Monrovia in 1999, but I can't  
11 remember the date. But before ever Foday Sankoh came, I  
12 saw - before Foday Sankoh's arrival, they took Johnny Paul  
13 Koroma from the guesthouse to Hotel Africa because they  
14 said they didn't want them to stay together. So later I

12:26:49 15 saw one man who came called Paul Moriba. At that time he  
16 was a GSM director. He came and said that he had got  
17 information that the generator that was at the guesthouse  
18 was not in good condition and so the Pa, Charles Taylor,  
19 had instructed him to come and replace it. Immediately  
12:27:08 20 that generator was replaced, so later Foday Sankoh came and  
21 met us in Monrovia at the guesthouse."

22 Now, again, taking that in stages. Paul Moriba, Mr Taylor?

23 A. No, there is - he's close to it. There's not a Paul  
24 Moriba, but there's a Paul Moniba. There is a Paul Moniba.

12:27:34 25 Q. How do you spell that?

26 A. M-O-N-I-B-A. I guess he just misspoke. He doesn't know  
27 how to pronounce --

28 Q. And who is Paul Moniba?

29 A. Paul Moniba was director of police.

1 Q. What GSM director?

2 A. There is no GSM that I know of in Liberia.

3 Q. Well, this witness is saying that Paul Moriba was a GSM  
4 director. What is GSM?

12:28:02 5 A. No, I don't know what GSM really stands for. I have heard  
6 the letters GSM, but it's used with communication with - what do  
7 they call it - these telephones, like the GSM system. That's the  
8 only thing I can associate GSM with.

9 Q. Now, in part you've answered this, Mr Taylor, but for  
12:28:30 10 completeness sake, let's deal with it: "They took Johnny Paul  
11 Koroma from the guesthouse to Hotel Africa." True or false?

12 A. Totally false. Johnny Paul Koroma never lived at that  
13 guesthouse, no.

14 Q. Do you recall giving instructions to replace the generator  
12:28:50 15 at the guesthouse?

16 A. No, but it would have been automatic if the generator was  
17 spoiled. No, but I personally - I would not give an instruction  
18 like that. I mean, if the generator was spoiled, Benjamin would  
19 know, the Minister of State would know, but that's not something  
12:29:10 20 for me to say, "Go and change it." If it was damaged, they would  
21 replace it.

22 Q. So, specifically, did you give such an instruction?

23 A. No, I did not.

24 Q. When Foday Sankoh came to Monrovia in the wake of the Lome  
12:29:30 25 talks, where did he stay?

26 A. At the guesthouse.

27 Q. He stayed at the guesthouse?

28 A. He did, yes.

29 Q. "Q. Now, tell us again the name of this person who came to



1 replace the generator.

2 A. His name was Paul Moriba.

3 Q. Now, you mentioned earlier that Johnny Paul Koroma and  
4 his people went to the Boulevard Hotel, and now you're  
12:29:54 5 talking about them going to Hotel Africa. Can you explain  
6 that to us?

7 A. Johnny Paul Koroma, when he went to Monrovia, he was at  
8 the guesthouse. When he was at that guesthouse, he sent  
9 for his boys from Freetown. When they came, they were  
12:30:11 10 lodged at the Hotel Boulevard, which was later changed to  
11 Hotel Royal. So before Foday Sankoh arrived in Monrovia,  
12 it was just Johnny Paul who was taken from the guesthouse  
13 to Hotel Africa. That is what I meant.

14 Q. Now, do you recall when Foday Sankoh came to Monrovia?  
12:30:31 15 Do you know, had there been any peace agreement signed when  
16 he came?

17 A. Yes, they had signed.

18 Q. What happened after he came to Monrovia?

19 A. When he came to Monrovia, he, Johnny Paul Koroma and  
12:30:47 20 other people met his brother Charles at the mansion in  
21 Monrovia."

22 Did you meet with Johnny Paul Koroma and Foday Sankoh at  
23 the mansion in Monrovia, Mr Taylor?

24 A. Yes, I did.

12:31:04 25 Q. With other people?

26 A. With their aide, a few other aides, yes.

27 Q. "Q. When you say the mansion in Monrovia, what are you  
28 talking about?

29 A. I'm talking about the Executive Mansion.

1 Q. And how did you know about this meeting at the  
2 Executive Mansion between Johnny Paul Koroma, Foday Sankoh  
3 and Charles Taylor?

4 A. All of us went. I went to that meeting.

12:31:32 5 Q. Did you ever learn what the meeting was about?

6 A. I went. At the meeting, they discussed how Foday  
7 Sankoh - how Johnny Paul Koroma and Foday Sankoh were to  
8 work together and the other people.

9 Q. How did you know that they talked about this?

12:31:51 10 A. I have not got you clearly.

11 Q. How did you know that that is what they talked about?

12 A. When we went to this meeting at the Executive Mansion  
13 on the fourth floor, we were somewhere where all of us were  
14 gathered when Foday Sankoh, Johnny Paul Koroma, Mosquito  
15 and others, all of us met, we ate and it was from there  
16 that the arrangement was taking place. That's how I  
17 knew."

18 Pause there. Detail. Fourth floor?

19 A. Yes, my office is on the fourth floor, yes.

12:32:25 20 Q. And this meeting with Foday Sankoh and Johnny Paul Koroma,  
21 was Mosquito there as well?

22 A. I don't think so, no. Mosquito was not in the meeting with  
23 Johnny Paul and Foday Sankoh, no.

24 Q. Was Mosquito in Monrovia at the time?

12:32:48 25 A. Yes, Mosquito was in Monrovia when Foday Sankoh came. Yes,  
26 he was there.

27 Q. "Q. But now my question is how did you yourself know that  
28 Foday Sankoh, Johnny Paul Koroma and Charles Taylor  
29 actually talked about during that meeting?"

1 A. It was Foday Sankoh who said it. He told me.

2 Q. Now, what happened after that meeting?

3 A. We returned to the guesthouse. Later Foday Sankoh said  
4 they were to try and go to Freetown, he and Johnny Paul  
12:33:30 5 Koroma. They arranged the trip. Later we accompanied  
6 Foday Sankoh to the RIA airport.

