



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF  
THE SPECIAL COURT  
V.  
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

MONDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2008  
9:30 A.M.  
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

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**Before the Judges:**

Justice Teresa Doherty, Presiding  
Justice Richard Lussick  
Justice Al Hadji Malick Sow, Alternate

**For Chambers:**

Mr Simon Meisenberg  
Ms Sidney Thompson

**For the Registry:**

Ms Rachel Irura

**For the Prosecution:**

Mr Nicholas Koumjian  
Mr Christopher Santora  
Ms Maja Dimitrova

**For the accused Charles Ghankay  
Taylor:**

Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC  
Mr Terry Munday  
Mr Morris Anyah

1 Monday, 20 October 2008

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:27:55 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. Before I take appearances,  
6 you will note that our learned colleague Justice Sebutinde is not  
7 with us this morning. Justice Sebutinde is, at the request of  
8 the President, on Court business at a training seminar at the  
9 request, as I said, of the President. A Rule 16 order has been  
09:28:28 10 signed and the Court will proceed with Justice Lussick, myself  
11 and Justice Sow. Mr Santora, appearances please.

12 MR SANTORA: Good morning, Madam President. Good morning,  
13 your Honours. Good morning, counsel opposite. For the  
14 Prosecution this morning is Nicholas Koumjian, Maja Dimitrova and  
09:28:50 15 myself, Christopher Santora.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Yes, Mr Griffiths.

17 MR GRIFFITHS: Good morning, Madam President, your Honours,  
18 counsel opposite. For the Defence today myself Courtenay  
19 Griffiths and my learned friends Mr Terry Munyard, Mr Morris  
09:29:07 20 Anyah and Ms Haffie Haffner who has been with us before.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. If there are no other matters  
22 I will ask that the witness be sworn. I note following Friday's  
23 applications that the witness is giving her evidence in open  
24 session. Good morning, Madam Witness.

09:29:45 25 WITNESS: EDNA M BANGURA [Sworn]

26 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR SANTORA:

27 Q. Good morning, Mrs Witness.

28 A. Yes, good morning.

29 Q. You're hearing me in Krio, is that correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. I just want to make sure that you listen to my questions  
3 and wait for the translator before you answer my questions, okay?

4 A. Okay.

09:30:42 5 Q. Now, can you just state your name for the Court?

6 A. I am Edna M Bangura.

7 Q. And that's Edna E-D-N-A?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And Bangura is B-A-N-G-U-R-A. Is that correct?

09:31:05 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Mrs Witness, do you know when you were born?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. When was that?

14 A. 10 October 1984.

09:31:17 15 Q. And where were you born?

16 A. Masingbi .

17 Q. And that's in Sierra Leone. Is that correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And is that in the Tonkolili District of Sierra Leone?

09:31:38 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And how far did you progress in your education?

22 A. Well, I stopped at SSS 2.

23 Q. And aside from Krio, what other languages do you speak?

24 A. I speak Temne and I speak a little bit of English.

09:32:10 25 Q. Currently, where do you live?

26 A. In Makeni .

27 Q. And that's also in Sierra Leone, that's correct?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Now, before being here in Holland have you ever travelled

1 outside of Sierra Leone?

2 A. No.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, what does SSS in the  
4 educational system mean, please?

09:32:43 5 MR SANTORA: I'll clarify.

6 Q. Mrs Witness, you said that you stopped at SSS 2 in terms of  
7 your education. What does SSS mean?

8 A. Senior secondary school. At first it was referred to as  
9 Form 5.

09:33:02 10 Q. So Form 5 is the same as SSS 2?

11 A. Yes. That is what has now been changed to SSS 2.

12 Q. Mrs Witness, are you married right now?

13 A. At the moment I am not married.

14 Q. Do you have any children?

09:33:31 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. How many do you have?

17 A. I had three children but I lost two of them. I only have  
18 one remaining.

19 Q. The one remaining child, how old is that child now?

09:33:52 20 A. She - he or she is 13 years old. The past February made he  
21 or she 13 years old.

22 MR SANTORA: I guess I'm going to ask the translator: Did  
23 she not give a gender or did --

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: We've had this conversation with the  
09:34:09 25 interpretation before, Mr Santora. The Krio is nebulous as to  
26 the gender.

27 MR SANTORA: As to the gender. That's what I thought:

28 Q. Is your child a boy or a girl?

29 A. A boy.

1 Q. And when was that child born then, do you know?

2 A. Yes. I gave birth to him on 27 February --

3 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the last bit of the  
4 witness's testimony was not clear.

09:34:43 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: I heard but, Madam Witness, please tell  
6 us the year the child was born.

7 THE WITNESS: 1995.

8 MR SANTORA:

9 Q. So how old were you when you gave birth to this child?

09:35:01 10 A. Well, it was almost 11 years.

11 Q. Now right now, Mrs Witness, what are you doing for - are  
12 you doing any kind of work right now?

13 A. Yes, I am doing nursing in Makeni.

14 Q. Mrs Witness, I'm going to ask you some questions about your  
09:35:37 15 experience with the war in Sierra Leone, okay?

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. When did you first come in contact with the war in Sierra  
18 Leone?

19 A. 1994.

09:35:50 20 Q. And where were you living at that time?

21 A. At Masingbi.

22 Q. And who were you living with?

23 A. I was living with my grandmother and my father.

24 Q. Tell the Court what happened that time in Masingbi in 1994.

09:36:19 25 A. Well, our school had a sporting activity and on the first  
26 day they said rebels were going to attack. Then we became  
27 panicked on the field. Then we went home. Then the following  
28 day we went to complete our sport and the attack took place, but  
29 the firing came from the position of the back of our field, so

1 because I was unable to run faster they caught me on the way and  
2 when they caught me on the way they took me to a cellar where  
3 three men raped me.

4 Q. Okay. Mrs Witness, who caught you?

09:37:09 5 A. Rebel s.

6 Q. And you said you were running off the sports field when you  
7 were caught. Is that correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. When you say rebel s, what do you mean?

09:37:25 10 A. The RUF.

11 Q. You said then they caught you and took you to a cellar  
12 where three men raped you. Is that correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Who raped you?

09:37:41 15 A. The rebel s.

16 Q. How old were you when this happened?

17 A. I was ten years old.

18 Q. Can you describe these three people that did this, these  
19 three rebel s?

09:38:01 20 A. Well, I did not recognise them well by their faces because  
21 they masked their faces.

22 Q. Could you see how they appeared otherwise?

23 A. Yes. They were about adults. I cannot say they were  
24 really full adults, but they were older than me.

09:38:39 25 Q. And you said they took you a cellar. Where did they take  
26 you exactly to do this?

27 A. It was at a cellar and the cellar had a shop. There, there  
28 was a Lebanese man. It was at that cellar that they took me,  
29 under the shop. That was where they raped me.

1 Q. After they raped you - are you okay?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. If you need to take a break you just ask the Judges,  
4 okay?

09:39:21 5 A. Okay.

6 Q. After they raped you what happened? After these rebels  
7 raped you what happened?

8 A. Okay. After the three of them had raped me that evening  
9 they left me there, because by then I was a very small girl, I  
09:39:44 10 couldn't withstand the pressure. So I was there up to the  
11 following morning and by then they were now ready to retreat. So  
12 the patrol commander met me there. He was called CO Blood and he  
13 asked me - he said, "Oh, what has happened to you?" I said,  
14 "Your boys raped me." He asked me whether I knew the ones who  
09:40:09 15 did it to me. I said no, I did not know them. Then he said I  
16 should get up so that I go with them. So they packed some items  
17 in the bag and they gave me that bag to carry on my head.

18 Q. Okay. Mrs Witness, you said that "after the three of them  
19 had raped me that evening they left me there, because by then I  
09:40:31 20 was a very small girl, I couldn't withstand the pressure." What  
21 did you mean when you said "I was a very small girl, I couldn't  
22 withstand the pressure"?

23 A. Well, let's say if you are the case that the way my age is  
24 now, if they had raped me at this time maybe it would have been  
09:40:57 25 better because I would have been strong enough, but by then I was  
26 a very small girl, so after they had raped me I couldn't  
27 withstand the pressure, I could not even get up and walk. So  
28 that was what I meant. I was lying there.

29 Q. Now you said this man was called CO Blood, is that correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. How do you know that's what his name was?

3 A. I heard him being called that way.

4 Q. And what group was CO Blood with?

09:41:38 5 A. He was with the RUF group.

6 Q. Now, then you said, "So they packed some items in the bag  
7 and they gave me that bag to carry on my head." Who packed items  
8 in the bag?

9 A. Well, when CO Blood entered the place he realised that the  
09:42:04 10 place was a shop, so it was he himself who packed the items in  
11 the bag and put it on my head and said we should go.

12 Q. And did you follow him?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. How come?

09:42:20 15 A. It was because, one, I didn't have any option. If I had  
16 said I was not going to go with them they would have killed me.  
17 So when they met me there and said I should carry the bag, I just  
18 took the bag on my head and then I joined them; we went. I did  
19 not make any comment.

09:42:42 20 Q. Now, you said before that before the rebels came to  
21 Masingbi you were living with your granny and papa. Is that  
22 correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And where were they at this time, after the attack and  
09:42:57 25 after these events you've described?

26 A. Well, they were at home and when they heard the shooting  
27 they just ran away and by then my grandmother was very old. She  
28 wouldn't have been able to go and search out for me, although we  
29 were all living - although we were all living in the same town



1 but we did not actually live in the same home, that is my father  
2 and my grandmother. I was actually living with my grandmother,  
3 but my father was living in that same town with us.

09:43:45

4 Q. Do you remember the items that you had to carry on your  
5 head?

6 A. Yes, they had some food in there and some clothing.

7 Q. And how heavy was it?

09:44:17

8 A. Well, it was so heavy, and by then you cannot imagine that  
9 a young girl like me wouldn't have been even able to carry that  
10 on my head.

11 Q. So where did you go then?

12 A. We went to Buedu.

13 Q. So describe the group - describe who was with you when you  
14 travelled from Masingbi to Buedu?

09:44:38

15 A. Well, it was CO Blood who was with us because he was the  
16 patrol commander. He was together with his boys.

17 Q. Now you said his boys. How many boys did he have with him?

18 A. They were many.

09:45:11

19 Q. And aside from yourself, were there any other civilians  
20 present?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Who were they?

23 A. They had women there, men, young girls and young boys.

09:45:28

24 Q. So if you had to take an estimate, try to estimate how many  
25 people were moving from Masingbi to Buedu, could you do it?

26 A. Well, for instance, in the case of the civilians we were  
27 more than 20.

28 Q. And could you estimate the number of rebels?

29 A. No, because they were all not assembled together at a

1 particular place. Some were at the front, some were at the back  
2 and some were in the middle, so it is difficult for me to  
3 estimate the number.

09:46:18 4 Q. Now you said this was heavy, this load. What would happen?  
5 Could you stop and take a break if you were too tired to carry  
6 it?

7 A. No. When - once you've been given a load you should carry  
8 that load except if you were about to enter a village, you will  
9 stop a while and they will send someone to go and do  
09:46:44 10 reconnaissance to see whether there were troops present there and  
11 after realising that there were no troops present there, no CDF  
12 or no other fighters there, then they will order you to go  
13 further again.

14 Q. Now, you said there were other civilians with you when you  
09:47:08 15 were moving. Is that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Was anyone else carrying anything aside from yourself?

18 A. Yes, we all carried loads.

19 Q. What would happen if people were too tired to carry the  
09:47:27 20 loads?

21 A. Well, if someone said I was tired, they would just shoot  
22 you down and then they will say, "You stay there and rest".

23 Q. How do you know that?

24 A. Well, I saw an old man shot. That was because he was very  
09:47:51 25 old by then, and he wouldn't have been able to carry the load on  
26 his head for a long distance, so when he said he was tired he was  
27 shot and then we left him there, in fact, and we went further.

28 Q. Can you estimate how long it took you to travel from  
29 Masingbi to Buedu? Do you know how long, approximately?

1 A. Well, we spent more than a week on the way.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, the word "travel" has been  
3 used, but the means.

4 MR SANTORA: The means:

09:48:34 5 Q. How were you travelling?

6 A. On foot.

7 Q. Now earlier, you said that when the rebels attacked  
8 Masingbi while you were living there it was 1994. Do you  
9 remember when in 1994 this was?

09:48:59 10 A. No, I cannot recall because by then I was a small girl.

11 Q. Can you recall if it was the rainy season or the dry  
12 season?

13 A. I cannot recall.

14 Q. Now, you said that you travelled to Buedu, is that correct?

09:49:24 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Can you remember any of the larger villages that you passed  
17 through to go to Buedu from Masingbi? Do you remember the names  
18 of any villages?

19 A. Well the one that I recall was Bamakonta, that was a fairly  
09:49:51 20 big place, but the other places I cannot recall because by then  
21 we were carrying loads on our heads and because of that we cannot  
22 get to particular villages and you start asking, "What village is  
23 this? Which village is this?" And we were carrying very heavy  
24 loads on our heads. I wouldn't have stopped anywhere to ask what  
09:50:11 25 village is this, which village is this. We were just worried  
26 about our lives.

27 MR SANTORA: There was one village that was mentioned,  
28 Bamakonta, B-A-M-A-K-O-N-T-A. And I am using the spelling from  
29 the prior proceeding, but I think it's for consistency's purpose:

1 Q. Now, what happened when you - first of all, did you  
2 eventually arrive in Buedu?

3 A. Yes, we arrived there.

4 Q. And describe what happened after you arrived in Buedu.

09:51:06 5 A. Well, when we arrived we passed the night and the following  
6 day CO Issa passed an order that all who came should go to -  
7 should go and train, so we went for the training.

8 Q. Now, who is CO Issa?

9 A. That was the rebel commander.

09:51:29 10 Q. And what group was CO Issa with?

11 A. RUF.

12 Q. Now, how do you know that CO Issa passed an order that all  
13 who came should go and should train?

09:51:56 14 A. Well, when I went they assigned me to a boss and he was  
15 called CO Scorpion. So after he had passed the order, CO  
16 Scorpion came and told us that now an order has been passed by  
17 Issa that all of you should go for training.

18 Q. Do you know CO Issa's full name?

19 A. Issa Sesay. That is what I know.

09:52:31 20 Q. You also said that CO Issa passed an order that "all who  
21 came should go and train, so we went for the training." Who  
22 exactly went for training?

23 A. I myself went for the training.

24 Q. And who else?

09:52:53 25 A. And my colleagues and with some middle-aged people.

26 Q. Now earlier, when I asked you about this incident when this  
27 rape happened, you said you were ten years old. Is that correct?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Now, how old were you when you went for training? Do you

1 remember?

2 A. Well, even up to that time I was not up to 11.

3 Q. Now, aside from yourself, what was the age group of the  
4 other people who were sent for training?

09:53:42 5 A. Well, we had the brackets from ten, 15 to 25.

6 Q. How do you know that some of the other people who were  
7 trained were in the age range of ten to 15 to 25?

8 A. Well, one wouldn't have stood there to ask people about  
9 their ages, but when you look at someone you will be able to tell

09:54:13 10 whether I am within the same age bracket with this person or  
11 maybe this person is older than me or maybe this person is far  
12 older than me. That was why I was able to tell.

13 Q. Now, you said earlier that some other people - other  
14 civilians accompanied you from Masingbi to Buedu. Do you

09:54:35 15 remember saying that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Did you see any of the people from Masingbi there when you  
18 were training?

19 A. Yes.

09:54:47 20 Q. Did you know the age of those people?

21 A. Well, we had people who were within the same age bracket  
22 like me, and there were those who were older than us, around 15,  
23 17, they were all there.

24 Q. So some of the people from Masingbi - is it correct that  
09:55:14 25 some of the people from Masingbi who were sent for training were  
26 your age? Is that correct?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. And how did you know that?

29 A. Like what I have just said, you wouldn't have had that time

1 to go and meet people and ask them about their ages, but for some  
2 people you will look at them and then you can tell whether you  
3 were within the same age bracket with them.

09:55:57

4 Q. Now, after this order was passed did you actually go and  
5 participate in training?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Where was this training?

8 A. In Buedu.

09:56:13

9 Q. And who was the leader of this training? Who was training  
10 you, I should say?

11 A. It was a lady called Monica Pearson.

12 Q. Who is that? Who is Monica Pearson?

13 A. She was the training instructor.

14 Q. Do you know where she was from?

09:56:36

15 A. Yes, they said she was from Liberia.

16 Q. Who said she was from Liberia?

09:57:03

17 A. No, I am saying that she was from Liberia because the way  
18 she used to speak, I knew from that that she was not a Sierra  
19 Leonean and that was what they told me also, some of my  
20 colleagues with whom I trained, and even the way she used to  
21 speak I was able to tell myself that she was actually not a  
22 Sierra Leonean but a Liberian.

23 Q. Did you know anything else about her?

24 A. No.

09:57:20

25 Q. Now, you said you went for training. What is training  
26 actually? What do you mean when you say that?

27 A. Well, they trained us how to cock and fire, how to set an  
28 ambush, how to retreat. For instance, if you get an encounter  
29 with the enemy, if you are not able to conquer that enemy how to

1 retreat. We were taught all those.

2 Q. When you say cock and fire, what do you mean?

3 A. How to fire the gun.

4 Q. What kind of guns were you training with?

09:58:12 5 A. It was a two pistol grip.

6 Q. What is a two pistol grip, Mrs Witness?

7 A. It was a gun that had a barrel in front of it and it had  
8 where you put your finger, where the trigger was, and it had  
9 something round in shape by the side of it.

09:58:44 10 MR SANTORA: Now, I'm not sure if Defence counsel saw but  
11 the witness, for the record, was holding her left hand forward  
12 and her right hand behind the left hand in attempting to describe  
13 how the gun was --

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I saw a little hand movement but it was  
09:59:00 15 obscured by the screen in front of the witness. So perhaps if,  
16 Madam Witness, you could lift your hands up a little higher and  
17 show us again what you've just demonstrated, please.

18 MR SANTORA:

19 Q. You were describing the two pistol grip and then you were  
09:59:15 20 moving your hands in some direction. Can you just describe it  
21 again and explain with your hands what it looked like?

22 A. Okay. This - let's say this is the gun. It has a wooden  
23 handle by the side in the front and you will have something that  
24 you will put your fingers on where the trigger was, where you can  
09:59:40 25 fire, and there was something round in shape by the side. That  
26 is how you use it to fire.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: For purposes of record, I will note that  
28 the witness has demonstrated by extending her left hand out  
29 straight and showing a triggering movement with the fingers of

1 her other hand. Is that agreed?