7 Q. Before Foday Sankoh left to return to Freetown, to your  
8 knowledge, did Foday Sankoh have any other meetings in  
9 Monrovia?

12:33:51 10 A. I can't remember.

11 Q. Now, while he was at the guesthouse, to your  
12 recollection, did anyone come to visit him at the  
13 guesthouse?

14 A. Yes, I can remember. When Foday Sankoh was at the  
12:34:05 15 guesthouse, I saw - I saw many people who came to him and  
16 he told us that they were his friends, Special Forces, with  
17 whom he had trained in Libya together with Charles Taylor.  
18 He said all of them underwent the training, but I saw  
19 someone like Joe Tuah, I saw Benjamin Yeaten, I saw Francis  
12:34:30 20 Mewon with them and others, a lot of them whose names I  
21 cannot recall now. In this meeting, all of them were happy  
22 to see Foday Sankoh, because they said all of them had  
23 undergone training. Since he had gone with his own war,  
24 they had known that he had been arrested, but since he has  
12:34:47 25 come back, all of them were happy to see him. So at that  
26 meeting they song a song. I think they said they were  
27 singing that Jamahiriya. They said the time that they were  
28 in Libya, that was the song they were singing during the  
29 training, so they sang that song for them to remember that

1 time. All of them sat together and drank."

2 Were you aware of such a meeting, Mr Taylor?

3 A. No, I was not aware that such a meeting was taking place,  
4 no.

12:35:18 5 Q. Would it surprise that you Foday Sankoh would meet up with  
6 Special Forces?

7 A. No, it wouldn't surprise me.

8 Q. Why not?

9 A. Because they apparently knew each other. He knew some  
12:35:29 10 people. He knew a lot of them because they trained together in  
11 the same camp at Tajura. Yes, he would know.

12 Q. And Francis Mewon, do you know that name?

13 A. Yes, I know Francis Mewon.

14 Q. Was he was a Special Forces?

12:35:42 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Benjamin Yeaten?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Joe Tuah, Special Forces as well?

19 A. Yes.

12:35:54 20 Q. And then let's continue:

21 "Q. Do you know what position Foday Sankoh was given in  
22 the Sierra Leone government after the peace agreement was  
23 signed?

24 A. I understood that they gave him a position whereby he  
12:36:07 25 was to be in control of the diamond business. That was  
26 the understanding I got.

27 Q. And how did you get that understanding?

28 A. I knew when we returned to Freetown. He himself told  
29 me.

1 Q. Now, you said that Foday Sankoh left out of RIA  
2 airport. Who accompanied him to the airport?

3 A. I myself accompanied him to the airport, together with  
4 some Liberian securities. He was escorted to the airport.  
12:36:33 5 We were there when they departed. From there we returned  
6 to the guesthouse, I and Mosquito.

7 Q. When you reached RIA airport, did you see any  
8 securities around the airport?

9 A. Yes, I saw securities.

12:36:46 10 Q. Did you know who these securities were?

11 A. They were SSUs. SSU securities.

12 Q. You said that 'they' departed. Who are 'they'?

13 A. Foday Sankoh and Johnny Paul Koroma's group. All of  
14 them went.

12:37:01 15 Q. Now, you said that you and Mosquito went back to the  
16 guesthouse after this departure. What happened after that?

17 A. When we returned to the guesthouse, Benjamin Yeaten  
18 came and collected Mosquito. He said that they were to go  
19 and meet the Pa, Charles Taylor, to arrange about his

12:37:29 20 return. So they went and met Charles Taylor. Mosquito  
21 returned to the guesthouse and said that the Pa had said  
22 they should try and return. The following day, Mosquito

23 and I and Benjamin Yeaten went to Spriggs field. When we  
24 went to Spriggs field to accompany Mosquito, we boarded the

12:37:50 25 helicopter that was to take Mosquito. In this helicopter,

26 I saw Benjamin Yeaten - I heard Benjamin Yeaten saying,

27 'Mosquito, these materials have been given by my dad,

28 Charles Taylor, because as my brother, Foday Sankoh, was

29 going to Freetown, you should be keeping security and so

1 you should take along this ammunition to Buedu.' So from  
2 there we alighted the helicopter.

3 Q. Now, when you were in the helicopter, what did you see  
4 inside this helicopter?

12:38:26 5 A. I saw AK - I saw AK rounds in the tins. We used to  
6 call them sardine tins which contained the AK rounds. I  
7 saw up to 15. 15 of those tins. Then I saw RPG bombs with  
8 the TNT. It was - they were in the helicopter.

9 Q. Mr Witness, when you say you saw 15 tins, what were in  
12:39:01 10 these 15 tins, if you know?

11 A. They contained the AK rounds.

12 Q. What kind of helicopter was this that these materials  
13 were in?

14 A. Well, this time it was a helicopter that had a  
12:39:14 15 camouflage colour. It had a camouflage colour.

16 Q. And did you know whose helicopter it was?

17 A. Yes, Benjamin Yeaten told us that it was owned by his  
18 dad, Charles Taylor."

19 Pause there. Do you see what's being suggested there,  
12:39:33 20 Mr Taylor?

21 A. Yes, I do.

22 Q. It is being suggested that, on the one hand, whilst Johnny  
23 Paul Koroma and Foday Sankoh were leaving Monrovia amidst much  
24 fanfare, and we've looked at the various press releases, haven't t  
12:39:54 25 we, you were at the same - on the other hand, providing arms in a  
26 helicopter for Mosquito to take back to Buedu. Did you do that?

27 A. I did not do that. And if that happened, then there must  
28 be complicity on the part of the UN because the helicopter that  
29 is being used to ferry RUF people, whether they're going to Vahun

1 or whether they're going to another place, the only helicopter  
2 that is available is a UN helicopter.

3 Q. But you've told us earlier, Mr Taylor, that UN helicopters  
4 are painted white.

12:40:30 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. The witness is suggesting this is a camouflage helicopter.

7 A. We do not have a helicopter. That's the point I'm making.  
8 We do not have a helicopter at this time with any camouflage. We  
9 don't have one.

12:40:41 10 Q. We're talking about October 1999, aren't we?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Early, 2nd, 3rd of October 1999.

13 A. Yes, that's what we're talking about.

14 Q. Did the Liberian government own a helicopter with

12:40:56 15 camouflage livery?

16 A. Yes, we owned one.

17 Q. At that time?

18 A. No, not at that time.

19 Q. When?

12:41:02 20 A. In 2000, we did. In 2000.

21 Q. Now, I need to clarify something you mentioned earlier,  
22 Mr Taylor. You said earlier that Sankoh, Joe Tuah, Yeaten and  
23 Mewon had trained together in Libya. This is at page 87 of the  
24 transcript, lines 1 to 7. What did you mean by "trained  
12:41:35 25 together"?

26 A. Well, okay, that's a good question. They trained in the  
27 same camp. Not as a unit, okay. They trained in Tajura and they  
28 knew each other. They trained in Tajura.

29 Q. Now, as far as you're aware, Mr Taylor, were the Sierra

1 Leoneans and the Liberians in Tajura being trained together as a  
2 unit?

3 A. No, they never trained together as a unit, no.

4 Q. How do you know that?

12:42:18 5 A. Because I would have been told. I would have been told by  
6 my commander that they were training together with the Sierra  
7 Leoneans. After training they knew each other, and I think  
8 that's where Foday Sankoh made friends with some of them, but  
9 they did not train as a unit, no.

12:42:37 10 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, this is a serious allegation being made by  
11 this witness that you were, in the months immediately after Lome,  
12 in flagrant breach of the terms of that agreement you were  
13 providing ammunition and rocket propelled grenades to the RUF.  
14 Were you doing that, Mr Taylor?

12:43:05 15 A. No, I was not. It's a blatant lie. That is not true.  
16 That is not true.

17 Q. And then he continues:

18 "When we alighted the helicopter I returned to the  
19 guesthouse whilst Sam Bockarie and others went.

12:43:33 20 Q. Can you tell us who these others were that went with  
21 Sam Bockarie?

22 A. Sam Bockarie went with his bodyguards.

23 Q. What happened with Benjamin Yeaten?

24 A. Benjamin Yeaten did not go. He too returned to his  
12:43:51 25 house."

26 Now, let's deal with something else. Question, page 12986  
27 of the transcript:

28 "Q. Mr Witness, you have testified that Foday Sankoh left  
29 and went back to Monrovia. Before he left to go back to



1 Monrovia did he give you any instructions?"

2 I guess that should be went back to Freetown.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Ms Hollis.

4 MS HOLLIS: Excuse me, I'm not sure, but it says here that  
12:44:39 5 after this page they went into private session, and I haven't  
6 been able to find the reference that counsel is referring to now,  
7 so I don't know if this is private session or not.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, are you reading from the private  
9 transcript, Mr Griffiths?

10 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes, we are.  
12:44:59

11 MS HOLLIS: Then in that case I would certainly ask that  
12 this not be in public and that what was read be redacted.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'll just check what was read. How far  
14 back does the private session go on what has just been read out?

15 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, I'd only just started on a question.  
12:45:23 16 So nothing in the answer was read out, so I see no reason for a  
17 redaction here, frankly.

18 MS HOLLIS: Well, the question that he read is in private  
19 session. He is in fact putting it now on the public record.

20 PRESIDING JUDGE: This all starts from, "Now let's deal  
12:45:44 21 with something else. Question, page 12986 of the transcript."  
22 Is that correct? And all he says is:

23 "'Q. Mr Witness, you've testified that Foday Sankoh left  
24 and went back to Monrovia. Before he left to go back to  
12:46:09 25 Monrovia, did he give you any instructions?'

26 I guess that should be went back to Freetown."

27 I think if it stops there I can't see how that would reveal  
28 a witness's identity. What are you seeking to redact, Ms Hollis?

29 MS HOLLIS: Well, it's a little confusing. I haven't been

1 able to open the transcript yet to see exactly what this question  
2 is in the transcript, but I certainly do know that beginning at  
3 the end of 4 July we went into private session and that any  
4 questions thereafter were part of private session. I guess we're  
12:47:25 5 going to the next day after 4 July. I haven't been able to call  
6 that up yet.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: I see. Would you agree, Ms Hollis, that  
8 nothing has been said so far that would need redaction inasmuch  
9 as nothing that's been said so far would reveal the identity of  
12:47:45 10 the witness?

11 MS HOLLIS: I think that's right.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, it looks as though if you're going  
13 to continue with evidence that has already been given in private  
14 session, Mr Griffiths, then we should close the Court.

12:48:08 15 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, it means that we're going to have to  
16 close the Court for a little while, because I'm just observing  
17 there is something like 12 or 13 issues that I'd like to deal  
18 with, all of which took place during private session.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. I don't have the transcript  
12:48:29 20 but it was private session, not closed session?

21 MR GRIFFITHS: It was private question.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. I think we're going to have  
23 to go into private session again.

24 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Griffiths, I was just recalling a  
12:49:13 25 practice we had in the past - and of course Ms Hollis as well -  
26 whereby either side could ask a question arising out of closed  
27 session in such a way that you actually don't reveal whose  
28 testimony this is arising from with a general statement like, "A  
29 witness said" or "There was evidence that".

1 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, your Honour, it is a fact that nothing  
2 that I intend to refer to would reveal the identity of the  
3 witness. There is nothing on the face of it that I intend to  
4 refer to that was dealt with which would in any way compromise  
12:49:52 5 the decision made for this to be held in private session.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, Mr Griffiths, without knowing what  
7 you're going to ask, I'm afraid I can't really tell whether it  
8 would reveal the identity of the witness or not. But the fact  
9 remains that we already know the witness's pseudonym, it's  
12:50:15 10 TF1-567, and so if there's 13 pages that were given in private  
11 session --

12 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, there are more than 13 pages. There's  
13 13 points that I would like to deal with in respect of his  
14 evidence.