2 MR GRIFFITHS: Your Honour, yes.

3 MR SANTORA:

10:00:11

4 Q. Mrs Witness, does this gun, this two pistol grip, does this  
5 fire automatic rounds?

6 A. No. You will have to - you will need to cock it. When you  
7 cock it sometimes you will have to lock it again. But if you  
8 want to shoot it you will have to open it, then you trigger it  
9 off. At any time you want to shoot, then you will have to open  
10 it, then you cock it before you fire.

10:00:39

11 Q. Now, were there any other guns that you remember people  
12 training with?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What were the other kind of guns?

10:00:56

15 A. They had G3 and LAR.

16 Q. And do you know what an LAR is?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Now, Mrs Witness, how did you find it, in terms of your  
19 ability to hold the gun?

10:01:37

20 A. Okay. Because I was very small, the gun had a belt and at  
21 any time I wanted to use the gun I would just take the gun, put  
22 it somewhere higher than my height, and then I would go  
23 underneath it and put it around me. Maybe, like I explained, I  
24 will put the gun somewhere that is taller than me and then I will  
25 go underneath it and put my head through the belt and then put it  
26 round me.

10:02:03

27 MR SANTORA: And just for the record I did note the  
28 witness, in describing the strap of the gun, lifted her hands  
29 over her head and put her hands behind her back when she was



1 describing the strap.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Does counsel agree with that?

3 MR GRIFFITHS: I agree with that.

4 MR SANTORA:

10:02:43 5 Q. How long did your training last?

6 A. Two weeks.

7 Q. Could you estimate how many - you've mentioned the age  
8 range of those being trained, but can you estimate how many  
9 people were actually being trained?

10:03:03 10 A. We were many.

11 Q. Could you say whether it was over or under 50? Are you  
12 able to do that?

13 A. Well, I did not make a head count, but we were either close  
14 to 50 or more than that, because we did not have time to take  
10:03:36 15 head counts.

16 Q. Now after your training, how long did you remain based in  
17 Buedu?

18 A. After the training I was there throughout, up to 1998.

19 Q. And do you remember when in 1998 you were up there until?

10:04:16 20 A. Yes. Since 1994 when I went there, I was there up to 1998  
21 before I finally left Buedu.

22 Q. When in 1998 were you up there until? Approximately when?

23 A. Well, I was there up to between November to December.

24 Q. So is it fair to say that you were based in Buedu from 1994  
10:04:52 25 until November or December 1998? Is that correct?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Now, I'm going to ask you - the next series of questions  
28 I'm going to ask you, Mrs Witness, pertains to the time you were  
29 in Buedu, from some time in 1994 until November or December 1998,

1 okay?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So after your training what was your assignment, if any?

10:05:32

4 A. Yes. I had - because at first, after we had been trained,  
5 they sent me on food finding mission. We went twice on food  
6 finding mission and after we had returned my boss assigned me to  
7 his wife so that I would be doing some domestic chores for her.

8 Q. Before I ask you about food finding missions, after your  
9 training was done, what exactly happened to you?

10:06:12

10 A. Well, after the training we were at home with CO Scorpion  
11 and his wife. I was there doing domestic chores for them.

12 Q. Who was CO Scorpion's wife?

13 A. Her name is Hawa.

14 Q. And where was their house? Where was Hawa's house?

10:06:45

15 A. It was at the lower side of the town. I'm actually unable  
16 to describe the place now, but that was where we were all living.

17 Q. And is that in Buedu Town?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Were you assigned to any particular unit?

10:07:10

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. What was that?

22 A. SGU, Small Girls Unit.

23 Q. What's a Small Girls Unit?

10:07:32

24 A. Well, that was for the small girls that were between the  
25 age brackets of eight, 11, 12, 13.

26 Q. Who assigned you to a Small Girls Unit?

27 A. My boss, CO Scorpion.

28 Q. And how many people were in your Small Girls Unit?

29 A. We were five.

1 Q. Were there other units in Buedu at the time?

2 A. Yes, they also had SBUs.

3 Q. What's an SBU?

4 A. Small Boys Unit.

10:08:17 5 Q. And what was the age of the Small Boys Unit? What was the  
6 age range?

7 A. The same age brackets like the small girls; age ten, 11,  
8 12, 13.

9 Q. At this time, before I ask you more about these units, at  
10:08:44 10 this time who were the commanders that you recall in Buedu at the  
11 time?

12 A. Okay. I remember Mosquito, CO Issa, Superman, Morris  
13 Kallon, Augustine Gbao.

14 Q. Do you remember any others?

10:09:13 15 A. Except maybe my boss, who was CO Scorpion.

16 Q. Do you know CO Scorpion's real name?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Now, you've mentioned Small Boy Units and Small Girl Units.  
19 What was the role of Small Boy Units, do you know?

10:09:42 20 A. Yes, they were securities.

21 Q. What do you mean by that?

22 A. They held guns and they were around the bosses.

23 Q. And what about the Small Girl Units? What was the role of  
24 the Small Girl Units?

10:10:12 25 A. Well, they were there. They were around the bosses' wives,  
26 the CO wives. We were there to cook, to launder, to pound husk  
27 rice.

28 Q. How would you get food while you were there?

29 A. We would go on food finding.

1 Q. Before I go on to ask you about food finding, you've  
2 mentioned Small Boy Units and Small Girl Units. About how many  
3 of these Small Boy Units were in Buedu, do you know?

10:11:12 4 A. Well, I did not know for the rest of Buedu, but my boss had  
5 five SBUs and five SGUs. Those of us the SGUs were assigned to  
6 his wife and the SBUs were assigned to he himself.

7 Q. And when you say your boss you are referring to who?

8 A. That is CO Scorpion.

9 Q. And just to clarify, you said your boss CO Scorpion had  
10:11:40 10 five SBUs and five SGUs. Do you mean he had five people or five  
11 units of each?

12 A. No. When I said he had five SGUs, that means the small  
13 girls were five and the small boys too were five. I am not  
14 talking about older people. I said the small ones.

10:12:11 15 Q. Now, you said that you went on something called food  
16 finding. Is that correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. What is food finding? What do you mean when you say you  
19 went on food finding?

10:12:43 20 A. Well, whilst we were at the camp when we were at Buedu,  
21 maybe if there was about a shortage of food we would be asked to  
22 go and look out for food. Then we would go.

23 Q. Who would ask you to go look out for food?

24 A. CO Scorpion.

10:13:10 25 Q. And what would he ask you exactly?

26 A. He would tell us that we are about to get food shortage, so  
27 we should go and search out for food.

28 Q. Who would he ask this of besides yourself? Who was he  
29 talking to when you say this, he would ask we?

1 A. He would talk to us the SGUs, the SBUs and even some older  
2 ones. All of us would go.

3 Q. And what would happen when you went?

10:13:59

4 A. Well, whilst we would be going, some would have guns and  
5 some would not have guns. If we were ten or 20 in number that  
6 were to go they would give us maybe five arms and then that we  
7 will carry and some will not have arms. Whilst going, if we were  
8 close to the town we would send somebody ahead - one person ahead  
9 to go on reconnaissance to see whether there were Kamajors or

10:14:22

10 soldiers around, and after spying, if there were no soldiers or  
11 Kamajors around he would come quietly and tell us, and when we  
12 enter the town we would not shoot. We would take pebbles and we  
13 would throw those ones on top of the houses and then we would  
14 know whether there were soldiers or Kamajors around. If they

10:14:45

15 were not around maybe the civilians who would be around, they  
16 will run into the bushes and then we would enter the town and  
17 collect whatever we were able to see and then we would move.

18 Q. Okay. I'm going to ask you some questions about what you  
19 just described but, first of all, you said there were about - if  
10:15:07 20 there were ten or 20 in number you would receive about five arms.  
21 Is that correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What kind of arms would you take on these missions, on  
24 these food finding missions?

10:15:24

25 A. Well, mostly, we went with G3 and two pistol grips.

26 Q. Now, how many of you would typically go on a food finding  
27 mission?

28 A. Well, sometimes ten of us went, sometimes 15 of us.

29 Q. And what area were you going - what area in terms of

1 outside of Buedu - what area were you going on these food finding  
2 missions?

3 A. It was just around Buedu. We didn't go that far.

10:16:22

4 Q. About how often were you asked to go on these food finding  
5 missions?

6 A. Well, for me, I went two times.

7 Q. Now, what would happen if you encountered civilians on  
8 these missions?

10:17:02

9 A. Well, civilians are afraid of guns, so for some civilians  
10 just when you point the guns at them they would be afraid. So in  
11 their own case - on their own part they did not have anything -  
12 no threat - any threat against us when we went on food finding  
13 missions and at any times when we went those who had guns, they  
14 did not shoot their guns at all. We would just take pebbles and

10:17:21

15 send the pebbles on top of the houses and then those who held the  
16 guns would go around threatening the people so that we would be  
17 able to enter their houses.

18 Q. What would happen after you were able to enter their  
19 houses?

10:17:40

20 A. Well, at any time we arrived at a particular point, and  
21 when we were able to enter their houses, when we got the items  
22 that we wanted we were - at that time we were also bosses for  
23 ourselves on our own, we would just capture the civilians.  
24 Anything we captured we would put it on their heads and then they  
25 would help us to carry them for us.

10:18:02

26 Q. When you say "we would just capture the civilians", what do  
27 you mean?

28 A. We would capture them. But those who held the guns, we  
29 threatened them. They will pretend as though they wanted to

1 shoot them, but they would not shoot them and the civilians would  
2 be afraid, they would not be able to run. They would stop and  
3 then we would capture all of them and then we assembled them and  
4 put the items on their heads.

10:18:44 5 Q. What kind of civilians - when you say civilians, what do  
6 you mean? Who were you capturing?

7 A. The civilians who did not have guns and they were not with  
8 us, those were the ones that we referred to as civilians.

9 Q. What was the gender of these civilians?

10:19:08 10 A. They were both men and women.

11 Q. What about the ages? What were the ages of these  
12 civilians?

13 A. Whatsoever age brackets that we met around places we would  
14 capture them and we would go with them except, for instance, if  
10:19:30 15 somebody was a suckling mother, maybe we would feel sorry for  
16 that person and we would forget about that person. But anybody  
17 who was strong enough, even those who were within my own age  
18 bracket, we would take them along.

19 Q. How old were you when you went on these missions?

10:19:53 20 A. I was going close to 11 by then.

21 Q. Now earlier I asked you about the age of your current  
22 child. Where did you give birth to your current - your son?

23 A. It was in the bush at Buedu.

24 Q. Prior to giving birth to your current son did you give  
10:20:25 25 birth before that?

26 A. Yes. I had a kid but - I had a child but the child died.

27 Q. Where did that take place?

28 A. In the same Buedu.

29 Q. Who was the father of the baby that died?

1 A. He was called CO Ray.

2 Q. Who was he?

3 A. He too was a rebel.

4 Q. How did he come to be the father of the baby that died?

10:21:20 5 A. Well, on one particular day we were seated outside when he  
6 called me into his room and when we went there he forced to rape  
7 me.

8 Q. Are you okay, Mrs Witness?

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Witness, are you all right?

10:22:45 10 MS IRURA: Your Honour, the witness would like to continue.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well now, Madam Witness, and if you  
12 feel the need of a short break please tell us. Please proceed,  
13 Mr Santora.

14 Madam Witness, do you think you would like to have a short  
10:23:19 15 break?

16 THE WITNESS: Let's continue.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well now. You understand we think -  
18 we are concerned about your welfare also. Please proceed,  
19 Mr Santora.

10:23:37 20 MR SANTORA:

21 Q. Mrs Witness, how old were you when CO Ray did this to you?

22 A. I was 11. I was not up to full 11 years of age in fact.

23 Q. Now, then you said after this happened then you did give  
24 birth later on in Buedu as well, and that baby survived. Is that  
10:24:11 25 correct?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. And who was the father of that baby?

28 A. The same Ray.

29 Q. Now, in Buedu when you were living there, what was it like



1 for the other women in Buedu?

2 A. Life was not actually easy, because no women had rights  
3 there. No women could say anything that you would want to say  
4 there, except you wait for orders. And if you were there with a  
10:25:04 5 husband, or if you were there and had not fallen in any  
6 relationship with any man, you will find life very difficult. It  
7 was not actually easy.

8 Q. So what do you mean "if you were there with a husband"?  
9 What does that mean?

10:25:26 10 A. Okay. Now, when some of them went to the war front they  
11 would capture women there and they would bring such women and  
12 say: That woman is my wife. But if a woman - a girl or a lady  
13 was there and did not have any man like that you would stay with  
14 them as either a house help or a bodyguard.

10:25:56 15 Q. You said, "Now, when some of them went to the war front  
16 they would capture women there and they would bring such women  
17 and say that woman is my wife. When you say "they would capture  
18 women" who do you mean "they"?

19 A. The rebels.

10:26:22 20 Q. And what do you mean when they would say, "That woman is my  
21 wife"?

22 A. They did not go to perform marriage rites anywhere. They  
23 would just capture them and bring them and consider them to be  
24 their wives and the women in return would do everything to them  
10:26:46 25 just like husband and wife.

26 Q. What would happen if a woman refused to be a wife?

27 A. Well I never saw a woman refusing, because the women knew  
28 that it was only when they were there in care of a man that you  
29 would be secure and that things would be a bit nice for you. I

1 never saw an incident where a man told a woman that, "I want you  
2 to stay with me as my wife", then that woman refuses. No, I did  
3 not see that.

4 Q. Did you have a husband in Buedu?

10:27:31 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Who was that?

7 A. I was with CO Ray.

8 Q. When did he take you as his wife?

9 A. Well after we had returned from the second mission, that is  
10:27:55 10 the food finding mission, on that particular day he invited me  
11 into his room to go and have sex with me. It was since then that  
12 he regarded me as his wife.

13 Q. Now, you said that - my apologies, your Honours. One  
14 moment. Now these things that you've described about going to  
10:28:43 15 the war front and rebels capturing women and taking them as  
16 wives, during what time period was this occurring in Buedu from  
17 your observation? You said you were there from 1994 until  
18 November or December 1998. What time period was this occurring  
19 where rebels would go and capture women from the war front and  
10:29:11 20 take them as their wives?

21 A. Well, since 1994 when I was captured it was not until 1998.  
22 By then they were no longer training people. At that time when  
23 they captured a woman you were just to go with them anywhere, but  
24 initially it existed throughout since I was captured.

10:29:43 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated].

26 MR SANTORA: I'm going to try to clarify that, Madam  
27 President:

28 Q. I'm going to ask you about training in a moment, but I'm  
29 asking you now only about women being captured from the war

1 front. When was this occurring?

2 A. Well, at any time rebels went to - to attack a particular  
3 town or village they will capture everybody. They will capture  
4 women, they will capture men, capture children. They captured  
10:30:16 5 everybody; anybody who they met there.

6 Q. And did this occur throughout the time you were living in  
7 Buedu?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Now also, just because I don't think it's clear for the  
10:30:40 10 record, earlier you said - you've described these food finding  
11 missions. Was that occurring throughout the time you were living  
12 in Buedu?

13 A. Yes. You know it is on food that we depend, so it happened  
14 every time that we were told to go on food finding missions.

10:31:03 15 Q. Why did you stay in Buedu?

16 A. I was captured. That's why I stayed with them.

17 Q. And what if you tried to leave?

18 A. Well, that would be up to you. If you knew that if you  
19 left it would be safe for you then you would go, but nobody would  
10:31:37 20 attempt that because if you had left and maybe fall in the hands  
21 of the Kamajors you'd be captured and you would be killed and  
22 maybe you would even be eaten. And if you were captured by the  
23 rebels too while you attempted to escape, they themselves would  
24 kill you. They would say that you wanted to betray them.

10:32:00 25 Q. Now, you also said that the rebels were capturing children  
26 as well and they were bringing them for training while you were  
27 in Buedu. Is that correct?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. And how long did that go on for from your observation?

1 A. That went on - it was a continuous process. It never  
2 stopped. Whenever a place was attacked and people were captured,  
3 they would bring them and they would train them.

4 Q. And who would train them?

10:32:43 5 A. Monica Pearson.

6 Q. And these children that were captured after you, do you  
7 know their age range approximately?

8 A. Well, none of them went to us and so I wouldn't tell.

9 Q. How come you call them children?

10:33:19 10 A. Because they were young.

11 Q. Could you from your observation approximately guess or try  
12 to tell their ages?

13 A. No, I wouldn't tell.

14 Q. You've described the conditions for women and you've  
10:33:50 15 described the conditions for children in Buedu. What about for  
16 older people?

17 A. Well, like for the old people they will go and work in the  
18 farm.

19 Q. What farm?

10:34:13 20 A. Government farm.

21 Q. What do you mean when you say government farm?

22 A. Well the rebels had their own government, the RUF  
23 government, so the people who would go there to work it was taken  
24 as if they were the government, the RUF, so if you worked for  
10:34:35 25 them you were working for the government.

26 Q. So who would actually work on the farm?

27 A. The old men and old women.

28 Q. And where would the food from the farm go?

29 A. Well the food would go to the boss, that is CO Issa.

1 Q. What about the people that worked on the farm?

2 A. Well, I don't know because they were the ones working  
3 there. I don't know what they were doing there, or I don't know  
4 what was done for them.

10:35:18 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, what do you mean "What about  
6 the people"? It's very vague.

7 MR SANTORA: It is a vague question and I think I was going  
8 to actually leave the question anyway, so let me ask it this way:

9 Q. Mrs Witness, did you ever receive food from the farm - the  
10:35:37 10 government farm?

11 A. It was not easy.

12 Q. What do you mean by that?

13 A. Because everybody would go for food finding and that rice  
14 would be kept. They said that was for the bosses.

10:35:57 15 Q. Who said that the rice was for the bosses?

16 A. Well, since I was in Buedu I was under Scorpion. I did not  
17 talk directly to Scorpion actually. I was talking to - well,  
18 except when I did so through his wife.

19 Q. Is this the woman that you referred to as Hawa earlier?

10:36:27 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Where was this government farm that you've referred to?

22 A. It was between Kailahun and Buedu.

23 Q. Now, earlier you mentioned the name of several commanders  
24 you remember in Buedu. Toward the latter part of your time in

10:37:21 25 Buedu - and I mean towards the end, around 1998 - do you remember  
26 the commanders in Buedu?

27 A. Yes. Mosquito was there, Issa was there, Augustine Gbao,  
28 Morris Kallon, Superman, but Superman was not based there. He  
29 only used to visit there and return.