12:50:28 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: You're saying you can ask those questions  
16 quoting from - I presume - quoting from the evidence given by  
17 this witness without revealing any --

18 MR GRIFFITHS: I can do that.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. What do you say, Ms Hollis?

12:50:46 20 MS HOLLIS: I object to that. This is private session  
21 testimony because of the uniqueness of the positions that were  
22 going to be spoken about. It would be an after-the-fact  
23 redaction as to instances where the testimony was revealed. We  
24 have on the record, as you indicated, the pseudonym of this  
12:51:07 25 witness. We have the open testimony of this witness. These  
26 facts are not taken in isolation. Instead, they build a  
27 composite picture that we believe would identify this witness,  
28 and that's why your Honours granted the private session, and we  
29 should go in private session if we're dealing with private

1 session evidence, in the view of the Prosecution.

2 [Trial Chamber conferred]

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, we agree with the Prosecution's  
4 submission. There could be a danger that the witness we're  
12:52:26 5 talking about could be revealed if you continue to ask questions  
6 about evidence that was given in a private session. So I think,  
7 Mr Griffiths, we'll go into private session.

8 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: For those members of the public, there's  
12:52:51 10 going to be evidence led now that might reveal the identity of a  
11 protected witness, so the Court is now going to go into private  
12 session. What that means is that the public will be able to see  
13 the proceedings, but not hear the proceedings.

14 Madam Court Manager, could you make the appropriate  
12:53:10 15 arrangements, please.

16 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of  
17 the transcript, pages 20772 to 28793, was  
18 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as  
19 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

2 [Upon resuming at 2.50 p.m.]

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Manager, are we in public  
4 session now?

14:50:37 5 MS IRURA: Your Honour, we're in open session.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Before we go back into private session,  
7 for the record this trial has been delayed because the court  
8 reporter who has been recording the evidence was taken ill.

9 There was not immediately available another court reporter, so  
14:50:59 10 one had to be brought up from the Special Court office. That  
11 reporter is now in place and the trial will be able to proceed  
12 once more.

13 I've been informed that the questions and answers given  
14 before the previous court reporter stopped working, although they  
14:51:30 15 appear on LiveNote as being quite incomprehensible, I'm told that  
16 they are recorded on audio and there's no need to repeat them.

17 Madam Court Manager, we'll go back to private session,  
18 please.

19 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of  
20 the transcript, pages 28795 to 28826, was  
21 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as  
22 the proceeding was heard in private  
23 session.]

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1 [Open session]

2 MS IRURA: Your Honour, we're in open session.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: We're now in open session. Please  
4 continue, Mr Griffiths.

15:54:54 5 MR GRIFFITHS:

6 Q. "Q. If you know, who did Sam Bockarie have contact with  
7 after he came to Monrovia?

8 A. When Sam Bockarie came to Monrovia, he had contact with  
9 Benjamin Yeaten even before they went to Charles Taylor."

15:55:10 10 What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

11 A. Well, yes, counsel, but the account that this witness gave  
12 before we came into open session I think is --

13 MS HOLLIS: I would prefer he not repeat that account if he  
14 is going to repeat the private session information.

15:55:31 15 THE WITNESS: I thought the account was from the open  
16 session, I'm sorry.

17 MS HOLLIS: He said, "Before we came into open session." I  
18 don't know what he's going to say, but if he is going to repeat  
19 private session information I would prefer he not do it in open  
20 session.

15:55:45 21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, you have mentioned you are going to  
22 mention something that was said in private session, Mr Taylor.

23 THE WITNESS: That is correct, your Honour. Maybe I made  
24 an error. The passage that you read just before this one, it's a  
15:55:56 25 paragraph before this one, where he gives an account of why Issa  
26 - I mean why Sam Bockarie moves to Liberia.

27 MR GRIFFITHS: That was said in open session on the record.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. If it's in open session, go  
29 ahead.

1 MR GRIFFITHS:

2 Q. What were you going to say, Mr Taylor?

3 A. If you read the account of his accounting of the reason or  
4 reasons why Sam Bockarie came to Liberia, that alone should bring  
15:56:26 5 into question some things. Because it points out to me that if  
6 this witness is so important, number one, I didn't know him. I  
7 remember the other man that came which was Gibril. But if he is  
8 playing such an important role, and he's mentioned his role here  
9 as moving arms and ammunition from three locations, he's  
15:56:46 10 mentioned his role as doing a lot of things, then how come he  
11 doesn't know why Sam Bockarie left Sierra Leone and his account  
12 there is far from the truth, or at least it's - it's not the  
13 story.

14 So I have a problem with, you know - as we go along, his  
15:57:10 15 recollection of what happened is at best skewed in a direction  
16 that is far from the truth. Now, we've introduced documentary  
17 evidence as to why Sam Bockarie left. So his account - I mean I  
18 have serious problems with his account of why and how  
19 Sam Bockarie left.

15:57:36 20 Q. I'm asking you now about a particular detail of what he's  
21 saying. When Sam Bockarie came to Monrovia, he had contact with  
22 Benjamin Yeaten even before they went to Charles Taylor. What do  
23 you say about that?

24 A. I really don't - I really don't know what he means, but if  
15:57:57 25 he had contact with Benjamin Yeaten, yes, I'm sure he should  
26 have, that was the security personnel who was responsible for  
27 Sam Bockarie's security even after he came to Liberia, yes.

28 Q. And he continues:

29 "Q. To your knowledge did Sam Bockarie have any contact

1 with Charles Taylor after he came to Monrovia?

2 A. Yes, he had contact with him. They went to him.

3 Himself, Benjamin Yeaten and Jungle."

4 Mr Taylor, do you recall that?

15:58:31 5 A. How would he know even if that happened? That didn't  
6 happen. How would he know?

7 Q. Let's just forget about how he would know. Let's just deal  
8 with the specific question asked. Do you recall meeting  
9 Sam Bockarie with Benjamin Yeaten and this man Jungle?

15:58:47 10 A. Never. Never. No. Never.

11 Q. And he continues:

12 "Q. And do you have any knowledge of how often that would  
13 happen?

14 A. When Mosquito was in Monrovia he used to go and see  
15:59:07 15 Charles Taylor at all times, Jungle used to tell me that."  
16 Is that true, Mr Taylor?

17 A. That's a lie.

18 Q. Mr Taylor, help us. What reason did you have to be seeing  
19 Bockarie on a regular basis after he relocated to Monrovia in  
15:59:30 20 December 1999?

21 A. No reason whatsoever, counsel. None. I mean, it didn't  
22 happen.

23 Q. In August of 2000, Mr Taylor, who was appointed interim  
24 leader of the RUF?

15:59:44 25 A. Issa Sesay.