1 Q. Who was Morris Kallon?

2 A. He too was a rebel commander.

3 Q. How did you know that Superman used to just come and visit  
4 sometimes?

10:38:13 5 A. Well just like I had said before, that whatever happened I  
6 got that through my boss's wife, that is Hawa, because the two of  
7 us used to sit together and talk because I was almost always with  
8 her. Wherever she went I was with her. I was almost always with  
9 her.

10:38:34 10 Q. Now, do you know how the rebels were getting supplies when  
11 they were in Buedu?

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: "Supplies" is very vague.

13 MR SANTORA: Well, I don't want to --

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. I see your point, Mr Santora.

10:39:05 15 Continue.

16 MR SANTORA: Just if there is any knowledge at all:

17 Q. Do you know how they were getting supplies in Buedu?

18 A. Well, at first if they attacked - for example if they  
19 attacked Kamajors or soldiers they would get some things. Some  
10:39:28 20 other time I saw a big truck - a military truck. It had  
21 ammunition in it and Hawa came out and I followed her and I asked  
22 her. I said, "Woman, Hawa, what is in that vehicle?", and she  
23 said, "It is ammunition". I said, "Where did they get them  
24 from?", and she said it was from Liberia and I said, "Oh, okay".

10:39:53 25 So I didn't go further than that. I just stopped there.

26 Q. Where did you see this big truck?

27 A. It was parked upwards.

28 Q. What village did you see this big truck in?

29 A. It was in Buedu.

1 Q. What do you mean when you say it was parked upwards?

2 A. It was parked at a particular house, but I don't know whose  
3 house was that because we were down and - but if you are down you  
4 will see up clearly.

10:40:37 5 Q. And when you say "a big truck - a military truck", what do  
6 you mean by that?

7 A. Those six tyred trucks - six tyred truck vehicles. That's  
8 what I meant.

9 Q. Why did you call it a military?

10:40:59 10 A. Because I saw it, it was green and a military uniform is  
11 green. That's why I said it was a military truck.

12 Q. Why did you ask Hawa about this truck?

13 A. Well, I thought she was the only one I could ask because  
14 vehicles didn't go there frequently, so if I saw a vehicle there  
10:41:28 15 that was strange I had to ask her, so that was why I asked her.

16 Q. Now do you know - you said that you lived in Buedu, you  
17 were based in Buedu from 1994 until around November or December  
18 1998; do you recall when you saw this truck?

19 A. No.

10:41:51 20 Q. Can you recall approximately if it was towards the  
21 beginning of the time you were in Buedu or towards the end of the  
22 time you were in Buedu?

23 A. It was not at the beginning; I wouldn't just say now the  
24 exact time but it was not at the beginning because it was not  
10:42:11 25 when we had just gone there, no.

26 Q. Do you recall how old you were approximately when you saw  
27 this truck?

28 A. Well, no, because why I couldn't recall - even now while I  
29 was referring to my age, at that time I didn't know my age. It

1 was when I had left the bush I - at that time my father was dead  
2 when I returned. It was then that I picked up my birth  
3 certificate. I saw it and I picked it up.

10:42:52 4 Q. Now, aside from Hawa telling you that this truck came from  
5 Liberia, did you learn anything else about this truck?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Now, you said you stayed based in Buedu until about  
8 November or December 1998. Is that correct?

9 A. Yes.

10:43:27 10 Q. And did there come a time then that you left Buedu?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Describe the circumstances of your leaving Buedu.

13 A. Well, at that time, just like I said, that was in 1998, SAJ  
14 Musa sent a radio message that they wanted to come and attack  
10:43:58 15 Freetown so he needed back-up.

16 Q. What do you mean when you say - first of all, who is SAJ  
17 Musa?

18 A. He was an SLA.

19 Q. What do you mean when you said he sent a radio message?

10:44:23 20 A. He sent a radio message saying that they wanted to come to  
21 Freetown so CO Issa should send another team to back them up to  
22 capture Freetown.

23 Q. When you say radio message, what do you mean?

24 A. Just like when you would communicate on the radio.

10:44:46 25 Q. Was there a radio in Buedu?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. How do you know that?

28 A. Just like what I am saying, whatever I did or I did not  
29 know, I would ask my boss's wife, that was Hawa. I asked her.



1 Q. How did you learn about this message from SAJ Musa about  
2 back-up to Freetown?

3 A. Well, one morning - one day I saw Woman, that is my boss's  
4 wife, because that was the way we called her, Woman. She was  
10:45:36 5 happy. She said, "Oh, I'll be going to town very soon" and I  
6 said, "How is that going to happen?" And she said SAJ Musa had  
7 sent a message that he wanted back-up because he wanted to go and  
8 capture Freetown and I said, "Oh, okay."

9 Q. So when you say first of all you saw your boss's wife you  
10:46:05 10 mean Hawa, is that correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Do you know why she was happy?

13 A. She said she was fed up being in the bush because while in  
14 the bush she had no freedom to go to other places, so she was  
10:46:22 15 tired being there.

16 Q. Now, where was C0 Scorpion at this time, your boss?

17 A. All of us were in Buedu at that time.

18 Q. Did C0 Scorpion remain in Buedu?

19 A. No, all of them came. It was part of the back-up.

10:46:57 20 Q. Where did C0 Scorpion go?

21 A. He left us and said he was going to Freetown.

22 Q. Who did he depart with?

23 A. They were many, but I only knew about their group, but they  
24 were many.

10:47:23 25 Q. Do you know where they went?

26 A. They told us that they were going to Freetown, so I don't  
27 know. That was what they told us.

28 Q. Now, aside from C0 Scorpion, do you remember any other  
29 commanders who left Buedu at this time?

1 A. While I was in Buedu?

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. Well, I was there with my boss's wife because no boss was  
4 there, everybody was eager to go. So I can say just we were the  
10:48:15 5 ones who were there then.

6 Q. This time that Scorpion left, was this before or after the  
7 message that came from SAJ Musa?

8 A. It was the message that they received that made them to go.

9 Q. Now, do you know who CO Scorpion's commander was at this  
10:48:41 10 time?

11 A. It was CO Issa.

12 Q. Now, aside from Hawa, did you see the reaction of anyone  
13 else after this message came from SAJ Musa?

14 A. No.

10:49:10 15 Q. So you yourself did not go along with Scorpion. Is that  
16 correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Where did you go?

19 A. I was in Buedu. So as they were moving so we too were  
10:49:30 20 moving. We were at the rear.

21 Q. So which direction did you proceed from Buedu?

22 A. We passed through Tongo and we came to Kono.

23 Q. About how far behind were you, if you know, from the group  
24 in front that included Scorpion?

10:50:13 25 A. Well, when they started it, because they started from  
26 Tongo, because when they got to Makeni it was when we moved and  
27 we got to Kono.

28 Q. How did you know where they were, this group with Scorpion?

29 A. Well, they used to communicate. They were still

1 communicating.

2 Q. Now, you said that this message was about - from SAJ Musa  
3 about back-up for Freetown. Do you know if any men ever entered  
4 Freetown?

10:51:05 5 A. Well, I don't know.

6 Q. Now, you said at some point you got to Kono. Where in Kono  
7 did you come to, do you know?

8 A. Yes, we were at Lebanon.

9 Q. Is that also called Small Lebanon?

10:51:38 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. After you were at Small Lebanon where did you go?

12 A. I went to Makeni.

13 Q. Who were you with?

14 A. Well, I was still with my boss's wife, that is Hawa.

10:52:02 15 Q. Now earlier you were talking about your time in Buedu and  
16 you said you had a husband. Do you remember saying that?

17 A. Yes, yes.

18 Q. At this time you were moving, did you still have a husband?

19 A. Well, the two men that I had - initially - in fact Ray died

10:52:34 20 and I was with Musa and Musa too died, so at that time when he  
21 died it was about the time that we were to go out, so I hadn't  
22 any time again for men. So it was when we were out of the bush  
23 that I had a relationship with another man, that was Mohamed.

24 Q. So just to clarify, in Buedu, while you were there, how  
10:53:01 25 many husbands did you have?

26 A. Two.

27 Q. And who were they?

28 A. CO Ray and CO Musa.

29 Q. And you said both of them died?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. How did CO Ray die?

3 A. He went to the war front and he died there.

4 Q. Do you know where CO Ray was from?

10:53:35 5 A. No.

6 Q. And CO Musa, how did he die?

7 A. He too at the time we were - we lacked ammunition - they  
8 went to attack and it was there that he died too.

9 Q. So when you were leaving Buedu onward to Kono and then to  
10:54:05 10 Makeni, were you with either CO Ray or CO Musa at this point, as  
11 a wife?

12 A. No, both of them died before we left the bush.

13 Q. How long approximately did it take for you to move from  
14 Buedu to Makeni?

10:54:44 15 A. It took a long time, because we didn't just go straight  
16 like that because we would go - whenever we got to a village  
17 maybe we would pass the night there or two before we could go to  
18 the next village. We took a long time on the way.

19 Q. And about how long did you stay in Small Lebanon or in  
10:55:08 20 Kono?

21 A. I was there for about a month.

22 Q. Now, the group with CO Scorpion that was ahead of you, do  
23 you know who was in command of that group?

24 A. No, I didn't know.

10:55:34 25 Q. Do you remember when approximately it was that you arrived  
26 in Makeni?

27 A. I don't know.

28 Q. Do you know the year?

29 A. Well, it was between '98 and '99. I don't know the exact

1 month.

2 Q. At the end of the war in Sierra Leone were you still  
3 residing in Makeni?

10:56:41

4 A. Yes, I was in Makeni. I was there right up to the time of  
5 disarmament. I was in Makeni.

6 Q. And who were you staying with in Makeni up until  
7 disarmament?

8 A. At that time I was together with Mohamed.

10:56:59

9 Q. Now earlier you said you had three children but now you  
10 only have one. What happened to the other two children?

11 A. After we had left the bush, I came and testified and I  
12 returned and one of the children got sick and the other one, I  
13 took that child to one of my relatives to the village. So after  
14 I had testified and returned I had some money, so I said that of  
15 my relative and my child should come, so on the way coming they  
16 had an accident, so both of them died on the spot.

10:57:31

17 Q. When you say your relative and your child should come, what  
18 relative do you mean?

19 A. My uncle.

10:57:54

20 Q. So these two children, did they die after the war?

21 A. Yes.

22 MR SANTORA: One moment, your Honour, because I think I can  
23 consolidate something quickly:

10:59:09

24 Q. Mrs Witness, I just have a few more questions for you,  
25 okay? We're almost finished.

26 A. Okay.

27 Q. Actually, Mrs Witness, I just actually have one more  
28 question for you: Can you tell this Court how this whole  
29 experience that you had with the RUF in Buedu has affected your

1 life?

2 A. Well, it has affected my life so greatly, because I was  
3 captured when I was very young, and I was forced to have sex with  
4 a man when I was not mature enough. That is the first thing even  
11:00:03 5 that is affecting me so badly. I don't even know how to say it.  
6 I don't know. I'm confused. You know even now as I'm here, even  
7 when I'm with the man I can hardly be satisfied. When we were in  
8 the bush I had no freedom; whatever you wanted to do as a child  
9 you had no freedom of movement. You had no freedom as a young  
11:00:34 10 girl. You had to take orders from somebody. If not that would  
11 not be good for you. And even the women, that was not easy for  
12 them. Being in the bush it was very difficult, because you  
13 cannot live on your own. If you were not with a husband that  
14 would be a problem for you. They would just use you - misuse you  
11:01:01 15 and then they would dump you. Any one of them could just come  
16 and do whatever he wanted to do you.

17 Even to the older ones. Old people - you know, normally  
18 old people were supposed to rest but then they used the old  
19 people to work for them. They were young and they did not work.  
11:01:17 20 They used older people to work for them. I just don't even know  
21 what to say. Life was not easy for me, you know, it was  
22 stressful. I am still stressed. It was not easy for me.

23 MR SANTORA: I have no further questions, Madam President.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Santora.

11:01:43 25 Cross-examination, please.

26 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, can I indicate that I have  
27 a difficulty in that my cross-examination bundles have not yet  
28 arrived in the building. So it may be that at some stage I will  
29 have to ask for a short adjournment, but I can commence now.

1           PRESIDING JUDGE: If you feel comfortable starting now  
2 please do proceed and we will deal with your problem if it  
3 arises.

4                           CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR GRIFFITHS:

11:02:15 5       Q.     Ms Bangura, you were ten years old when you were captured  
6 in 1984. Is that right?

7           MR SANTORA: I think it was a misstatement of the year,  
8 that's all. I think you misstated the year inadvertently.

9           PRESIDING JUDGE: The witness said she was captured in '94,  
11:02:33 10 not '84.

11          MR GRIFFITHS: I'm sorry:

12       Q.     Yes. You were captured in 1994. Is that right?

13       A.     Yes.

14       Q.     And you were ten years old at the time?

11:02:47 15       A.     Yes.

16       Q.     And in what year was it that you disarmed?

17       A.     Well, I cannot recall the year now, but it was after '98.  
18 Around 2000. I cannot recall the year now.

19       Q.     Let's approach it differently then. Can you recall now how  
11:03:18 20 old you were when you disarmed?

21       A.     No, I wouldn't know because at that time, just as I had  
22 said, I hadn't my birth certificate. It was after everything  
23 when I decided to go back to see my family. At that time my  
24 father was dead and that was when I saw my birth certificate.

11:03:49 25       Q.     Well, we know from other evidence that disarmament  
26 commenced round about 2001. Consequently, it would be fair to  
27 say, wouldn't it, that you would have been about 17/18 at the  
28 time of disarmament. Would you agree?

29       A.     Well, I wouldn't know.

1 Q. In any event the point is this: Your childhood was taken  
2 away from you by this war, wasn't it?

3 A. Which child?

11:04:33

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, the word counsel used was  
5 childhood, not a child.

6 MR GRIFFITHS:

7 Q. Let me ask the question again. You were robbed of your  
8 childhood by the war, weren't you?

9 A. Yes.

11:04:56

10 Q. And it's a matter of great pain for you, isn't it?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Because let me just quickly summarise what it was that  
13 happened to you: You were snatched from a sports day at your  
14 school, is that right?

11:05:17

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And you were raped that very night by three men?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And it was three of them, was it?

19 A. Yes.

11:05:37

20 Q. And thereafter you were taken into the bush in Buedu where  
21 you were forced to undergo military training. That's right,  
22 isn't it?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And the person who was in charge of training, that Monica  
25 Pearson, she was a wicked woman, wasn't she?

11:06:01

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. She used to beat the recruits, didn't she?

28 A. Well, she beat them up, but she did not beat me.

29 Q. But you saw others being beaten by her, didn't you?



1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Because she was very strict towards the young people who  
3 were in that training camp, wasn't she?

4 A. Well, she was not that very strict. We were not too strict  
11:06:51 5 towards the younger ones like ten, 11, 12, but we all underwent  
6 the same training.

7 Q. And just so that we are sure, the training camp that you  
8 attended was in Buedu, was it?

9 A. Yes.

11:07:09 10 Q. When you say in Buedu, was it actually a part of Buedu  
11 Town?

12 A. No, it was not in Buedu itself. There was a place which  
13 was prepared for the training.

14 Q. Was it very close to Buedu though, on the outskirts?

11:07:38 15 A. They were not very close to each other.

16 Q. How long would it take to walk to get there?

17 A. Well, it would not take you up to one hour or two hours.

18 Q. And you are confident that you are right that the training  
19 camp was in Buedu, are you?

11:08:06 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. In any event, thereafter, you were attached to Scorpion's  
22 wife Hawa for whom you did domestic work for many years. Is that  
23 true?

24 A. Yes.

11:08:28 25 Q. And did you remain as Hawa's domestic help until  
26 disarmament?

27 A. No. While I was there I was under her until the time I got  
28 a husband, that was CO Ray. Then afterwards I had some rest, so  
29 I didn't do the house chores any more.

1 Q. And help me, please: For how long did you remain with  
2 Hawa?

3 A. Well, I cannot tell, but I took some time with her.

4 Q. Are we talking about years or months?

11:09:16 5 A. It was not up to one year.

6 Q. So bearing in mind that you were captured in 1994, would it  
7 be fair to say that by 1995 you had already left Hawa's house?

8 A. I was still with her, because CO Ray and myself - all of us  
9 were under CO Scorpion's command, so we were all at the same  
10 house.

11:09:56

11 Q. And apart from going on two food finding missions you were  
12 never involved in combat?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Can I take it then that you were never required to carry a  
15 gun?

11:10:18

16 A. But I carried a gun when we went on food finding missions,  
17 but from the time we left the food finding missions I never  
18 carried a gun any more.

19 Q. So just so that we're clear, when you went on those two  
20 food finding missions you, Edna Bangura, carried a gun, did you?

11:10:42

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Thank you. And whilst there in Buedu you've told us on  
23 more than one occasion the commanders there were Scorpion, is  
24 that right?

11:11:09

25 A. Yes, he was my boss.

26 Q. And you saw him with your own eyes, did you?

27 A. Yes, all of us were at the same house.

28 Q. And you also saw CO Issa, did you?

29 A. Well, CO Issa, I did not see him. Just like I said,

1 whatever I said, it was through my boss's wife that I got the  
2 information. I used to ask her.

3 Q. Very well. So I want to be clear about this now: You  
4 never saw CO Issa, is that right?

11:11:55 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What about Mosquito? Did you ever see him?

7 A. Well, that one, it was not easy for somebody to see him  
8 like that.

9 Q. Did you ever see him?

11:12:14 10 A. No.

11 Q. What about Morris Kallon? Did you ever see him?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Where?

14 A. Well, for him, that is Morris Kallon and Augustine Gbao  
11:12:33 15 were friends to my boss, that is Scorpion, so they used to come  
16 to his house. They used to visit him.

17 Q. So you've seen Augustine Gbao as well, have you?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Any other commanders that you met?

11:12:54 20 A. No.

21 Q. So just so that we are clear, the only commanders you have  
22 ever seen are Scorpion, Morris Kallon and Augustine Gbao. Is  
23 that right?

24 A. Yes.

11:13:12 25 Q. Thank you. Now Buedu itself was in the bush in Kailahun  
26 District, wasn't it?

27 A. Well, it was after I had left the place, that was when I  
28 knew, but I didn't know that it was located there.

29 Q. It was in the bush though, wasn't it?

1 A. Buedu?

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. It was not in the bush, because it is a fairly big town.

4 Q. At that time in 1994, the RUF had been driven by the Sierra  
11:14:02 5 Leonean Army into the jungle in that part of Sierra Leone, hadn't  
6 it?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Which is why when later, much later, you were told about a  
9 radio message from SAJ Musa, that he was planning on attacking  
11:14:25 10 Freetown, people like Hawa were overjoyed at that, weren't they,  
11 because they wanted to leave the bush? Isn't that right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Because life in the bush was tough, wasn't it?

14 A. Yes.

11:14:46 15 Q. Often it was difficult to find food, is that right?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Often it was difficult to get condiments like salt and  
18 Maggi, am I right?

19 A. Yes.

11:15:06 20 Q. And even often it was difficult to get ammunition?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And when ammunition was scarce, as it often was, soldiers  
23 would be sent to set ambushes in order to capture arms and  
24 ammunition from the Kamajors and from the Sierra Leonean Army.

11:15:39 25 That's right, isn't it?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. And most of the arms, if not all the arms being used by the  
28 RUF at that time, was arms which they had captured from the  
29 enemy. I'm right, aren't I?

1 A. Well, some were captured and I saw that truck and I asked  
2 Hawa about it, and Hawa told me that that truck had come from  
3 Liberia, but I did not go into the truck to see that it had arms  
4 and ammunition in it. I only asked Hawa and she told me it  
11:16:23 5 contained ammunition. But I saw the truck; it was covered.

6 Q. So just so that we're clear, firstly, how many such trucks  
7 did you see?

8 A. It was just that one and that was my first time and my very  
9 last time that I saw a truck.

11:16:53 10 Q. Secondly, you saw that truck in Buedu, did you?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And did you see that truck shortly after you arrived in  
13 Buedu or just before you left Buedu to go to Makeni? Can you  
14 help us?

11:17:21 15 A. Well, when we went there initially that was not the time,  
16 but then it was also not at the time that we were about to  
17 return.

18 Q. So just so that we're clear, you saw that truck some time  
19 before you left Buedu and went to Makeni. Am I right?

11:17:49 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Now the trip from Buedu to Makeni, you stopped off in Kono  
22 on the way, didn't you?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did you see any mining going on in Kono when you got there?

11:18:22 25 A. Yes, I saw people, because there people were not that very  
26 restricted, because the rebels had come right up to Makeni, so  
27 people were not that very much restricted, so people could move  
28 around. You could go anywhere you wanted to go. So I saw mining  
29 going on, yes.

1 Q. That's mining for diamonds, is that right?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And you also told us that on that journey to Makeni you  
4 spent some time in Small Lebanon. Is that true?

11:19:04 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And Small Lebanon is called that because many Lebanese  
7 diamond merchants live there. Is that true?

8 A. Well, at the time we got there I did not see Lebanese  
9 there, so I don't know if that was why it was referred to as

11:19:27 10 Small Lebanon or not. I don't know, because when we got there I  
11 did not see any Lebanese.

12 Q. And then you arrive in Makeni and you spent some time in  
13 Makeni, didn't you?

14 A. Yes.

11:19:42 15 Q. Are we talking about, what, several months or years?

16 A. I don't understand the question.

17 Q. How long did you spend in Makeni?

18 A. From '98 to '99 that I went to Makeni I was there right up  
19 to 2004; it was then that I went to Port Loko.

11:20:19 20 Q. Now during those years, as you've told us, you had two  
21 husbands, didn't you?

22 A. Yes.

23 MR SANTORA: Objection [microphone not activated] on the  
24 time in Makeni the two husbands was not referred to as the time

11:20:38 25 in Makeni.

26 MR GRIFFITHS: My fault:

27 Q. During the time that you spent with the RUF you had two  
28 husbands, didn't you?

29 A. Yes, but not at the same time, but I had relationship with

1 two men. The first one died and I had the other one and he too  
2 died before we went.

3 Q. I accept that, but again, just so that I am clear, your  
4 first husband was called CO Ray, am I right about that?

11:21:13 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And the second husband was called CO Musa, is that right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And they were both RUF, were they?

9 A. Yes.

11:21:32 10 Q. And sadly, both of them died?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Now how many children did you have with CO Ray?

13 A. CO Ray's child was the one who lived, that's the one I have  
14 now. And the other one that I had died. The last one was the

11:22:03 15 last one that I was with, that is Mohamed, but even that one too  
16 is dead now, so I only have one child now.

17 Q. Now where were you when you disarmed?

18 A. Makeni.

19 Q. And when you disarmed did you disarm with a weapon?

11:22:30 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Where did you get that weapon from?

22 A. Well, after we had left the bush, this Mohamed with whom I  
23 was had guns and he gave me that gun, so I used that to disarm.

24 Q. And were you given anything in return for handing in that  
11:22:52 25 gun at disarmament?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. What was that?

28 A. Well, they gave us some money, that was 300,000, and they  
29 said we were to go to a camp, they were to feed us in the

1 morning, in the afternoon and in the evening. And because at  
2 that time I was a nursing mother Mohamed did not accept that, so  
3 he said we were to go to his house and so we went there.

4 Q. Now, following disarmament there came a time in October  
11:23:34 5 2003, shortly after your birthday, when you were approached by  
6 investigators attached to the Prosecution at the Special Court.  
7 Do you remember that?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And you do recall, don't you, that they first came to see  
11:23:55 10 you, what, 19 days after your birthday in 2003? That's right,  
11 isn't it?

12 A. Well, I cannot recall the date, but maybe, yes.

13 Q. When they came to see you why do you think they wanted to  
14 talk to you?

11:24:23 15 A. Well, when they went to Port Loko, because I went to Port  
16 Loko first, we heard an information that there was a place where  
17 they were doing skills training, so I decided - because there was  
18 no skills training institution at Makeni, so I went to Port Loko  
19 to do it. So if they had it in Makeni later I would come to  
11:24:50 20 Makeni, or if I did it at Port Loko and got my certificate I will  
21 still come to Makeni and work there. So at Port Loko the centre  
22 was specifically for ex-child combatants, ex-child combatants and  
23 child combatants. So some day these people went and they met the  
24 woman who was coordinating the programme and she took them to  
11:25:22 25 walk about unit by unit. There was tailoring, gara tie-dye,  
26 metal works, cloth weaving, carving and carpentry. I was in the  
27 metal works department. So the woman went and met me and said  
28 she wanted to talk to me and I said, why, what was wrong. And  
29 she said she wanted me to go and tell her my story, what had



1 happened to me during the war. And I said, "No, at this time I'm  
2 not in place to be thinking about what has happened already.  
3 That is passed. If it is passed and gone, it is passed and gone.  
4 Don't let me to reflect and think about bad things again." But  
11:25:58 5 the woman who was coordinating the programme spoke to me and  
6 said, "Well, if this is passed and gone, maybe if you say it  
7 again that will give you peace of mind" and being that she was  
8 our overall boss I accepted and I went and spoke to the people  
9 and I gave them my story.

11:26:16 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, I note the time and we've  
11 been alerted to the fact that the tape is just about finished, so  
12 I think it's appropriate to take the mid-morning break. I trust  
13 this is a convenient time.

14 Madam Witness, this is the time when we normally take our  
11:26:35 15 break for the morning. We will be adjourning court now and  
16 starting again at 12 o'clock. Please adjourn court until 12.

17 [Break taken at 11.28 a.m.]

18 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, may I take it that you have  
11:59:24 20 been able to get your materials?

21 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes, Madam President, and we are ready to  
22 go.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very good. Please proceed.

24 MR GRIFFITHS:

11:59:48 25 Q. Just before we adjourned, Mrs Bangura, you were telling us  
26 how it was that you came to speak to the Prosecutors in October  
27 2003. Do you remember that?

28 A. Yes, I remember, but I do not recall the year.

29 Q. By my calculations, if you were born in 1984 by October

1 1980 - by October 2003 when you spoke to the investigators you  
2 would have been 19 years old?

3 A. Well, it was not 1980, 1984.

12:00:43

4 Q. What I am saying is: If you were born in 1984, October, 10  
5 October, by October 2003 you would be 19, wouldn't you?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. So that when you spoke to the investigators just past your  
8 19th birthday, you were old enough to know the difference between  
9 the truth and telling lies, weren't you?

12:01:06

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And help me with this, please: When you went to speak to  
12 the investigators, or when they came to speak to you, did you  
13 appreciate that you needed to tell them the truth?

14 A. Yes.

12:01:26

15 Q. And when you spoke to them in October 2003, did you tell  
16 them the truth?

17 A. I told them the truth.

18 Q. Now, just so that we are all clear: Someone came to see  
19 you, they asked you questions about your experience, you answered  
20 their questions and you appreciated, didn't you, that what you  
21 were saying to them was being written down? Did you appreciate  
22 that?

12:01:52

23 A. Yes. Yes, I saw them writing.

24 Q. When they finished writing they read it back to you and  
25 asked you to correct it if anything was wrong --

12:02:07

26 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, could counsel wait for the  
27 interpretation, please.

28 MR GRIFFITHS:

29 Q. -- didn't they?

1 A. Well, the place where they took my statement was not where  
2 they read it. I, said where they met me in Port Loko, where they  
3 took my statement was not where they read it back to me and it  
4 was not until when I went to Freetown that they read it back to  
12:02:32 5 me.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, just a moment, please,  
7 Mr Griffiths. Yes, Mr Santora.

8 MR SANTORA: Your Honours, I am going to ask Defence  
9 counsel if he can be requested to repeat the question, because I  
12:02:45 10 only had the interpreter coming in explaining to wait for a  
11 translation. I didn't actually - there was no indication of what  
12 the actual question was that the witness was just responding to.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: First of all, Mr Griffiths, you did hear  
14 the interpreter asking you not to speak over the answer?

12:03:01 15 MR GRIFFITHS: No, I didn't hear that.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, there has been a request that you  
17 not speak over the answer. You wait until the interpretation is  
18 finished.

19 MR GRIFFITHS: Okay.

12:03:10 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is the first point. The second is,  
21 Mr Santora, is that not the question - I see the point you are  
22 making, Mr Santora. Mr Griffiths, if you look at page 57, line  
23 25, part - well, the bulk of your question has not been recorded  
24 so I think it would be - if you could just repeat it - we have a  
12:03:32 25 full answer.

26 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well.

27 MR SANTORA: Probably to assist counsel, I think probably  
28 because maybe you are not on channel 1.

29 MR GRIFFITHS: I am on channel 1.

1 MR SANTORA: Okay, I apologise.

2 MR GRIFFITHS: Not at all:

3 Q. But when they wrote down what you said to them, they read  
4 it back to you and asked you to correct it, didn't they?

12:03:56 5 A. Well, like I said, it was not where it was written down  
6 that it was corrected. After I had made my statement to them  
7 they went to Freetown, and after some time they called on me and  
8 I went to Freetown. In fact they did not read it back to me as  
9 such. They went back and they asked me again to tell them what  
12:04:22 10 happened, and whilst I was explaining they corrected the areas  
11 that needed correction.

12 Q. Now, you would agree with me, wouldn't you, Mrs Bangura,  
13 that the account you have given us today is a fairly simple  
14 account? Wouldn't you agree?

12:04:43 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And given how terrible those experiences were for you, it  
17 is hardly likely that you would forget them, wouldn't you agree?

18 A. Yes, it is not easy to forget that, yes.

19 Q. So it would be very difficult for you to get details of  
12:05:08 20 what happened to you wrong, wouldn't it?

21 A. I did not understand.

22 Q. It would be difficult for you to get the details of what  
23 happened to you during that terrible experience wrong, wouldn't  
24 it?

12:05:26 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. Now, can I ask, first of all, you are training to be a  
27 nurse, are you?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. So can I take it that you are able to read and write?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And read and write English?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Because what I would like to do, you see, I would like to  
12:05:52 5 show you a record that was made of that first conversation you  
6 had with the investigators. Do you follow me?

7 A. Yes.

8 MR GRIFFITHS: I have copies for your Honours and for the  
9 witness. I think, if there is a spare copy there, I think we  
12:06:23 10 only need one copy - no, very well. Perhaps the witness ought to  
11 have that copy as well because she is able to read and we can put  
12 the other copy up on the screen. Do your Honours have copies?

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, thank you.

14 MR GRIFFITHS:

12:06:41 15 Q. Right. Where we are going to start, Madam Witness, is  
16 behind divider 1. This is a record - and can we have the first  
17 page, please. This is a record made by an investigator of what  
18 you are supposed to have said to them in October 2003. Let us  
19 just go through it slowly, shall we? You will see the date 29  
12:07:08 20 October 2003 and then we see this:

21 "I was captured in 1994 at Masingbi. It was in April. And  
22 it was the RUF under the command of one CO Blood. I do not know  
23 his real name. He was a Sierra Leonean. I was taken to Buedu  
24 together with other people captured at Masingbi and other areas.  
12:07:39 25 I was just 11 years old. On the night I was captured, I was  
26 raped by my four capturers."

27 How many men did you tell me this morning had raped you  
28 that first night?

29 A. Three.

1 Q. So can you help us as to why this record says that you were  
2 raped by four men?

3 A. Well, it was a mistake, because even those who were  
4 obtaining my statement they did it in a hurry because at that  
12:08:24 5 time I was just from school when they met me and I too was in a  
6 hurry.

7 Q. But can you help us as to how it was you could have said  
8 three and the investigator wrote down four? Can you help us?

9 A. Well, I told them there were four but, like I said, I was  
12:08:50 10 in a hurry and I was imbalanced by then because it was my first  
11 time meeting with such people who went to obtain statement from  
12 me so, like I said, that was a mistake.

13 Q. I see. So you were the one who told them four, were you?

14 A. Yes, I told them they were four, but actually they were  
12:09:14 15 three.

16 Q. So, help me: Why did you tell them four when it was in  
17 fact three?

18 A. Well, like I said, I was confused. I was not with a steady  
19 mind, because by then I have just decided within myself that  
12:09:34 20 whatsoever thing that had happened to me let it stay within me.  
21 That was the reason why.

22 Q. Yes, but you must have known, mustn't you, when you were  
23 telling that investigator four that that was untrue?

24 A. I know that I said the truth.

12:09:57 25 Q. But that wouldn't be the truth, would it be, because the  
26 truth would be "I was raped by three men"? So if you said, "I  
27 was raped by four men" that would be untrue, wouldn't it?

28 A. Well, that is how you consider it to be, but I know that I  
29 said the truth and I am here to say the truth. And like I said,

1 by then I did not have a steady mind; I was imbalanced. So, like  
2 I told them four, later, when they went to read it back to me I  
3 said three because by then the woman had asked me to go and  
4 explain again.

12:10:38 5 Q. Now understand me, please, Mrs Bangura. I am not  
6 suggesting that this terrible thing didn't happen to you, but  
7 what I am trying to discover is this: Given how terrible that  
8 experience was, why did you say four and not three?

9 A. Well, that was the reason why I said, at the time they met  
12:11:07 10 me I was tormented so I couldn't tell because I only told them  
11 later three, later, because by then I was imbalanced. I was  
12 tormented and it was later that I told them that they were not  
13 four but three.

14 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well. What I would like Madam Court  
12:11:37 15 Manager to do for us - because what I would like us to do is as  
16 we go through this statement there is a particular exercise I  
17 would like us to go through. Those things which are wrong I  
18 would like Madam Court Manager, please, to highlight with that  
19 highlighter there. So can we please highlight the sentence four  
12:12:01 20 lines from the top, "On the night I was captured I was raped by  
21 four of my capturers". Can we highlight that, please. Thank  
22 you. Now, can we put that document back on the screen, please.

23 Q. Let's continue with the statement, shall we. "I became  
24 hopeless after that incident and CO Blood was annoyed". Can we  
12:12:39 25 pause there for a moment. When you say CO Blood was annoyed,  
26 what do you mean?

27 A. Okay, after the night I had been raped by the three men,  
28 the following morning CO Blood met me there and I was lying down  
29 and he thought I was a small girl that three men who were not

1 supposed to rape me and I explained to him, so he became angry.

2 Q. So just so that we understand, this rebel commander was  
3 angry that other rebels had raped you. Is that right?

4 A. Yes.

12:13:24 5 Q. Going back to the statement. "On arrival at Buedu I met  
6 Superman there". Did you meet Superman in Buedu?

7 A. Well, I did not know him, so I did not meet him there,  
8 because I did not know him.

9 Q. Have you ever met Superman?

12:13:50 10 A. No.

11 Q. So can you help us as to why you here say, "I met Superman  
12 there"? Why did you say that?

13 A. Well, like I said, this was my first statement and we did  
14 it in a hurry. That was why I said some of these things. And I  
12:14:10 15 said some of these things not consciously, because for someone to  
16 meet me and start asking me questions, I was really not balanced  
17 enough to have said the correct things all over.

18 Q. But let's just pause for a minute and consider that answer.  
19 When you opened your mouth and uttered the words, "I met Superman  
12:14:37 20 there ", you must have realised at that same time that what you  
21 were saying was untrue. You must have realised that, mustn't  
22 you?

23 A. Well, at that particular moment I did not realise that,  
24 because I can say that in my first statement there was not much  
12:15:03 25 that was correct there. Just very few of what I said were  
26 correct because I was so confused in mind that I couldn't tell  
27 what actually was the right thing, but later I made all the  
28 corrections.

29 Q. That is why I am asking, you see, for the bits which aren't



1 true to be highlighted, because I will be suggesting in due  
2 course, just as you rightly observe, that not much of this  
3 statement is true. So let's highlight that sentence, please, "I  
4 met Superman there". You continue, "His real name was Denis  
12:15:57 5 Mingo". Where did you get that from?

6 A. Well, it was my commander's wife that told me that, but I  
7 did not see Superman. She told me that he would always come and  
8 return.

9 Q. It then goes on, "Mosquito was then at Kailahun". Was he?

12:16:20 10 A. Yes, he was in Kailahun, but sometimes he would be at  
11 Buedu.

12 Q. "Issa Sesay was also at Buedu". Is that right?

13 A. He was there, yes.

14 Q. "He was a captain then. On our arrival it was Issa Sesay  
12:16:43 15 who gave command that all of us captured be trained". Is that  
16 right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. "One Monica Pearson, a Liberian lady, did the training  
19 which lasted for two weeks. We were trained to dismantle and  
12:16:59 20 handle guns, to set ambushes and general manoeuvring. RUF had a  
21 farm between Kailahun and Buedu. Those who were not strong  
22 enough for the training and jungle exercise were sent to this  
23 farm. It was mostly the elderly and girls who were sent to this  
24 farm."

12:17:24 25 Is all of that correct?

26 A. Well, there is one thing there that is not correct. The  
27 one that concerned the sending of the girls there. It was just  
28 the old people that were sent there.