26 Q. So who were you dealing with in terms of events in Sierra  
27 Leone from then on?

28 A. Issa Sesay.

29 Q. Help us. Did you have any reason to be seeing Bockarie on



1 a regular basis?

2 A. None whatsoever.

3 Q. Mr Taylor, you do recall the occasion when some UN  
4 peacekeepers were taken hostage after Issa Sesay became interim  
16:00:29 5 leader of the RUF?

6 A. That is correct.

7 Q. How did you find out about that?

8 A. When you say - that's UN individuals taken hostage after  
9 Issa Sesay becomes leader?

16:00:46 10 Q. That's right. How did you find out about the taking of the  
11 hostages?

12 A. Well, it was on international wires, news reports. That's  
13 the first place we hear things from.

14 Q. According to this witness:

16:01:05 15 "After our return to Foya, Junior Vandi and others called  
16 Benjamin Yeaten and told him that Issa Sesay sent them and he  
17 said that word should be taken to the Pa, Charles Taylor, that  
18 they had captured so many UN troops with guns from them. So the  
19 Pa, Charles Taylor, they needed advice from him."

16:01:32 20 What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

21 A. I'm a little mixed up on this one about UN peacekeepers.

22 Q. Troops with guns, and they were seeking your advice as to  
23 what to do with them?

24 A. No, I wouldn't know. That's not true. That's not true.

16:01:59 25 Totally, totally untrue. That somebody called me to seek my  
26 advice on what to do with them when earlier I had had them - I  
27 had UN peacekeepers released. He said after Issa Sesay became  
28 leader?

29 Q. So, Mr Taylor, did you provide advice as to what to do with

1 those UN troops?

2 A. The only thing that I did on the UN troop situation was to  
3 tell Issa Sesay to release those people and release them  
4 unconditionally and that they - the peacekeepers from the UN  
16:02:41 5 would not be a part of any bargaining forever and I don't -  
6 that's why I'm saying the whole thing now as it's looking, I mean  
7 it's a little off track but I don't recall that part that he  
8 explains there, but whatever advice I had to do with the UN  
9 peacekeepers, I told them to release them and those that were  
16:03:04 10 released, I turned them over.

11 Q. I'm looking at page 13038 of the transcript of 7 July 2008  
12 and the witness continues:

13 "So after Junior Vandi and Daf had given the message to  
14 Benjamin Yeaten, Benjamin Yeaten responded that his dad Charles  
16:03:28 15 Taylor will immediately know about that. So I went with Junior  
16 Vandi and others back to Sierra Leone and when I went and met  
17 with CO Issa Sesay, he told me that he will give me one vehicle,  
18 a pick-up from the same United Nations vehicles, so that my  
19 operations will be fast tracked for me to be able to be taking  
16:03:51 20 the arms and ammunition. So he gave me the vehicle. So I went  
21 with this vehicle to Monrovia."

22 Understand what's being said, Mr Taylor: That this witness  
23 is given a stolen United Nations vehicle in Sierra Leone which he  
24 then proceeds to drive to Monrovia to collect arms and ammunition  
16:04:16 25 from you. What do you say about that?

26 A. I say that's a lie.

27 Q. Tell me, Mr Taylor, were there UN vehicles in Monrovia at  
28 this time?

29 A. When you say were there UN vehicles in Monrovia at this

1 time, what - I don't - will you help me?

2 Q. This individual, he doesn't give a date but he is talking  
3 about sometime after August 2000 when Issa Sesay becomes the  
4 commanding officer of the RUF that he drives a stolen UN vehicle  
16:04:56 5 clear from Sierra Leone to Monrovia. What do you say about that?

6 A. I say it's a lie because if any UN vehicle crosses that  
7 border from Sierra Leone - I mean normally the UN system in  
8 Liberia would know. There's a special representative there that  
9 is in full contact with the government. His colleague in Sierra  
16:05:21 10 Leone would have that information to him already. So if he drove  
11 a UN vehicle from Sierra Leone into Liberia, he would be arrested  
12 and the vehicle. So I don't see what he is talking about. That  
13 is not true.

14 Q. Now listen to this:

16:05:37 15 "When I arrived in Monrovia" - supposedly in the stolen UN  
16 vehicle - "it did not take long when Benjamin Yeaten told me -  
17 and that time Benjamin Yeaten told me that I should try and call  
18 Issa Sesay and that his dad, Charles Taylor, wanted to see him  
19 urgently, so I sent. Issa Sesay came. He came to Monrovia.

16:06:02 20 When they arrived in Monrovia, they went and met the Pa Charles  
21 Taylor. After they had gone there and held a meeting with him,  
22 from there" - and listen to this Mr Taylor, page 13039 of the  
23 transcript. "From there when Issa Sesay and others returned  
24 home, he was telling me that to his surprise when they went to  
16:06:26 25 the Pa Charles Taylor, they met Sam Bockarie there and he said  
26 the Pa said he wanted to negotiate between them for the things  
27 that happened in Sierra Leone so as to enable Mosquito to go  
28 back."

29 What do you say about that?

1 A. This is totally bizarre. Totally false. Totally false.

2 Q. What did you know, Mr Taylor, about the circumstances which  
3 led to Sam Bockarie's departure from Sierra Leone and his  
4 relationship with Issa Sesay?

16:07:04 5 A. Major, major, major confusion. Issa Sesay supported, who  
6 was considered his family man, Foday Sankoh in this process. And  
7 they in fact considered Sam Bockarie as being very rude and  
8 disrespectful to the old man and it was Issa Sesay apparently  
9 that Sankoh was using to go to confront Sam Bockarie. So they --

16:07:36 10 Q. And do what to Sam Bockarie?

11 A. And attack Sam Bockarie, okay. That did not take place  
12 because of the extraction, but I was not aware of any good  
13 cordial relationship between Issa Sesay and Sam Bockarie after  
14 Sam Bockarie left Liberia.

16:07:55 15 Q. If fact, Mr Taylor, if the relationship between Bockarie  
16 and the RUF was as hunky-dory as this witness suggests, help us,  
17 why did you not house him at the RUF guesthouse in Monrovia?