29 Q. So there were no girls who were sent to the farm, is that

1 right?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Again tell me, given that you yourself were a girl at the  
4 time, how did you manage to get that wrong?

12:17:59 5 A. Well, okay, the question again.

6 Q. Given that you yourself were a girl at the time, help us,  
7 how did you manage to get that bit wrong?

8 A. Well, what I saw is what I said and what happened is what I  
9 am saying.

12:18:22 10 Q. But you agree with me, don't you, that part of what you  
11 told them is wrong?

12 A. Well, there are areas that I made mistakes and there are  
13 areas that they too made mistakes.

14 Q. I see. So who is responsible for this particular mistake?

12:18:47 15 Can you help us?

16 A. Well, for some mistakes I did them, but for some those who  
17 obtained my statements made them.

18 Q. Now, this particular mistake, was it you who made that  
19 mistake or was it the statement taker who made the mistake?

12:19:06 20 A. This one particularly was made by those who took my  
21 statement, because I told them that it was the old people who  
22 were sent to go and work.

23 Q. So you told them that and the man who was writing it down,  
24 or the person who was writing it down, chose to write down

12:19:32 25 instead, "And girls were sent to the farm", yes?

26 MR SANTORA: Objection.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: What is the objection?

28 MR SANTORA: I am objecting to the speculation called for  
29 in the witness's response to that question. The witness is being

1 asked to speculate as to what was in the mind of the person who  
2 was writing down the statement.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: I don't agree.

12:20:01

4 MR SANTORA: Whether it was conscious choice or whether it  
5 was a mistake.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: I don't agree, Mr Santora. The witness  
7 has said, "I told them it was the old people. They took my  
8 statement. I told them it was the old people", and she said  
9 earlier it was their mistake. So I am allowing that question. I  
10 don't see anything wrong with it.

12:20:16

11 MR GRIFFITHS: I am grateful, Madam President:

12 Q. So just to ask the question again, it was the person who  
13 was taking the statement who added in the word "girls", is that  
14 right?

12:20:33

15 A. Yes, it was the person, because I did not tell the person  
16 that. I said it was the old people who were sent to the farm.

17 Q. But irrespective of who made that mistake, let's highlight  
18 that part as well, shall we? Let's highlight the word "girls"  
19 because that too is wrong, isn't it?

12:20:58

20 A. Yes.

21 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, I just want to make one  
22 observation and it is somewhat of an objection - well, it is an  
23 objection. Earlier counsel asked for a sentence to be  
24 highlighted and the entire sentence was highlighted. The  
25 sentence was, "I was raped by four of my captors". In this  
26 station Defence counsel is now asking for highlighting of one  
27 particular word that is incorrect with the sentence. I would ask  
28 that it's consistent, because the sentence prior which was  
29 highlighted in its entirety, the only thing incorrect about that

12:21:14

1 sentence is the number four.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am not quite sure why it's necessary to  
3 make that. The one thing I must say that comes to my mind is  
4 that the two previous the witness has conceded were her mistakes,  
12:21:55 5 this she says is the transcriber's mistake. In that I see a  
6 difference, but I don't see any particular reason why you need to  
7 highlight the entire sentence, or part of it. But I would feel a  
8 little happier if there is a distinction drawn between those that  
9 she concedes and those she alleges were made by others.

12:22:12 10 MR GRIFFITHS: That is precisely why I asked for just the  
11 word to be highlighted, Madam President, because the witness says  
12 that was not her mistake.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I see.

14 MR GRIFFITHS:

12:22:25 15 Q. But let's continue, shall we. Pausing for a moment, do you  
16 remember me asking you before the break as to where you were  
17 trained and you said the training camp was just outside Buedu?  
18 Do you remember that?

19 A. Yes.

12:22:43 20 Q. What I am going to suggest to you is - no, before I make  
21 that suggestion, you also accept that your training commander was  
22 Monica Pearson, is that right?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You see, what I am going to suggest to you is that Monica  
12:23:01 25 Pearson never worked in a training camp in Buedu.

26 A. Well, I would not come here and take an oath on the Bible  
27 and start lying and I would not be brave enough in fact to take  
28 my time to come here and start lying, because there are certain  
29 questions even if you ask me if I was not part and parcel of that

1 particular thing that you are asking about I would not lie, I  
2 would not say anything about that. So I cannot come here, take  
3 an oath on the Bible and start lying.

12:23:43 4 Q. Mrs Bangura, the reason why I am so bold as to make that  
5 suggestion to you is because we have heard earlier testimony in  
6 this trial that the closest camp to Buedu in which Monica Pearson  
7 worked was 14 miles away in Bunumbu. Now, do you still want to  
8 say that the camp was in Buedu?

12:24:14 9 MR SANTORA: Objection. I am going to object on a  
10 misrepresentation of the evidence. The witness said earlier that  
11 the camp was outside of Buedu, not too close, one to two hours  
12 away.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I was in fact going to point out the same  
14 thing, Mr Griffiths, in fairness to the witness and taking how  
12:24:30 15 long it takes to walk.

16 MR GRIFFITHS:

17 Q. Do you think you could walk 14 miles in an hour or two,  
18 Madam Witness?

19 A. We used to run. We used to run.

12:24:43 20 Q. I see. So you could run 14 miles in an hour to two hours,  
21 could you, aged ten?

22 A. Well, I did not know the mileage. I did not know how many  
23 miles. We only used to run to the point, so I cannot tell you  
24 how many miles.

12:25:06 25 Q. Do you know of a place called Bunumbu?

26 A. I know there.

27 Q. How far is it from Buedu?

28 A. I don't know.

29 Q. How long would it take to walk?

1 A. Well, I was a child by then. I wouldn't estimate that. If  
2 it is like now that I am sitting here when I am mature I would  
3 have been able to tell you, but by then I was a small child, so I  
4 wouldn't have known that.

12:25:43 5 Q. Was there an RUF training camp at Bunumbu?

6 A. Question again.

7 Q. Was there an RUF training camp located at Bunumbu?

8 A. I don't know.

9 Q. Very well. Let's go back to the --

12:26:06 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, when the witness says, in  
11 answer to a question do you know a place called Bunumbu, "I know  
12 there", I am unclear whether she means I know there, having been  
13 there, or I know of the place.

14 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well, let me clarify:

12:26:21 15 Q. Have you ever been to Bunumbu?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. For what reason?

18 A. For the training.

19 Q. I see. So you were actually trained in Bunumbu, not Buedu?

12:26:39 20 A. Well, that was how I referred to the place, because I did  
21 not ask for the name of the place and I did not know the names in  
22 fact.

23 Q. I see. So, where in the past you told us "I was trained in  
24 Buedu" we should cross that out and put Bunumbu now, yes?

12:27:07 25 A. Well, I did not know whether it was Bunumbu or what, but  
26 what I know for certain is that I was trained somewhere around  
27 Buedu, but I cannot tell whether it was Bunumbu or not.

28 Q. Well, we are still unclear and I am going to have to sadly  
29 ask you about this again. Have you been to Bunumbu?

1 A. I went to some of those villages, but I did not know the  
2 names, so I don't know whether I even went there or not, so I  
3 have said I do not know the names of the villages.

12:27:56 4 Q. Very well. So, you can't remember now whether the camp was  
5 in Buedu or Bunumbu, would that be fair?

6 A. Yes, because I did say that it was not in Buedu itself, but  
7 around Buedu.

8 Q. But in fairness to you, apart from me suggesting it is  
9 Bunumbu, you are not really sure of the name of the location?

12:28:22 10 A. No.

11 Q. Okay. Let's go back to the page, shall we, the last  
12 paragraph on that page: "I cannot tell whether RUF used worker  
13 in the farm for sexual purposes." Is that true?

14 A. No.

12:28:47 15 Q. So it is not true?

16 A. No, I did not even give such a statement.

17 Q. So that whole sentence, it is the statement taker who put  
18 that in, not you?

19 A. I did not say that.

12:29:09 20 Q. You did not say that. Very well. I think we are going to  
21 have to depart slightly from the practice, given that this whole  
22 sentence she attributes to the statement taker and we will have  
23 to highlight all of it. But perhaps we ought to adopt another  
24 system and put an asterisk next to "girls" in the previous  
12:29:39 25 paragraph and next to this sentence, so that we can keep track of  
26 who is at fault. So we are highlighting, Madam Court Manager,  
27 all of that sentence, "I cannot tell whether RUF used worker in  
28 the farm for sexual purposes." Then it goes on --

29 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, I am going to object, because I

1 believe the witness does not understand the question, because the  
2 question was --

3 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, I am sorry, how can my learned friend  
4 speak for the witness?

12:30:16 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, the witness answered the  
6 question quite clearly, and if you feel there is a problem you  
7 can pick it up in re-examination.

8 MR SANTORA: Okay, I will. Thank you, Madam President.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed.

12:30:30 10 MR GRIFFITHS:

11 Q. "After my training I remained at Buedu under the command  
12 of commander Scorpion's wife called Hawa." Is that right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. "I do not know Scorpion's real name. He was a Sierra

12:30:52 15 Leonean." Is that true?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. "I was with Hawa until Johnny Paul sent a message that we  
18 come out of the bush to join them." Is that true?

19 A. I did not say Johnny Paul, I said SAJ Musa.

12:31:15 20 Q. Now, first of all, taking things slowly, so you didn't say  
21 the name Johnny Paul so where did that name come from in this  
22 note of interview attributed to you?

23 A. Well, it might have been a mistake, but I did say SAJ Musa,  
24 because the idea about Johnny Paul asking us to move out of the  
12:31:51 25 bush I do not have any idea about that.

26 Q. So if you had no idea about Johnny Paul calling you out of  
27 the bush, can you help us as to how that name appears here?

28 A. Well, like I have said, most of my initial statements I  
29 said them, but by then I was imbalanced. Some were true and some



1 were not true, because that was my first time meeting such  
2 people, and it was not very easy for such people to meet you for  
3 the first time and then you give them the exact story, except if  
4 you met with somebody who would give you encouraging words and  
12:32:39 5 tell you that, "Don't be afraid. Say exactly what happened."  
6 So, at that time, whatsoever came to my mind was what I said.

7 Q. But, Mrs Bangura, as you accepted at the beginning, you  
8 were 19 years old and you knew the difference between telling the  
9 truth and telling lies. So why did you need to be encouraged to  
12:33:02 10 tell the truth? Can you help us?

11 A. Yes, because, for instance, if something happened to you  
12 and you actually know what happened to you, even if after 35  
13 years you will be able to tell that person the truth, and if you  
14 were pleased to talk to the person, maybe if you met the person  
12:33:28 15 personally and said to the person that "I want to talk to you",  
16 you will tell the person the correct story, but if people just  
17 met me, just like that for me to tell them my experience, I was  
18 like - everything I said was like mixed up.

19 Q. But we are not talking about being confused here, we are  
12:33:49 20 actually talking about you deliberately telling them something  
21 that was wrong, aren't we? Aren't we?

22 A. Well, I was confused. That was the reason why I did not  
23 tell them exactly what happened. I was like mixed up. That was  
24 the reason why.

12:34:19 25 Q. But you accept that you were the one who gave them the name  
26 Johnny Paul, is that right?

27 A. Well, I wouldn't tell. I do not recall. I do not recall.

28 Q. But we ought to cross out the name Johnny Paul and put in  
29 the name SAJ Musa, is that right?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Well, what we will do is we will highlight Johnny Paul.

3 Now help me please with this, and we are still looking at the  
4 same sentence, "I was with Hawa", and the sentence should now

12:35:17 5 read, "until SAJ Musa sent us a message", is that right?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Now, the reason why I have gone through that quite  
8 deliberately is this: "And when SAJ Musa" - sorry, let me start  
9 again. When SAJ Musa sent that message it was to the effect that

12:35:43 10 he was going to attack Freetown, is that right?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Now, the reason why that is important here is this: We  
13 know that SAJ Musa did not lead that attack on Freetown until  
14 December 1998, which would mean if this sentence is the truth

12:36:13 15 that you were with Hawa from 1994 until 1998, but you told me  
16 earlier you weren't even with her for a year. So, help me: Is  
17 this sentence right?

18 A. Well, I did not know whether it was SAJ Musa who led the  
19 troop or whether it was not him, but according to what Hawa told  
12:36:48 20 me, she said it was SAJ Musa who sent the message. I did not say  
21 that it was he who led the troops to Freetown. She said it was  
22 he who sent the message that he needed back-up. That was what I  
23 said.

24 Q. And he needed back-up because an attack, whoever was

12:37:04 25 leading it, was being made on Freetown, is that right?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. But forget about the details of the attack. What I want  
28 you to concentrate on is when that attack was launched and what  
29 effect that has to the meaning of this sentence, because we know

1 that attack took place in December 1998, thereafter?

2 MR SANTORA: Objection on a misstatement of what we know as  
3 evidence on the date. I believe counsel was referring to the  
4 attack on Freetown.

12:37:51 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I presume you mean it should be  
6 January 1999?

7 MR SANTORA: That is correct, Madam President. It is a  
8 mischaracterisation of what we know and I believe that is prior  
9 evidence and mischaracterising prior evidence has the same effect  
10 in the --

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: But we also have a lot of evidence of  
12 what happened in December 1998. I feel it is a fine point,  
13 Mr Santora. Mr Griffiths, do you want to take the point and  
14 rephrase slightly, because we do have evidence of things that  
15 transpired between - en route.

16 MR GRIFFITHS: That is precisely why I posed the question  
17 in the way I did, but to make Mr Santora happy I will amend it,  
18 because it actually makes it worse:

19 Q. So, we know that the attack on Freetown took place in  
12:38:46 20 January 1999. Now, according to this sentence, you were with  
21 Hawa up until you received a message, which means you would have  
22 been with her for around four years as opposed to for less than a  
23 year, which is what you told us earlier. Now, which of those two  
24 is right? Were you with Hawa for four years, or were you with  
12:39:15 25 her for less than a year? Which of those two is right?

26 A. Since the time we went to the bush, after the training I  
27 was with Hawa at her house and even the men that I have referred  
28 to, that I was with, we were all with them in the same house up  
29 until the time we left the bush to go out.

1 Q. No, no, no, let me try again. Earlier this morning do you  
2 remember telling me that you were with Hawa for less than a year?

3 A. I did not say that. I said I was with Hawa throughout.

4 Q. Let me see if I can find the reference --

12:40:49 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: It was early in your cross-examination,  
6 Mr Griffiths, according to my notes, so let me --

7 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes, it was.

8 MR SANTORA: I think I have the reference for counsel, if  
9 that would be --

12:41:01 10 MR GRIFFITHS: That would be helpful.

11 MR SANTORA: On my font I think you are referring to page  
12 47 of line 24 of my - at least under my font.

13 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes, I am grateful to my learned friend:

14 Q. Yes, what you said was - it is page 47 on my font at line  
12:41:25 15 22:

16 "Q. For how long did you remain with Hawa?

17 A. Well, I cannot tell but I took some time with her.

18 Q. Are we talking about years or months?

19 A. It was not up to one year."

12:41:47 20 That's what you told me earlier?

21 MR SANTORA: And now I am going to object on the grounds  
22 that the entirety should be put to the witness. Prior to that  
23 question the question was about the time that she was working as  
24 domestic help and I believe the entirety should be put to the  
12:42:06 25 witness in this particular instance. I understand that on  
26 re-direct examination I have the prerogative to go back, but in  
27 this particular instance, since the witness is being referred to  
28 a question, there is no reference to the context of that question  
29 put to the witness and I believe it is an unfair question.

1           PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, you have heard the  
2 objection. I am just looking for the exact - I do have my own  
3 notes on it.

4           MR SANTORA: The initial question was line 16 and 17 on  
12:42:39 5 that same page 47 of my LiveNote.

6           MR GRIFFITHS: I am happy to read out the whole passage and  
7 then seek clarification from the witness.

8 Q. This is what you said earlier:

9           "Q. In any event therefore you were attached to Scorpion's  
12:42:52 10 wife Hawa for whom you did domestic work for many years, is  
11 that true?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And did you remain as Hawa's domestic help until  
14 disarmament?

12:43:04 15 A. No. While I was there I was under her until the time I  
16 got a husband. That was CO Ray. Then afterwards I had  
17 some rest, so I didn't do the house chores any more.

18 Q. And help me, please, for how long did you remain with  
19 Hawa?

12:43:22 20 A. Well, I cannot tell, but I took some time with her.

21 Q. Are we talking about years or months?

22 A. It was not up to one year."

23 Now, is my learned friend happy that I have read  
24 sufficiently?

12:43:39 25 MR SANTORA: I think it is appropriate. Thank you.

26 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well. I am sure it is my fault, so let  
27 me start again:

28 Q. For how long did you live in Hawa's house?

29 A. Like I had said before, I was with Hawa throughout, because

1 the first man that I had, that is CO Ray, we all lived with them  
2 in the same house so I was with Hawa throughout.

3 Q. When you say you were with Hawa throughout, does that mean  
4 you were living in the same house as her throughout?

12:44:24 5 A. Yes, in the same house up until the time we left the bush  
6 and went to Kono and it was then at Kono that we separated.

7 Q. So when you said this morning that you were with Hawa for  
8 not up to one year, what were you talking about?

9 A. I did not say I was with Hawa for a year. What I said was  
12:44:53 10 that I was not with the man up to one year to the time he died,  
11 but with Hawa, I was with her throughout up to the time we left  
12 the bush and came to town.

13 Q. I see. So when you were talking about being with someone  
14 for just up to one year this morning it wasn't Hawa you were  
12:45:12 15 talking about, you were actually talking about CO Ray. Is that  
16 right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And you got CO Ray, a man, confused with Hawa, a woman. Is  
19 that right?

12:45:29 20 A. I did not confuse them. It was the way the question was  
21 put to me. All of these men, Ray, Musa, Hawa, Scorpion, we were  
22 all living in the same house. We were all living in the same  
23 house and we were at that same house and I used to do some other  
24 domestic chores, because we were all serving under CO Scorpion.

12:45:53 25 Q. Very well. Let's continue back to the page, please. "I  
26 came to Makeni with other RUF. At Makeni which was in 1997. I  
27 was at Makeni under the command of CO Ray." Do you agree with  
28 all of that?

29 A. No.

1 Q. What's wrong with that?

2 A. That was not what I said, because Ray had died in the bush  
3 even before we went to town.

12:46:30

4 Q. So where it says, "I was at Makeni under the command of CO  
5 Ray", that's wrong, is it?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And can you help us as to how that comes to be wrong? Did  
8 you say it or did the writer make the mistake?

12:46:55

9 A. Well, I don't know, but I don't remember saying that. I  
10 said CO Ray died in the bush and I was now with Musa before we  
11 left the bush. That was what I said.

12 Q. So we ought to highlight all of that sentence then,  
13 shouldn't we, because you were not in Makeni with CO Ray. He was  
14 dead by that time.

12:47:14

15 A. Yes.

16 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam Court Manager, could you assist us,  
17 please.

12:47:27

18 MR SANTORA: Madam President, just in light of what, Madam  
19 President, you yourself raised earlier, I know in terms of the  
20 procedure as to whether or not the mistake - the witness  
21 acknowledged the mistake or doesn't know how it got there or  
22 attributed it to somebody else, if we don't put it it's not  
23 consistent at this point if we are not putting an asterisk or at  
24 least some way to denote when the witness is not certain as to  
25 where the mistake came from. I mean it's a third category of how  
26 we want to proceed in highlighting.

12:47:46

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, a third classification.

28 MR GRIFFITHS: I think maybe we need a third classification  
29 "unknown", but let's see if we can clarify it:

1 Q. Mrs Bangura, who is responsible for this particular  
2 mistake? Let's call it that. Is it you or is it the person who  
3 took the statement?

4 A. Well, I don't know, but I know I did not say that.

12:48:20 5 Q. Well, if you didn't say that, the writer of the statement  
6 must have made that mistake. Would you agree?

7 A. Well, I don't know.

8 Q. We are going to highlight it and, to keep Mr Santora happy,  
9 we will put a question mark beside it. And then the next

12:48:56 10 sentence, "I do not know the actual name of CO Ray but he was a  
11 Liberian". Is that true?

12 A. I did not say that.

13 Q. What's wrong with that?

14 A. I don't know.

12:49:15 15 Q. Was CO Ray a Liberian?

16 A. Well, I don't know if he was a Liberian or not.

17 Q. But Liberians speak a different kind of English, don't  
18 they? It's called Liberian English. Surely if you lived with  
19 this man you would know whether he was Liberian or not?

12:49:46 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Was he a Liberian?

22 A. Well, we all spoke Krio to each other, so I don't know if  
23 he was a Liberian or not.

24 Q. So help me. Can you assist us as to how it is that this  
12:49:58 25 statement says a man you were married to, CO Ray, was a Liberian?  
26 Can you help us as to that?

27 A. Well, as I have said, I didn't know his nationality. I  
28 don't know - I did not know whether he was Sierra Leonean or a  
29 Liberian or some other nationality. I don't know.



1 Q. So who said this? Did you say this or did the writer of  
2 the statement make this mistake?

3 A. Well, just as I have said, some of the things I may have  
4 said them but I cannot recall saying them. Some of these  
12:50:38 5 statements I might have made, but I cannot recall making them.  
6 Some may be just a mistake.

7 Q. So can you help us, because I want to keep Mr Santora  
8 happy, you see, and I need to know whose fault this is. Is this  
9 your fault or is it the writer of the statement's fault?

12:51:06 10 A. Well, some of them are my fault. But, as I had said  
11 earlier on, it is really not easy for somebody just to come and  
12 start interviewing you and there are times even the way the  
13 questions were asked, and again some of the responses were  
14 corresponding to the questions that were asked of me. But you  
12:51:26 15 know if somebody just comes like that suddenly and says, "Just  
16 tell me what happened to you in the bush, tell me what happened  
17 to you during the war", you know, there are times you wouldn't  
18 just want to even say the things that happened to you. Even to  
19 my best friends I don't tell them the things that happened to me,  
12:51:43 20 you know, because I don't actually feel free to tell my story to  
21 people.

22 Q. Is the answer to my question that you don't know who made  
23 this particular mistake?

24 A. I am not saying I don't know. I said some of the  
12:52:02 25 statements I am not aware of them. Maybe I said some of these  
26 things, but I cannot recall making these statements. Or maybe I  
27 did not even say them, okay? So that is why I said I don't know.  
28 I don't know who made the mistake, whether it was made by me or  
29 the person who wrote.

1 Q. I think to save time we will have another question mark  
2 here. So let's highlight this sentence, shall we, "I do not know  
3 the actual name of CO Ray but he was a Liberian", and we will put  
4 a question mark beside it. Now let's just continue. "At Makeni  
12:52:50 5 the RUF commanders who were based there were Issa Sesay and other  
6 junior commanders". Is that right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. "When the ECOMOG removed Johnny Paul from Freetown, most  
9 SLAs including Johnny Paul and other RUF commanders such as Issa,  
12:53:15 10 Morris Kallon, Superman, met us in Makeni and we all retreated to  
11 the eastern jungle where we met Mosquito."

12 Is that true?

13 A. No, it is not true. The way I said it is not the way it is  
14 written here. The way I put it is not the same way it is written  
12:53:40 15 that ECOMOG, Johnny Paul and others were - no, no, that is not  
16 the way I said it.

17 Q. Is all of that wrong?

18 A. It is wrong.

19 Q. All of it?

12:53:54 20 A. All the ones that you have read, that is not the way I put  
21 it. That is not the way I put it.

22 Q. Well, help us. Let's take it in stages. First of all, how  
23 did you in fact put it?

24 A. Okay. I told them that when SAJ Musa sent the message,  
12:54:17 25 that was when my boss and others moved and they went to go and  
26 attack Freetown. They were in Freetown when they were pushed out  
27 of Freetown, so all of us were in the bush again and so I cannot  
28 recall saying that.

29 Q. So just so that I am clear --

1 THE INTERPRETER: Sorry, your Honours, interpreter's  
2 mistake. "We did not go back to the bush".

3 MR GRIFFITHS:

12:54:46

4 Q. Just so that I am clear then, you were talking about the  
5 Freetown invasion in January 1999 and somehow the writer of the  
6 statement wrote about the ECOMOG intervention when the AFRC/RUF  
7 was pushed out of Freetown, yes?

8 A. I hadn't any idea about all of this.

12:55:14

9 Q. So, just to be clear, you knew nothing at all about ECOMOG  
10 pushing Johnny Paul Koroma out of Freetown?

11 A. No, I hadn't any idea about that.

12 Q. So how is it that somebody who had no idea about that  
13 according to this investigator said precisely that on 29 October  
14 2003? Can you help me?

12:55:41

15 A. As I have said earlier, it could be a mistake. Like this,  
16 I heard about it, but I don't know much about it. I just said  
17 it, but I don't have much idea about it.

18 Q. Did you in fact say this?

12:56:03

19 A. Yes, I can recall saying it, but I am - I was not sure of  
20 it.

12:56:25

21 Q. So we can safely highlight all of that passage from, "when  
22 the ECOMOG removed Johnny Paul" down to "Mosquito", we will  
23 highlight all of that knowing that it is something you said. So,  
24 Madam Court Manager, could we highlight please from line 1 "when  
25 the ECOMOG" down to line 4 "Mosquito". Now, there is something  
26 else that is seriously wrong with that, isn't there, because you  
27 told me earlier you had never met Mosquito? You told me that  
28 earlier, didn't you?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. So can you help us, why does this statement say "We met  
2 Mosqui to"?

3 A. Well, that could be a mistake. Every human being can make  
4 mistakes, just like I have said, and even if you continue asking  
12:57:25 5 me I will continue saying the same thing, that it is not easy if  
6 somebody meets you, you know, having a book and a pen, it is not  
7 that I have recorded it. You know, you cannot say everything  
8 exactly. It doesn't matter what could have happened, you know,  
9 except if you have somebody who actually gives you words of  
12:57:47 10 encouragement so that would maybe give you some courage to say  
11 exactly what had happened.

12 Q. Very well. Let's look at other sentence, "It was whilst I  
13 was in Makeni between 1997 and 1998 that one CO Musa an RUF  
14 commander took me as his wife." Is that right?

12:58:14 15 A. It was not in Makeni. I did not say it was in Makeni. I  
16 said it was in Buedu.

17 Q. But you are definite, are you, that CO Musa took you as his  
18 wife at some stage, yes?

19 A. Yes.

12:59:08 20 Q. Now, you would agree with me, wouldn't you - well, let me  
21 start again.

22 A. Uh-huh.

23 Q. How long were you a wife to CO Musa?

24 A. No, I cannot tell now. Like I am saying, if it was like  
12:59:28 25 when I am at this age now that such a thing happened to me I  
26 would have been able to tell you the exact particulars, but at  
27 that time I was a small child. I was not mature enough to be  
28 thinking about or remembering a whole lot of things. I was a  
29 small child at that time.

1 Q. Now, would you agree with me that it would be very  
2 difficult to get your husband's name wrong, wouldn't it?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can you look behind divider 5, please. Let's pause for a  
13:00:05 5 moment. Let's have a look at paragraph 2, "The witness was taken  
6 as a wife by CO Ali, not CO Musa as stated in the statement dated  
7 29 October 2003." So, you were telling them on 26 October 2005  
8 that you were never Musa's wife, you were Ali's wife. Now, which  
9 one is right? Were you Ali's wife, or were you Musa's wife?

13:01:03 10 A. Okay, it was the way the questions were asked to me, that  
11 was why I was confused. That is why the answers are confusing.  
12 After I had left CO, it was then that I related with Ali and  
13 after Ali then I met with Musa. It was the way the questions  
14 were asked of me. You know, there were times the questions would  
13:01:26 15 be asked of me that would even confuse me and I would say the  
16 wrong things.

17 Q. But, Madam Witness, this morning you told us you only had  
18 two husbands, Ray and Musa, so where does Ali come from?

19 A. Well, this is confusing. It is the way the questions were  
13:01:50 20 asked of me. That was the way - that was how I responded.

21 Q. But help me: How could you get confused about the names of  
22 your husbands? You told me this morning you only had two, Musa  
23 and Ray, yet in 2005, October, you were saying "No, it wasn't  
24 Musa at all. It was Ali." Now, help me: Where does Ali come  
13:02:17 25 from?

26 A. Well, Ali and Musa are the same person. I don't know why  
27 they wrote CO Ali, CO Musa, but Musa/Ali it is the same. It was  
28 only that we referred to him as Musa. That was the way I  
29 referred to him, Musa. Those two names refer to the same person.

1 Q. So, looking at what you said behind divider 5 on 26  
2 October, let's read the full paragraph:

3 "CO Musa was killed some time in 1994 during one of the  
4 attacks, after which the witness was raped by one CO Ali, an RUF  
13:03:00 5 rebel. The witness was taken as a wife by CO Ali, and not CO  
6 Musa."

7 So, if Ali and Musa are the same, he died, came back to  
8 life and married you under another name, yes?

9 A. No, it was not like that.

13:03:26 10 Q. Well, can you help us and explain what you are saying here,  
11 because you have just told me Ali and Musa are one and the same  
12 person, yet here you are saying Musa had died, then Ali married  
13 me. Which of those two is right, please?

14 A. Okay. While we were in the bush, after I had been with CO  
13:03:52 15 Ray and he had died, Musa's name is Musa Ali, not two people, so  
16 the two of us were together, before he died we were together, but  
17 then he died and we left for town. So, I don't know why they  
18 wrote CO Ali and CO Musa. Some of the statements I did not make  
19 them. Some of them I actually made them, but I - maybe I cannot  
13:04:15 20 recall making them.

21 Q. Please, let's just take things slowly, because I don't want  
22 you to be confused, that is not my job to confuse you, but you do  
23 say here Musa was killed and another man, Ali, took you as his  
24 wife and you go on further to say, to clarify it, that, "When I  
13:04:39 25 said in October 2003 that it was Musa who took me as his wife  
26 that is wrong. In fact, it was Ali." Now, can you help me: How  
27 did you come to be saying this in October 2005?

28 A. Well, I am confused. I have told you that from day one,  
29 you know, people were meeting me, that is why in fact the

1 statement that I first made, the first one, some of them -  
2 actually I said them when I was really conscious some of them I  
3 was mentally imbalanced, and some of them I was really not to  
4 myself, so I just made them like that, but after some time, after  
13:05:27 5 I had written out - after some time I said to myself: Well, no,  
6 this was not the truth, so later now they met me and I told them  
7 the exact truth. Some of these statements I just jumped over  
8 some of the things. Some of them I said more, some I said less.  
9 Q. Yes, but by the time you were saying this in October 2005,  
13:05:53 10 this is two years after you had first spoken to them when you  
11 tell us through confusion, through perhaps embarrassment, you  
12 hadn't told the whole story, but by 2005 you had been speaking to  
13 them regularly so help us: How did you come to be making this  
14 kind of mistake in October 2005?  
13:06:26 15 A. Well, what happened in 2005 was - I told them the exact  
16 truth.  
17 Q. So the exact truth in 2005 was: Musa was killed in 1994  
18 and you were then taken as a wife by Ali, is that the truth?  
19 A. This same question, you are just asking repeatedly. I have  
13:06:57 20 said Musa, Ali, these two names are the same person. They are  
21 referring to the same person, not two people. Maybe they know  
22 why they wrote it that way.  
23 Q. But, you see, the other difficulty I have is this: Do you  
24 remember being asked questions about all of this on a previous  
13:07:18 25 occasion? Do you remember?  
26 A. Yes, I recall I was asked.  
27 Q. And you remember you were asked to write down the names of  
28 your two husbands; do you remember that?  
29 A. Yes.

1 Q. And one of them was called "A" and one of them was called  
2 "B" during the trial. Do you remember that?

3 A. Yes.

13:08:01

4 Q. And so what you were asked to do was write down the name of  
5 your first husband, and you did that, and he was given the letter  
6 "A", then you were asked: Write down the name of your second  
7 husband and he was given the letter "B". That is right, isn't  
8 it?

9 A. Yes.

13:08:23

10 Q. And you remember those two pieces of paper were given to  
11 the Court - given to someone?

12 MR SANTORA: Objection, your Honour.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: What is the objection, Mr Santora?

13:08:38

14 MR SANTORA: I am going to object on the  
15 mischaracterisation of what the witness was asked to do in the  
16 previous proceeding, according to what the - what the documents  
17 that were submitted in that previous proceeding indicate and,  
18 according to those documents, the witness was asked to name the  
19 rebel commander who raped the witness and name another rebel  
20 commander afterwards who raped the witness. That is what the  
21 documents that my learned friend is referring to show. These  
22 were submitted under a proceeding because of an existing measures  
23 in that proceeding. This is why these were written down, just  
24 for your Honours' clarification.

13:09:02

25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, you have some advantage  
26 over the Bench. We don't have these transcripts, but --

27 MR GRIFFITHS: Could I just have a moment to check  
28 something, Madam President?

13:09:24

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please do so.



1 MR GRIFFITHS: Contrary to me misrepresenting the evidence,  
2 could I direct my learned friend's attention to the transcripts  
3 for 2 November 2005, pages 37 through 40, and perhaps in light of  
4 his objection, perhaps we ought to put these up on the screen,  
13:11:03 5 unless there is an objection?

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: I have at your tab 6 a transcript of the  
7 2 November 2005, but I do not appear to have the pages you refer  
8 to.

9 MR GRIFFITHS: Because I didn't think this matter would be  
13:11:19 10 in issue, and I was being selective in order to save the trees in  
11 how much photocopying I did. Does my learned friend have any  
12 objection to me putting my copy up on the screen?

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I note the pages I have say open session.

14 MR SANTORA: There is no objection to that. I just wanted  
13:11:39 15 to make sure I had the reference correct. Was it page 37?

16 MR GRIFFITHS: Page 37 through 41 when the witness wrote  
17 down two letters and two names and if my learned friend needs  
18 time to clarify that before I continue then I am sure the Court  
19 will allow it.

13:12:01 20 MR SANTORA: There is no objection to the transcript. I  
21 just want one moment, your Honour, just to ensure that.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, your machine is still on.

23 MR GRIFFITHS: Mr Santora, try page 40, line 12. Do you  
24 have it?

13:12:33 25 MR SANTORA: I do, your Honour, and I am not going to  
26 withdraw the objection based on my reading of the transcript.

27 MR GRIFFITHS: Have a look at page 39, line 21, and then go  
28 back to page 40 and have a look at line 12.

29 MR SANTORA: I do understand my learned colleague's

1 position as to why this is being referred to, but in the instance  
2 where the witness was asked the specific question, and I refer to  
3 page 37 on line 5, starting at line 5 - I'm sorry, to be jumping  
4 around --

13:13:15 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Really, as I have said already, both  
6 counsel have some advantage over the Bench because we don't have  
7 it. To give a ruling on this we are going to have to see it. I  
8 have noted this seems to be in open session. Please put it on  
9 the screen if it is in open session.

13:13:32 10 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, I am trying deliberately to  
11 be cautious in light of certain issues we have discussed which I  
12 have no intent to repeat. I think it might be easiest, rather  
13 than put this on the screen, if I handed this up and the relevant  
14 portions are highlighted so it should be fairly easy for the  
13:13:54 15 Court to follow the point.

16 [Trial Chamber conferred]

17 MR SANTORA: Madam President, I don't know whether it would  
18 be useful, Madam President and your Honours, for me now, in light  
19 of the fact you have seen the transcript, to restate my objection  
13:16:25 20 as to why I believe it was a misrepresentation in terms of the  
21 evidence. The witness was asked to write down the name of the  
22 rebel that raped her in the first instance on page 37, line 5, of  
23 that transcript, which she subsequently did.

24 The second instance, counsel at that point again,  
13:16:52 25 Ms Alagendra, asked for the witness - and this is starting at  
26 page 38 of that transcript from lines 27 onwards, again asked how  
27 she became pregnant and she was asked to write down the name of  
28 that person, which she did.

29 In no instance was the witness asked, according to this

1 transcript, to write down the name of husbands. That is what my  
2 objection is based on. It is not based on whether these are one  
3 or two people. It is just the question was, as counsel put it,  
4 that the witness was asked to write down the name of husbands and  
13:17:29 5 according to this transcript she was not asked that.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: But she does refer at one point to one of  
7 the persons whose initials or name she wrote as being a wife to  
8 that person, so an implication of husband follows. However,  
9 Mr Griffiths, we have sort of strayed away from the original  
13:17:51 10 reply that you gave initially to the objection. It has been  
11 restated now. Can you refresh my memory on your reply?

12 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, my point is that my learned friend  
13 makes what we submit is a spurious point, because it is quite  
14 clear at page 40 of the transcript that the witness is making  
13:18:24 15 clear that the person who initially she describes as raping her  
16 she then goes on to describe as being that person's wife and  
17 that is why she wrote down the letter "B". She had earlier  
18 written down the letter "A" in relation to another named  
19 individual.