18 A. We probably would have had a case of murder in Monrovia. I  
19 didn't want that. I didn't want to bring the Sierra Leonean war  
16:08:20 20 in Monrovia city. It would have been impossible for those two  
21 groups to have stayed there. No, no.

22 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, putting it bluntly, did you attempt to  
23 broker some kind of peace between Bockarie and Issa Sesay?

24 A. No, I did not.

16:08:39 25 Q. And the witness continues: "But the two of them had  
26 serious argument. Sam Bockarie complained that it was Issa Sesay  
27 who made him to leave Sierra Leone and to come to Liberia. And  
28 Issa Sesay too was saying that he - it was he who did not listen  
29 to the Pa. So there was a heated argument between the two of

1 them. From there he said the Pa Charles Taylor went angry and he  
2 said, 'Benjamin Yeaten, take Issa Sesay back.' So he said they  
3 came to the guesthouse and he left Mosqui to there. So those were  
4 some of the things that happened."

16:09:19 5 Mr Taylor, did any of that happen?

6 A. None of this happened. None. None. None. None.

7 Q. Remember in relation to the UN troops you were  
8 providing advice, yes? Remember we looked at that a little  
9 earlier?

16:09:36 10 A. Yes.

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

13 A. Yes, after I went and met Issa Sesay he told me it was  
14 because Charles Taylor was our big revolutionary father.

16:09:52 15 So he said he went to him for him to give him advice.

16 Q. Tell us what advice he received, if you know?

17 A. Well, after Issa Sesay met the Pa Charles Taylor he  
18 said he told him that he, Charles Taylor - he would request  
19 for the UN peacekeepers arrested by the RUF for them to be  
16:10:13 20 released. So he said that will serve as a help to him and  
21 to show to the world that when he says anything, that  
22 things will happen."

23 Did you have such a conversation with Issa Sesay,  
24 Mr Taylor.

16:10:27 25 A. No, not - not this kind of conversation. I really don't -  
26 I really don't understand, we are getting periods - this witness  
27 - I don't understand what this witness is talking about.

28 Q. Mr Taylor, let's look directly at what the witness is  
29 saying. That you said in effect, "You, Issa Sesay, release these

1 peacekeepers. Why? Because that will help me, Charles Taylor,  
2 to show to the world that when I say something, it happens."  
3 You're the big boss. What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

16:11:10 4 A. I say that's total foolishness. That never happened. It's  
5 a lie. But anyway, I don't want to whatchamacallit because I  
6 don't know - what period is this man talking about here? Because  
7 all these conversations and different - I don't know what period  
8 is he talking about because he hasn't given us an indication of  
9 what he is talking about here.

16:11:30 10 Q. Well, let me try and help you. He continues: "So after he  
11 returned" - that is Issa Sesay - "the UN peacekeepers were  
12 released through Charles Taylor's command." Is that right  
13 Mr Taylor? Did you command him to release them?

16:11:54 14 A. No, but I mean I'm not sure - I don't want to be accused of  
15 misleading the Court. The release of UN peacekeepers don't  
16 happen after Issa Sesay is made leader. So that's why I keep  
17 going through my head and trying to see what this man is talking  
18 about, okay.

19 Q. When did the release of the UN peacekeepers take place?

16:12:14 20 A. They took place back in May. Not after August of 2000,  
21 okay. So I don't - so that's why I keep trying to - I don't want  
22 to be accused of misleading the Court. This UN hostage situation  
23 occurs, okay, right after the problem with Foday Sankoh being  
24 arrested, okay. And those peacekeepers are released, okay, and  
16:12:43 25 then the issue comes up of who do we talk to? Issa Sesay is  
26 invited to Liberia in July of 2000 and he returns. Alpha Konare  
27 and Obasanjo go to Freetown, meet Sankoh, get his approval and he  
28 is made leader in August of 2000.

29 Q. We've looked at that documentation, Mr Taylor, and you are

1 right, but we have to deal with what the witness is saying and  
2 the witness is saying that the release of these peacekeepers came  
3 about when you, in effect, summonsed Issa Sesay to Monrovia and  
4 I laid down the law. "I command you to release them." That's what  
16:13:23 5 the witness is saying. What do you say about that?

6 A. I say it's a lie. I did not command him. I not lay down  
7 the law. If anything that I did, it was to express to Issa Sesay  
8 in a very forceful way the wishes and demands of the  
9 international community. That these UN peacekeepers have to be  
16:13:43 10 released if you know what's good for you. The United Nations -  
11 the world is going to come down on you like a hammer. You better  
12 release them and it cannot be - I was the one that even stated to  
13 colleagues of mine including Kofi Annan before this that there  
14 will be no attachment - that the release of those hostages could  
16:14:07 15 not be tied to the release of Foday Sankoh, but I was revealing  
16 the wishes of the entire international community and not laying  
17 down the law by myself, no.

18 Q. Mr Taylor, when you spoke to Issa Sesay about that --

19 A. Yes.

16:14:20 20 Q. -- by what means did you communicate with him?

21 A. Face-to-face. I summonsed - he came to Liberia. He came  
22 to Liberia. He came to Liberia and I told him - I told him, I  
23 say, "The UN people that you have must be released. The  
24 international community is not going to accept this, they are not  
16:14:43 25 going to tolerate it and, young man, you don't even know what  
26 you're messing with. You better let these people go." He  
27 started talking about Foday Sankoh and I said, "No, the  
28 Foday Sankoh issues are different. You release these people and  
29 we talk about Foday Sankoh later. We cannot tie Foday Sankoh's

1 release to these hostages."

2 And this was what had been discussed by every individual  
3 state, the Secretary-General, members of ECOWAS, that was the  
4 decision. So what I was revealing at that time was not something  
16:15:16 5 that Charles Taylor had cooked up. It was a decision that had  
6 been taken by all. It was expressed to Issa Sesay and he  
7 understood it and I said okay and he went back and he started  
8 releasing the hostages.

9 Q. "A. So after he returned" - that being Issa Sesay - "the  
16:15:32 10 UN peacekeepers were released through Charles Taylor's  
11 command. All of them came to Foya and from Foya they were  
12 airlifted to Spriggs field.