13:18:43 20 Now, both of those names were exhibited and I have those  
21 exhibits here and my question was merely a prelude to placing the  
22 exhibits before the witness and seeking an explanation. That is  
23 all I am seeking to do.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: I will allow the exhibits to be put  
13:19:05 25 before the witness. I note that the person named or referred to  
26 as "A" refers to a rape and the person referred to as "B" is both  
27 a rape and a wife, so there is - I allow you to put it on that  
28 basis, Mr Griffiths.

29 MR GRIFFITHS: I am grateful.

1           PRESIDING JUDGE: It has just been pointed out correctly by  
2 my learned colleague that I should have she said rape and he  
3 became a husband.

4           MR GRIFFITHS: Yes:

13:19:43 5       Q.     Now, just before we hand up these documents to you,  
6 Mrs Bangura, you do recall being asked to write down the names of  
7 two individuals, don't you?

8       A.     Yes.

9       Q.     And you wrote down one name and attached the letter "A" to  
13:20:04 10 that name and you wrote down the name of another person and you  
11 wrote down the letter "B" in relation to that name, yes?

12      A.     Yes.

13      Q.     Do you remember?

14      A.     Yes.

13:20:16 15      Q.     Let's see what you wrote down as letter "A", please, and  
16 perhaps the witness can be shown that document first and identify  
17 her handwriting. Did you write that?

18      A.     Yes, yes.

19      Q.     Now let's put it up on the screen and see what it was that  
13:20:41 20 you wrote as letter "A". What does it say, Madam Witness?

21      A.     What?

22      Q.     What does it say on that piece of paper?

23      A.     CO Musa.

24      Q.     You were then asked to write down the name of another man  
13:21:07 25 who raped you and you became his wife. Have a look at that. Is  
26 that your handwriting?

27      A.     Yes, yes.

28      Q.     And what is the name that you have written down there?

29      A.     It's Ali.

1 Q. So you were being asked about two different men and you  
2 called one Musa and the other one Ali, but guess what? In  
3 October 2008 they are both the same person. Now, how did you  
4 happen to write down two names for two different people in 2005  
13:21:57 5 and now you are telling us it's one and the same person? How?

6 A. Okay, how it happened, when we arrived - after the training  
7 first it was CO Ray, I was with him. I was with him and he died.  
8 After his death, then I was with CO Musa. I was with him when he  
9 went to the war front and he died there. So Ali now - no, I was  
13:22:31 10 with Ali and he died, because Ray, I wouldn't say I was with him  
11 even though he used me as a wife, but we did not go that far and  
12 he died. But Ali and Musa, I was first with Ali and from there  
13 he too died and I was now with Musa. But the way you were asking  
14 the questions, that's why I told you Musa and Ali were the same  
13:22:56 15 people - are the same person.

16 Q. Why? What was it about the question that I asked that you  
17 suddenly thought that Musa and Ali were one and the same person?

18 A. You confused me. I was confused and so I couldn't say the  
19 right thing.

13:23:15 20 Q. So I am sure it's my fault, so perhaps we ought to start  
21 again. How many husbands did you have? Was it two, or three?

22 A. Okay, Ray, I wouldn't refer to him as a husband, because we  
23 did not take long. Musa and Ali were the ones I was with.  
24 That's why I said I only had two men, two husbands.

13:23:45 25 Q. But this morning the two husbands you described as being  
26 Ray and Musa. Now Ray was only around for a short time and  
27 really what you should have told us was it's Ali and Musa. What  
28 really is the truth about all of this, Mrs Bangura?

29 A. Okay, I took it that because I did not take that long with

1 Ray I did not take him to be a husband, because the other two, we  
2 spent some long time together so I referred to them as my  
3 husband. But for Ray . And the way the questions were twisted  
4 and asked to me, that's why I was confused. I couldn't even  
13:24:36 5 speak properly.

6 Q. Now, you may accuse me of twisting questions, but it was  
7 actually when that nice gentleman across the courtroom,  
8 Mr Santora, was asking you questions this morning that you told  
9 him that it was Ray and Musa. Were you confused then?

13:25:00 10 A. The whole thing is Ray was just a part-timer. But Musa and  
11 Ali, we were together for a long time right up to the time I left  
12 the bush and that was when I said I was not interested in any  
13 other affairs with any other man.

14 MR GRIFFITHS: I wonder if could pause for a moment, Madam  
13:25:23 15 President, and ask that these documents be marked for  
16 identification for our purposes. Can I ask that the one bearing  
17 the name CO Musa be MFI-1 and the one bearing the name Ali be  
18 MFI-2. I am most grateful.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: I do not have them before me, but I do  
13:25:50 20 recall this. The first, MFI-1, will be the one page document  
21 with handwriting and the words CO Musa.

22 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, can I interrupt just to ask  
23 this --

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just a moment, please show it to  
13:26:02 25 Mr Santora.

26 MR GRIFFITHS: There is a further identifying document, I  
27 say no more, with each of those two sheets which relates to  
28 another situation and I am just wondering for preciseness whether  
29 we ought to exhibit for our purposes both sheets or just the one.

1           PRESIDING JUDGE: I have got two MFIs. Do you count those  
2 as two sheets or are you alluding to some other piece of paper?

13:26:59 3           MR GRIFFITHS: I think it might be easiest if you have a  
4 look at the documents, Madam President, and you will see what I  
5 mean.

6           PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, what I have now been handed  
7 is a cover sheet and a handwritten document with the title of the  
8 case. I think it's the case.

13:27:22 9           MR GRIFFITHS: And I am merely asking whether we should  
10 exhibit both or just one. I don't know what is felt to be  
11 necessary in the circumstances.

12           PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, my own reaction - and I will listen  
13 to argument - is that the two cover sheets are not written by the  
14 witness. They are initialled and dated by another person.  
13:27:41 15 However, there is no date and no signature on these documents,  
16 so --

17           MR GRIFFITHS: I think for completeness we ought to exhibit  
18 both, Madam President, with respect.

19           PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, this would deal with both the  
13:28:01 20 question of the date and the relevant court and so I will follow  
21 that procedure and MFI-1 become as two page document with  
22 handwriting which the witness has identified as her own  
23 handwriting together with a notation SCSL-04-15 and a cover sheet  
24 from the CMS.

13:28:25 25           MFI-2 is a two page document which the witness has  
26 identified as her own writing with a name written again with the  
27 same notation, SCSL-04-15 and a cover sheet from CMS.

28           MR GRIFFITHS: I am grateful. Madam President, I note the  
29 time.

1           PRESIDING JUDGE: Indeed if it is a convenient time to  
2 adjourn, Mr Griffiths, it would be appropriate to do so.

3           MR GRIFFITHS: Very well.

13:29:07

4           PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Witness, it is now the normal lunch  
5 break time. We are going to adjourn for lunch and we will be  
6 resuming at half past 2. Do you understand?

7           THE WITNESS: Okay.

8           PRESIDING JUDGE: Please adjourn until 2.30.

9                           [Lunch break taken at 1.30 p.m.]

14:25:01

10                          [Upon resuming at 2.30 p.m.]

11           PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, please proceed.

12           MR GRIFFITHS:

14:32:05

13 Q. Mrs Bangura, before we broke for lunch we were talking  
14 about your husbands and I think the final position we've got to  
15 is this: CO Ray wasn't really your husband. Your two husbands  
16 were in fact CO Musa and CO Ali. Is that correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So that when you told us earlier this morning that CO Ray  
19 was a husband of yours, that of course was wrong?

14:32:33

20 A. Well, he was not my husband. I thought when you talked  
21 about husband - I thought you were talking about something else,  
22 because he raped me. He forced me. He forced me into sex. That  
23 was the reason why I said that he too was my husband.

24 Q. But it's right, is it not, that in due course you came to  
25 love Ali?

14:33:16

26 A. Well, we were - we were together, but I did not actually  
27 love him.

28 Q. I asked that question for a very good reason. I wonder,  
29 please, if with Madam Court Manager's assistance we can please



1 Look behind divider 7. Can we look at the very last page behind  
2 that divider, please. Let us just begin at line 7:

3 "Q. In terms of Mr A and Mr B, when did you become a  
4 commander's wife?

14:34:34 5 A. Well, I was first to Mr A when I became pregnant, gave  
6 birth to the baby, but it died. But that I wouldn't know.  
7 But after Mr A died, I fell in love with Mr B, he  
8 impregnated me and I gave birth in 1995.

9 Q. Thank you, you fell in love with Mr B.

14:34:58 10 A. Yes."

11 Do you remember saying that on a previous occasion?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And was it the truth?

14 A. Yes.

14:35:15 15 Q. Thank you. Just whilst we are on that topic, I wonder if  
16 we can go, please, behind divider 8. Can we go first of all,  
17 please, to page 14. On a previous occasion you were asked this  
18 question, line 25:

19 "Q. Thank you. You told the gentleman who sits on my  
14:35:55 20 right here on Friday that you were in love with man B when  
21 you bore his child. Do you remember telling us that?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. How long did you remain with man B?

24 A. I stayed with him until we came from the bush and when  
14:36:10 25 we arrived in town, that was the time we dispersed.

26 Q. When you arrived in Makeni, do you mean?

27 A. Well, when we arrived in Kono he left me there and he  
28 said he was going to Makeni. From that time when he left  
29 me there, up till now, I have not seen him.

1 Q. Very well. But you were in love with him, yes?

2 A. Yes".

3 Then if we jump to line 26 on that page:

4 "Q. Was man B a rebel?

14:36:39 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Did he carry a gun?

7 A. Yes."

8 Now over the page, please, page 16, line 7:

9 "Q. You told us about man A ...", CO Musa, "... do you  
14:36:58 10 remember?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Were you fond of man A?

13 A. Well, well, I loved him. I like him.

14 Q. So you must have been very upset when you lost him?

14:37:11 15 A. Yes."

16 Is that true?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So both Ali and CO Musa, as you said on a previous  
19 occasion, you loved them?

14:37:24 20 A. I did not actually love Ali because - let me just say it  
21 was a matter of must. Whether you loved him or not, you will  
22 have to love him. Because it was just to save your own life  
23 since you were in the bush up to the time maybe God will help you  
24 to leave the bush.

14:37:50 25 Q. Yes, I fully understand that, Mrs Bangura. I totally  
26 understand that. You were at a vulnerable age. That's right,  
27 isn't it?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. He was an older man. That's right, isn't it?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. You were in a dangerous situation and you needed somebody  
3 to protect you, didn't you?

4 A. Yes.

14:38:15 5 Q. And that's the role that they played; they protected you in  
6 that dangerous situation, didn't they?

7 A. Yes. If you are there as his wife, he will protect you.

8 Q. And, as a consequence, over time you did become fond of  
9 both of them, didn't you?

14:38:39 10 A. No. The one had died and I was now in affairs with the  
11 other one.

12 Q. I totally accept that. All I'm asking is this: When you  
13 were with Ali, you loved him. When you were with Musa you loved  
14 him too. Nothing wrong with that. Do you agree?

14:39:01 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Thank you.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am not quite sure what the witness is  
18 agreeing to, Mr Griffiths. You said, "There is nothing wrong  
19 with that, do you agree?" Is she agreeing that there is nothing  
14:39:20 20 wrong with it, or is she agreeing to the earlier position.

21 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well. Let me clarify that.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

23 MR GRIFFITHS:

24 Q. Whilst you were with Ali, Mrs Bangura, did you love him?

14:39:32 25 A. It was a matter of must, because whilst we were there he  
26 was protecting me. As long as you were with a man you were  
27 protected, but if you were not with a man any other person will  
28 come at any time and take you to do anything whatsoever to you  
29 and you will not be protected, but if you were with a man that

1 man will be there for you to protect you.

2 Q. Very well, but we know what you said on a previous occasion  
3 and so I will move on. Can we go back, please, to behind divider

4 1. I hope, Madam Court Manager, that you have your highlighter  
14:40:17 5 at the ready. When we paused before lunch we were looking at  
6 that sentence, "Whilst I was in Makeni, between 1997 and 1998 one  
7 CO Musa, RUF commander, took me as his wife." One final question  
8 on this. Is that sentence correct?

9 A. Well in case of this sentence, like I have said earlier, I  
14:40:59 10 was actually - sincerely I was not having a plan to speak to the  
11 Special Court. That was the reason why when they went whatsoever  
12 they asked me I would just tell them anything that came to my  
13 mind.

14 Q. Let's try my question again. Is that sentence true, or  
14:41:20 15 false?

16 A. Well, like I said, there were certain things that came to  
17 my mind that I said I cannot recall again, because I did not want  
18 to speak to the Special Court.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Witness, please answer the question  
14:41:38 20 as put.

21 MR GRIFFITHS:

22 Q. Is that sentence true, or false?

23 A. It is not true.

24 Q. But did you say that untruth to the investigator?

14:41:58 25 A. Well, I do not recall.

26 Q. We will highlight it nonetheless and put a question mark  
27 beside it. The next sentence, "I do not know the full name of CO  
28 Musa." Is that true, or false?

29 A. True.

1 Q. Was his name not Musa Ali?

2 A. No.

3 Q. The next sentence, "I do not know his present address." Is  
4 that true, or false?

14:42:54 5 A. True.

6 Q. "I went back to Kailahun with CO Musa." Is that true, or  
7 false?

8 A. It's a lie.

9 Q. Who told that lie; you or the person who wrote the  
14:43:10 10 statement?

11 A. Well this one you are referring to it was I myself who did  
12 that, because by then I was not willing to say anything and so  
13 whatsoever came to my mind was what I said to them.

14 Q. Can we highlight that then, please, "I went back to  
14:43:35 15 Kailahun with CO Musa." Then, "I gave birth to a baby boy for  
16 him but I lost the child at Kailahun before he was given a name."  
17 Is that true, or false?

18 A. That is not true.

19 Q. Who told that lie?

14:44:01 20 A. I myself said it. Just like I said, whatever is not true  
21 here I can say is not true because by then I was not ready to  
22 speak to the Special Court.

23 Q. All right, so let's highlight that, "I gave birth to a baby  
24 boy for him but I lost the child at Kailahun before he was given  
14:44:29 25 a name." The next sentence, "Whilst we were in the jungle before  
26 the AFRC invited us to come out of the bush ..." Is that true,  
27 or false?

28 A. It's a lie.

29 Q. Can we highlight that again, please. Who told that lie?

1 You?

2 A. I myself. Like I said, I was not willing.

3 Q. "I used to see Mosquito sending supply of guns to us." Is  
4 that true, or false?

14:45:01 5 A. I never said that.

6 Q. So how did that come into your statement?

7 A. I don't know.

8 Q. Let's highlight that in any event and put a question mark  
9 by it for now. "Issa then was the commander at Buedu." Is that

14:45:28 10 true, or false?

11 A. It's true.

12 Q. "I was opportuned on one or two occasions to be near the  
13 wireless set when Mosquito used to send for commanders to go for  
14 supply of arms and ammunition." Is that true, or false?

14:45:50 15 A. It's a lie. I did not say that.

16 Q. So are you saying that the writer of the statement put that  
17 in your statement?

18 A. Well, I want to think so because I did not say this.

19 Q. So let's highlight that and put an asterisk beside it,

14:46:12 20 because we are clear about that one. Now, let's go to the next  
21 paragraph. "The commonest being SK-58, AK-47, RPG, Beretta, LMG,  
22 GPMG and two barrel". Is that true, or false?

23 A. That is true. That is not SK. It is AK.

24 Q. So it's AK-58?

14:47:00 25 A. AK-58, AK-47.

26 Q. Very well. "Issa normally went for the supply." Is that  
27 true, or false?

28 A. It's a lie. I did not say that.

29 Q. So whoever wrote the statement made that up, is that right?

1 A. Well I wouldn't want to say the person made a mistake, but  
2 like I said earlier all of these that you are talking about when  
3 they came earlier to me I did not want to talk to me, so whilst I  
4 was sitting with the person and the person was interviewing me  
14:47:44 5 whatever to my mind was what I said. So whether I have made  
6 mistakes here it was because I was not willing, but the time they  
7 went and asked me to give my statement again and when they read  
8 it back to me that was the time I said the truth.

9 Q. So let's highlight that then shall we? "Issa normally went  
14:48:09 10 for the supply." And is the position that you don't know whether  
11 it was you who said that, or whether it was the writer of the  
12 statement who put that in?

13 A. Well I think I might have said something like that, but out  
14 of my own way because, like I said, I was not willing to say  
14:48:38 15 anything because the way we heard about the news about the  
16 Special Court I thought if someone came and met me and said I  
17 should come and say something about my experience to Special  
18 Court members I think whatsoever came to my mind at that time was  
19 what I said.

14:48:57 20 Q. Let's go on. "It was Issa who told us that the supply of  
21 arms was from Liberia." Is that true, or false?

22 A. I don't know about that.

23 Q. Is it true, or false?

24 A. Well I don't know whether that was where they got  
14:49:24 25 ammunition from, or not.

26 Q. So if you don't know you couldn't have said it, could you?

27 A. It is true but, like I said, I was not willing. I was not  
28 actually willing to talk to them. That was the reason why  
29 whatsoever came to my mind I said it and they wrote it down.

1 Whatever came to my mind I said it and they wrote it down.

2 Q. Let's just take things slowly. Did Issa ever say to you  
3 "The supply of arms came from Liberia"?

14:50:10

4 A. No, he did not tell me that. Never. I did not even speak  
5 with him.

6 Q. Exactly. You've never spoken to Issa Sesay and so he could  
7 never have said that to you, could he?

8 A. No.

14:50:25

9 Q. So if you said that to the investigator it was a lie,  
10 wasn't it?

11 A. Well I don't know, because I never spoke to Issa one-on-one  
12 and so I wouldn't tell whether he was the one who went for  
13 supplies or not. Whatsoever thing, or whatsoever information,  
14 that I heard was directly from my boss's wife. That is what I am  
15 saying.

14:50:53

16 Q. But that statement, "Issa told us the supply of arms was  
17 from Liberia", that is false, isn't it?

18 A. I don't know.

19 Q. That statement is false, isn't it?

14:51:11

20 A. I don't know.

21 Q. Issa never told you that, did he?

22 A. He did not tell me that. He never told me that.

23 Q. So it follows, doesn't it, that that statement must be  
24 false, don't you agree?

14:51:32

25 A. Well, yes, because he did not speak to me directly.

26 Q. Well, can we highlight that sentence as well please. And  
27 was it you who told that lie, or was it the investigator who  
28 wrote that in your statement?

29 A. It was I, not the investigator. It was I because I was not



1 willing.