13 Q. When Issa Sesay left Monrovia to go back to Sierra  
14 Leone how did he travel from Monrovia?

16:15:48 15 A. They travelled on board a helicopter to go to Foya. It  
16 was at Foya that the helicopter dropped him, and from there  
17 he took a vehicle to return to Sierra Leone.

18 Q. If you know, whose helicopter was it?

19 A. It was Charles Taylor's helicopter.

16:16:05 20 Q. Did Issa Sesay take anything back with him to Sierra  
21 Leone?

22 A. Yes, when Issa Sesay was going, he took with him  
23 ammunition, but I can't recall the quantity that he took  
24 with him."

16:16:19 25 Now, do you understand what's being said, Mr Taylor?

26 A. I do.

27 Q. Sesay comes to Monrovia ostensibly to negotiate the release  
28 of some UN hostages, and on the way back you just load him up  
29 with some ammunitions to take back to Sierra Leone. Mr Taylor,



1 what do you say about that?

2 A. I say it's a blatant lie, and he has just been contradicted  
3 by one of the witnesses just before this, who said in the very  
4 transcripts that when Issa Sesay went back on the helicopter,  
16:16:53 5 there was nothing. There's another witness just one or two  
6 before this, so he contradict one of the Prosecution witnesses.

7 Q. "Q. How do you know that he took ammunition with him?"

8 A. When Issa Sesay used to come to Monrovia, I will be  
9 with him for all the time until his return. I went with  
16:17:13 10 him to Spriggs Field. I entered the helicopter and I saw  
11 the materials. That was how I come to know that he went  
12 with ammunition.

13 Q. Do you know from whom he received this ammunition?

14 A. At all times when ammunition were given Benjamin Yeaten  
16:17:30 15 will say that it is his dad, Charles Taylor, who provided  
16 them".

17 Now, in another passage, Mr Taylor, this witness revisited  
18 that other witness, Mr Sheriff.

19 "Q. You testified earlier that you met Varmuyan Sheriff in  
16:18:08 20 Liberia. Where in Liberia did you meet him?"

21 A. I met him in Liberia around Congo Town area, and I also  
22 met him at various front lines. Those were the areas I  
23 used to meet with him.

24 Q. When you say Congo Town, where is Congo Town located?

16:18:27 25 A. Congo Town is around the Tubman Boulevard Highway, and  
26 Varmuyan Sheriff was on a road that was called the back road  
27 in Congo Town.

28 Q. In what city is Congo Town located?

29 A. It is in Monrovia.

1 Q. When you met Varmuyan Sherif in Monrovia, where was he  
2 working?

3 A. He was working at the Executive Mansion at the same  
4 time he was working at the front lines.

16:18:52 5 Q. How do you know he was working at the front lines?

6 A. When I used to meet him he used to tell me, he himself,  
7 and some of the RUF soldiers who had crossed over were with  
8 him."

9 What do you understand by that Mr Taylor? Some of the RUF  
16:19:10 10 soldiers who had crossed over with Varmuyan Sherif, what do you  
11 understand by that?

12 A. That Varmuyan Sherif had RUF men with him.

13 Q. And he continues:

14 "Q. What do you mean, 'RUF soldiers who had crossed over'?

16:19:30 15 A. Some RUF soldiers who were there during those  
16 fightings, like in the case of the Guinea fighting, the  
17 Lofa fighting, who used to come to Monrovia, some used to  
18 stay with him."

19 Do you know of RUF fighters staying with Varmuyan Sherif in  
16:19:46 20 Liberia?

21 A. No, I know nothing about it. Know nothing about it. This  
22 could have been Varmuyan boys, the ULIMO boys.

23 Q. And he goes on:

24 "Q. You said 'during the Guinea fighting'. Who were the  
16:20:15 25 RUF fighting against at that time?

26 A. The Guinea fighting at that time, it was Benjamin  
27 Yeaten who used to coordinate everything. At that time he  
28 was - the position he carried was a joint chief of staff,  
29 chairman chief, and so he was in control of all the other

1           generals. He was the head. So he went and based in Foya  
2           in order to coordinate the RUF troops that were supposed to  
3           come from Sierra Leone to meet him there. And the other  
4           militia and the ATU, they were supposed to come together as  
16:20:46 5           combined forces to go and attack Guinea, so that was how  
6           the operation was going on.  
7           Q. What time period was this?  
8           A. This happened in - it happened in 2000. Late 2000.  
9           Q. And for how long did the RUF stay there fighting with  
16:21:03 10          Benjamin Yeaten?  
11          A. RUF soldiers were there up to the time when the war  
12          came to an end."  
13          Is that true, Mr Taylor?  
14          A. Not to my knowledge, no.  
16:21:14 15          Q. You understand what he is saying?  
16          A. Yes.  
17          Q. He is - what he is saying is that the RUF were cooperating  
18          with the ATU, yes?  
19          A. Uh-huh.  
16:21:23 20          Q. And with other militia forces to fight and attack Guinea?  
21          A. Uh-huh. I know what he's saying.  
22          Q. Did that happen, Mr Taylor?  
23          A. That never happened, and we can refer to a witness who is  
24          not protected. If you look at a Prosecution witness's statement  
16:21:44 25          here who deals with the ATU that he was a part of, Jabaty Jaward  
26          deals with this whole issue factually, that the ATU never, ever  
27          went in even in the location of Lofa. He dealt with it. Not  
28          even in the location of Lofa. Never went around there. The  
29          second place that he is very, very wrong: At this time he is

1 talking about, Varmuyan Sherif does not work at the mansion.  
2 Varmuyan Sherif works with the immigration. We've moved him from  
3 that mansion after he goes mad. When he is cured, he comes back,  
4 he is sent to immigration, okay? So he has got it all mixed up.

16:22:25 5 There is no such thing. Now, on dealing with - on dealing with  
6 RUF quote unquote fighters with Varmuyan Sherif, the only thing I  
7 can lay on that, when I think about Varmuyan boys that he has  
8 spread around, including Abu Keita that came here, when you look  
9 at these boys, I can just say these are the ULIMO-K - the ULIMO-K  
16:22:55 10 boys that may have been around Varmuyan Sherif, that he is  
11 referring to RUF because Varmuyan has sent the Abu Keita and  
12 others, okay, into Sierra Leone, and it had been said here that  
13 Abu Keita sat here and said I sent him as a one-man army. So he  
14 has this whole information. It is very, very much misleading.

16:23:19 15 It is not factual.

16 Q. Would it surprise you, such a connection between Varmuyan  
17 Sherif and RUF combatants?

18 A. No, it would not surprise me. It would not surprise me.  
19 It would not.

16:23:32 20 Q. Why not?

21 A. Well, Varmuyan Sherif had a very long history with the RUF.  
22 At the time that ULIMO occupied Lofa, okay, all the way back  
23 since Lofa was cut off from the NPFL all the way back in '92,  
24 Varmuyan Sherif then - they are the senior most high generals --

16:23:58 25 Q. Yes, Mr Taylor, but at the time when you were President of  
26 Liberia, were you aware that Varmuyan Sherif had such contacts  
27 with the RUF?

28 A. No. No, I was - I was not aware. And the only time I  
29 became aware of the - of this relationship was when I saw that

1 letter from the ambassador about the RUF contact in Monrovia. I  
2 couldn't believe it, that they had a contact in Monrovia,  
3 Varmuyan Sherif. But up until that time I did not even know that  
4 they had established this contact during the time of the closure  
16:24:42 5 of that whole area by ULIMO. I didn't really know. So it would  
6 not surprise me that he had had all these years - so we can say  
7 from 1993 all the way up to 1998 when I get to know this, he  
8 knows them very well. He knows them.

9 Q. One final matter in relation to this witness, and I hope we  
16:25:20 10 can conclude it today.

11 "Q. Mr Witness, do you recall for us the year in which  
12 Foday Sankoh was arrested.

13 A. In 2000. That was the time it took place.

14 Q. Do you remember the month?

16:25:34 15 A. It was in May, but I can't recall the date.

16 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. Mr Witness, can you tell us how  
17 you learned that Issa Sesay was arrested?

18 A. I heard that over the BBC."

19 A. Who?

16:25:48 20 Q. Issa Sesay was arrested.

21 "A. Now, at the time you heard about Issa Sesay being  
22 indicted and that he was to be arrested, did you learn  
23 about anyone else who had been indicted?

24 A. Yes, I heard that Sam Bockarie too of the RUF was  
16:26:03 25 indicted.

26 Q. Did they say anything else about Sam Bockarie at that  
27 time?

28 A. Yes, they did say that they indicted Sam Bockarie also.

29 Q. After you heard that Sam Bockarie had been indicted,

1 did you learn about anything happening to Sam Bockarie?

2 A. Yes. After the news came out, at that time I was in

3 Liberia. I was in an area called Limba County.

4 Sam Bockarie and some others were in Ivory Coast fighting,

16:26:31 5 and later I got the understanding" -

6 I got the understanding, note:

7 "- that Sam Bockarie had returned with his group. Later I

8 got an understanding from one RUF soldier who was assigned

9 with Benjamin Yeaten and he was called Salami ..."

16:26:50 10 Does that name mean anything to you, Mr Taylor?

11 A. Not at all, no.

12 Q. "Q. He came to me and told me, 'Well, they have killed

13 Sam Bockarie together with his family and beaucoup are the

14 soldiers.' So I said, 'What happened actually that

16:27:07 15 Sam Bockarie was killed?' He said that Benjamin Yeaten

16 told him that Charles Taylor gave the order that they

17 should kill Sam Bockarie so as to destroy evidence against

18 him. He said because they had accused Charles Taylor and

19 have related him to the RUF business, so he said that was

16:27:28 20 the reason why they should kill Charles Taylor and that was

21 the reason why Charles Taylor passed the order for him to

22 be killed. He said that was why they killed Sam Bockarie.

23 They killed his wife, they killed his children and so many

24 other soldiers who were Sierra Leoneans. He said that was

16:27:45 25 the reason. That was how I knew that Sam Bockarie had been

26 killed."

27 Now note, Mr Taylor, Benjamin Yeaten tells Salami. Salami

28 tells him. So that's the route by which this information comes,

29 yes?

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. Now help us, did you give Benjamin Yeaten such an order?

3 A. Never gave Benjamin Yeaten, never did. Never gave him that  
4 order.

16:28:14 5 Q. Did you in effect, Mr Taylor, seek to cover your tracks by  
6 killing Sam Bockarie in order to silence him? Do you follow me?

7 A. Yes. But no, I never did. Why would I cover my tracks?  
8 Sam Bockarie is killed in 2003, if I'm not mistaken. What tracks  
9 do I have to cover? None.

16:28:36 10 Q. Well, the Prosecution would say your dealings with him in  
11 terms of arms and ammunition and diamonds?

12 A. Well, but why would I want to cover my tracks? I mean, I'm  
13 not in - I haven't been accused through any indictment by any  
14 Court or anything, so why would - at the time of the death of  
16:28:57 15 Sam Bockarie, so I don't have any tracks to cover.

16 Q. At the time that Sam Bockarie was killed, were you aware  
17 that there was an indictment outstanding against you?

18 A. No, I was not aware.

19 Q. When did you first become aware?

16:29:11 20 A. I was in Accra. I was in Accra. I was there in June of  
21 2003 at a Heads of State meeting in Accra when - in fact, a peace  
22 - a peace meeting with some Heads of State that an indictment was  
23 announced.

24 Q. Well, you must have had a crystal ball, Mr Taylor, which  
16:29:32 25 told you that in anticipation of such an indictment, I ought to  
26 kill Sam Bockarie. Is that the case?

27 A. Total nonsense. No, not the case.

28 MR GRIFFITHS: I note the time, Mr President. Would that  
29 be a convenient point?

1           PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that's a convenient point. We're  
2 going to adjourn, Mr Taylor. But before we do, I'll remind you  
3 that you are ordered not to discuss your evidence with any other  
4 person. We'll adjourn until 9.30 tomorrow.

5                           [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.30 p.m.  
6 to be reconvened on Tuesday, 15 September 2009  
7 at 9.30 a.m.]

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I N D E X

WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENCE:

DANKPANNAH DR CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR	28689
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR GRIFFITHS	28689