2 Q. Because the truth is you did not know where the arms and  
3 ammunition came from, did you?

4 A. Well I knew that at any time the rebels went and attacked  
14:52:21 5 government troops they would get ammunition from there, including  
6 the one truck that I saw there when I asked my boss's wife and  
7 she told me that it was from Liberia, but apart from that I don't  
8 know. I don't know where they got ammunition from. I don't  
9 know.

14:52:40 10 Q. Well, we are going to deal with that topic a bit further.  
11 "I cannot tell who was supplying the guns from Liberia." Is that  
12 true?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. "What I know is that some time fighters from mission were  
14:53:01 15 tasked to contribute whatever they get from mission proceeds of  
16 which was used to purchase arms." Is that true?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Can we highlight that then. "What I know is that some time  
19 fighters from mission were tasked to contribute whatever they get  
14:53:31 20 from mission proceeds of which was used to purchase arms. Now  
21 once again let me ask was that something you said, or was it  
22 something the investigator wrote down?

23 A. No, I did not say that.

24 Q. So the investigator must have written that down?

14:53:49 25 A. Well, I don't know.

26 Q. Well let's put a question mark beside it, but you are sure  
27 you didn't say that?

28 A. Well, I cannot tell now because I don't know. Just like I  
29 said, there were certain things I said because they asked me to

1 talk. Certain things I said whatever came to my mind was what I  
2 said and, when they asked me questions, any response that came to  
3 my mind was what I said.

4 Q. Next sentence:

14:54:26 5 "I cannot tell how the arms travelled from Liberia to  
6 Sierra Leone as I do not know the point of entry as I never went  
7 to the border."

8 True or false?

9 A. It's true.

14:54:43 10 Q. "Buedu is some distance from the border. I do not know the  
11 name of the radio operator in Buedu. I heard Issa himself  
12 sometimes talk directly on the set."

13 Is that true or false?

14 A. Well, the radio was there, but I never heard Issa talk on  
14:55:07 15 the radio, but the radio was there. The radio was there in  
16 Buedu.

17 Q. So that sentence, "I heard Issa himself sometimes talk  
18 directly on the set", that is false, isn't it?

19 A. Yes.

14:55:28 20 Q. And is that a lie that you told?

21 A. Yes, I said it, but, like I said, I was not willing to  
22 talk. That was it.

23 MR GRIFFITHS: Let's highlight that again then, please,  
24 Madam Court Manager. "I heard Issa himself some time talk  
14:55:44 25 directly on the set." Can we highlight that, please:

26 Q. Next sentence, "I did not see him myself." Did you ever  
27 see Issa.

28 A. In Buedu?

29 Q. Yes, please.

1 A. Well, we were not allowed to walk about so I did not see  
2 him. Throughout the time I did not see him.

3 Q. So that sentence, "I did not see him myself", that's true,  
4 is it?

14:56:35 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. "I sometimes heard Mosquito's voice over the set". Is that  
7 true?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Was it you who told that lie?

14:56:48 10 A. Yes, because I was not willing.

11 Q. Can we highlight that, please, "I sometimes heard  
12 Mosquito's voice over the set". Then the next part, "But I did  
13 not hear that of Charles Taylor". Is that true?

14 A. Never.

14:57:20 15 Q. "I do not know whether Charles Taylor ever visited the RUF  
16 bases in Kailahun". Is that true or false?

17 A. It's true.

18 Q. "I do not know if Charles Taylor ever supplied the RUF with  
19 guns and ammunition". Is that true or false?

14:57:42 20 A. It's true, I don't know.

21 Q. But let's just pause for a minute and go over the page,  
22 please, to the next page because we are on this same topic and I  
23 think it's more convenient if we deal with it collectively. The  
24 middle paragraph on that page, the second line:

14:58:15 25 "The arms and ammunition that were supplied to the men that  
26 went for the back-up of SAJ Musa I heard came from Liberia. It  
27 was information through the communication set told us by  
28 Scorpion."

29 Is that true or false?

1 A. No, it's not like that.

2 Q. Let's try and answer my question. Is it true or false?

3 A. It's a lie.

4 Q. And who told that lie?

14:58:52 5 A. I myself, because I was not willing.

6 Q. Right. So let's highlight that, please: "The arms and  
7 ammunition that were supplied to the men that went for the  
8 back-up to SAJ Musa I heard came from Liberia."

9 And we are staying with the same topic, last two lines on  
14:59:23 10 that page:

11 "It was Scorpion's wife Hawa that told me after this  
12 retreat that diamonds found by RUF were given to Issa who took  
13 them to Charles Taylor and he in turn sent arms and ammunition  
14 for us."

14:59:44 15 Is that true or true?

16 A. It's not true.

17 Q. Who told that lie?

18 A. Myself, because I was not willing.

19 Q. Can we highlight that then, please:

15:00:02 20 "It was Scorpion's wife Hawa that told me after this  
21 retreat that diamonds found by RUF were given to Issa who took  
22 them to Charles Taylor and he in turn sent arms and ammunition  
23 for us."

24 Now I want to pause there for a minute. Help me, please,  
15:00:21 25 Mrs Bangura. Why did you tell that particular lie?

26 A. It was because I was not willing. They just went and met  
27 me and they said I should explain my story. So I was not  
28 willing. And when they asked me questions, whatever response  
29 that came to my mind was what I said to them.

1 Q. But, Mrs Bangura, wouldn't it have been more simple to say,  
2 "I don't want to talk to you"?

3 A. I was afraid.

4 Q. Of what?

15:01:00 5 A. Because I thought that it was probably policemen or  
6 military men who were doing that job. So I thought if I had  
7 refused to talk to them they would have arrested me. So it was  
8 not until the time the woman who was our coordinator, our  
9 manager, who talked to me, who gave me some encouraging words,  
10 that I actually accepted to speak to them the truth.

15:01:29 11 Q. I'm sorry, but I have to press you a little further on  
12 this. Was it the case, Mrs Bangura, that you were telling the  
13 investigators these things because you thought that is what they  
14 wanted to hear?

15:01:51 15 A. Well, I did not know whether the whole thing was going to  
16 take - would have gone this way. I only thought that they were  
17 people who went to get statements from people and then later  
18 arrest those people. So, for that reason, whatsoever response  
19 that came to my mind was what I told them.

15:02:23 20 Q. I'm sorry, but I am going to have to persist with this. By  
21 the time in October 2003 that you were speaking to the  
22 investigators, you knew from the newspapers, the radio and the  
23 television, didn't you, that everyone was saying that Charles  
24 Taylor had taken diamonds from the RUF and given them arms and  
25 ammunition in return. You knew that, didn't you?

26 A. The place I was I did not have access to neither newspapers  
27 or television, nor radio. And in Makeni, Makeni is an upcountry  
28 town. Most of those facilities were not there.

29 Q. But just help me. What prompted you to put together those

1 three ideas in a lie; Charles Taylor, diamonds and arms and  
2 ammunition? What prompted you to make that particular connection  
3 and tell a lie about it?

15:03:41 4 A. Well, it just came to my mind and I said it, because I was  
5 not willing to speak to them. And I wouldn't have even spoken to  
6 them if not that woman with whom we were staying had not spoken  
7 to me and given me encouraging words. I wouldn't have spoken to  
8 them, because I had already resolved in my mind that I was not  
9 going to talk to them. And at that time I only thought it was  
15:03:59 10 the issue of ammunition that would be brought or taken away.

11 That was the reason why I spoke about it.

12 Q. Mrs Bangura, let's approach it differently then. Your  
13 experience in the war had caused you a lot of emotional grief,  
14 hadn't it?

15:04:27 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And it had left you emotionally scarred as a young person,  
17 hadn't it?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you would have still have been at 19 at a fairly  
15:04:44 20 impressive age, wouldn't you?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And then in that state of mind an investigator comes along  
23 from the Prosecution and says to you, "I'm from the Special Court  
24 for Sierra Leone". Is that right?

15:05:12 25 A. Well, at first, the person who met me did not tell me that  
26 she was from the Special Court, because she was a lady. She only  
27 came and met me and said she wanted to get statement from me  
28 about my experience. And it was later that I knew that she was  
29 from the TRC. And it was later again, whilst we were at school,

1 but even by then I was imbalanced, I was tormented, and I was  
2 still not willing to talk to them. That was the reason why I  
3 continued telling them those things.

4 Q. What was the woman's name?

15:05:50 5 A. She was called Mammy Ramatu [phon].

6 Q. And when she met you initially, who did she say she was  
7 attached to?

8 A. Who? You mean the woman?

9 Q. Yes, the woman.

15:06:13 10 A. She was working for Caritas and she was there as the centre  
11 manager for the ex-child combatants. She did not actually tell  
12 me where she was attached, but I only knew that she was working  
13 for Caritas.

14 Q. But the woman - the person who spoke to you and took this  
15:06:34 15 record, what was that person's name?

16 A. I do not remember the name again.

17 Q. Do you remember the name Jusu Yami r [phon]?

18 A. Yes, I recall the name.

19 Q. Is that a he or a she?

15:06:58 20 A. I think it's a man, but I don't know. I think it's a man.

21 Q. And do you recall now that he was the first person who  
22 asked you to relive that experience you'd had?

23 A. No, that was not him. At first it was a woman who met me  
24 where I was studying my skills. That is the metal works. She  
15:07:36 25 met me there and she spoke to me and from there she went to my  
26 manager's office and they invited me there, so I went to the  
27 office. We were all there. She was the first person that I  
28 started speaking to.

29 Q. But you can't remember her name?

1 A. No.

2 Q. But, in any event, I'm talking - I'm asking you now about  
3 your state of mind at the time. Now, when you first started  
4 talking to this individual, did they say to you something along  
15:08:15 5 the lines that, "People like you, Edna, have been abused by the  
6 RUF. And do you know who made that possible? It's a man called  
7 Charles Taylor who was in Liberia and he took diamonds for the  
8 RUF in return"? Was anything like that said to you?

9 A. No. She did not say anything like that to me. She only  
15:08:50 10 went and asked me to explain my own story to her, but she did not  
11 say anything like that.

12 Q. Did somebody say to you, Mrs Bangura, "We can help you if  
13 you say that you knew that Charles Taylor was taking diamonds for  
14 guns and ammunition"? Did somebody say that to you?

15:09:18 15 A. No, never. Nobody told me that. Anyone of them who met me  
16 would just ask me to explain my experience, but nobody told me  
17 that.

18 Q. So you made up the lie about diamonds and arms and  
19 ammunition all on your own, did you?

15:09:38 20 A. Yes, like I had said I was not willing. That was the  
21 reason why anything whatsoever that came to my mind was my  
22 response to them.

23 Q. Help me. Do you know in truth anything at all about arms  
24 coming from Liberia?

15:10:02 25 A. I do not know anything.

26 Q. Because this is right, isn't it - and let's go now please,  
27 to divider 5, paragraph 3, interviewed conducted with you on 26  
28 October 2005, "Witness states that the RUF obtained their weapons  
29 when they went on attacks on the Nigerians, Guineans and



1 Kamajors." Is that right?

2 A. Yes, it's right, when they went and attacked the soldiers.  
3 I am not talking about the country. I'm talking about the  
4 soldiers.

15:11:00 5 Q. And that's where the RUF got their arms from, wasn't it?

6 A. Well, yes.

7 Q. And let's just finish that paragraph, "Witness states that  
8 her Commander CO Scorpion told her Issa Sesay went to Kailahun to  
9 get arms and ammunition." Is that true?

15:11:26 10 A. Yes, but it was not Scorpion who directly told me.

11 Whatever thing I'm saying here, I got it directly from the  
12 commander's wife. That is Hawa.

13 Q. So where it says that CO Scorpion told you that, that's a  
14 lie, is it?

15:11:53 15 A. It's a lie. That was not what I said. I said from his  
16 wife. Whatever information I got it was from his wife.

17 Q. Well maybe we ought to highlight "CO Scorpion" in green  
18 just so that we remember, but let's look at the last sentence  
19 now. "The witness saw Issa Sesay return from Kailahun with  
20 trucks of arms and ammunition." Is that true, or false?

15:12:23 20

21 A. It's a lie.

22 Q. Now, what is false about that? Let's take it in turn. Did  
23 you ever see Issa Sesay?

24 A. I did not see Issa Sesay as such. I only saw the  
15:12:53 25 ammunition - I mean, the vehicle parked there. I did not know  
26 initially whether it was ammunition that was packed in there, but  
27 I later asked my commander's wife and she told me that the  
28 vehicle was loaded with ammunition. But I did not actually see  
29 Issa to tell me that they went to collect ammunition and that it

1 was ammunition that was in it.

2 Q. Before we pick up the highlighter, let's just look at the  
3 rest of the sentence. "Returned from Kailahun with trucks, more  
4 than one. The witness saw this on two occasions." That's a lie,  
15:13:38 5 isn't it?

6 A. I saw it once, not twice, and I did not see Issa. I did  
7 not see Issa.

8 Q. So that sentence "The witness saw this on two occasions",  
9 that's a lie, isn't it?

15:13:54 10 A. Yes, I saw it once.

11 Q. Let's highlight, please, those last two sentences - well,  
12 the last three lines from "CO Scorpion" to the end.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Santora.

14 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, in this particular instance where  
15:14:31 15 counsel is asking for the portion to be highlighted, the witness  
16 has not acknowledged how the mistake got in there. Just because  
17 of consistency's sake, as we have been doing in the past, it's  
18 the Prosecution position that we should continue with that  
19 consistency.

15:14:49 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: I don't know if the question has been put  
21 yet, has it, Mr Griffiths? Let me just check.

22 MR GRIFFITHS: She actually said on more than one occasion  
23 that she said it.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, she said, "I did not see Issa.  
15:15:03 25 That's a lie" - oh, that's the next question. "Yes, I saw it  
26 once".

27 MR SANTORA: I am sorry, Madam President, but the witness  
28 has not stated on the record that this was something she told the  
29 particular interviewer and it's a lie, versus the actual

1 observation as to whether or not she saw trucks once or twice. I  
2 do not believe the record shows that the witness has indicated  
3 that she said this.

15:15:36 4 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, perhaps if I am allowed a couple of  
5 uninterrupted questions we might get to that.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, proceed on.

7 MR GRIFFITHS:

8 Q. Let me ask then this. "CO Scorpion told you", that is a  
9 lie, isn't it?

15:15:49 10 A. He did not tell me. It was his wife.

11 Q. Now, who told that? Was it you, or was it the person who  
12 was interviewing you on this occasion?

13 A. Well maybe the person might have made a mistake, but I told  
14 the person that it was CO Scorpion who told his wife and his wife  
15:16:14 15 told me later. Whatsoever thing I am saying here I got it from  
16 his wife, not CO Scorpion.

17 Q. So those words "CO Scorpion", did you say them, or was it  
18 the writer who made the mistake?

19 A. I said it, but the person too made a mistake there because  
15:16:37 20 I did not say CO Scorpion. I said CO Scorpion's wife Hawa was  
21 the person who told me. I did not say that CO Scorpion himself  
22 told me that.

23 Q. Now where it says, "The witness saw Issa Sesay", that's a  
24 lie, isn't it?

15:17:03 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. Who told that lie? Was it you, or the person who wrote the  
27 statement?

28 A. It was the person who wrote, because I did not see CO  
29 Issa - I did not say CO Issa. I said it was Scorpion who told

1 his wife and in turn his wife told me.

2 Q. Now where it says trucks plural, that's a lie, isn't it?

3 A. I said one. I did not say two. I said I saw it once.

15:17:45

4 Q. And where it says, "The witness saw this on two occasions",  
5 that's a lie, isn't it?

6 A. Yes, I said once. I did not say twice.

7 Q. So who made that up? Was it you, or the person who was  
8 writing?

15:18:06

9 A. Well, I don't know. I told the person it was once that I  
10 saw.

11 Q. Now, we need - now you told me earlier that in October 2004  
12 through fear and for other reasons you told many lies to the  
13 investigators, didn't you?

14 A. Yes.

15:18:35

15 Q. But when we come to this particular interview - this is  
16 October 2005, two years later almost to the day - why are you  
17 still telling lies to the investigators two years later?

18 A. I did not lie any more. By then I was now saying the  
19 truth. Maybe those who were writing mis-recorded what I was  
20 saying because, like I said, I used to ask my boss's wife and  
21 whatever she told me was what I said.

15:19:08

22 Q. Let's just finish with the topic of arms, though. Is this  
23 right, that you don't know if Charles Taylor ever supplied the  
24 RUF with guns and ammunition? Is that true?

15:19:46

25 A. Yes, I do not know.

26 Q. In fact you have no idea where the RUF got its arms from,  
27 apart from arms that were captured, is that right?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Can we go back to this statement of 29th of - please don't

1 Lead the witness, Mr Santora. I know what you are going to say.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora?

3 MR SANTORA: I will only remind the - if we are moving off  
4 that portion to the exercise of highlighting that it's  
15:20:33 5 consistent. That is all I will say and I don't think that is in  
6 any way leading.

7 MR GRIFFITHS:

8 Q. Can we go back, please, to the note of 29th --

9 THE INTERPRETER: Counsel's microphone, please.

15:20:40

10 MR GRIFFITHS:

11 Q. Can we go back to the note of the interview in 2003,  
12 please, and we were on the second page. Let's go to the second  
13 page and let's start second line from the bottom of that page:

14 "I do not know if Charles Taylor ever supplied the RUF with  
15:21:18 15 guns and ammunition. We were at Buedu, with Johnny Paul Koroma  
16 and Issa at Buedu." Is that true, or false?

17 A. Well Johnny Paul was not there, but all the other statement  
18 is true.

15:21:49

19 Q. So, help us. Who said Johnny Paul was there? Was it you,  
20 or the person who took the statement?

21 A. It was I myself.

22 Q. Why did you say that when you knew it was wrong?

23 A. Well I think I am going to repeat this particular thing  
24 until we end this programme today, because I have told you that  
15:22:17 25 at that time I was not willing and whatever came to my mind was  
26 the response I gave to them.

27 Q. So let's highlight, shall we, "Johnny Paul" in green.

28 MR SANTORA: I apologise for belabouring the point, Madam  
29 President, but we were on a prior highlighting under tab 5 and I

1 don't believe at this point the highlighting reflects what the  
2 record shows where the witness did not acknowledge ever saying  
3 what was incorrect behind tab 5. I believe we moved off that  
4 point and I believe we should follow the same procedure, which is  
15:22:57 5 as we were doing, that this should have an asterisk next to it.

6 MR GRIFFITHS: No, it shouldn't.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: No. Mr Santora, she said she herself -  
8 she said, "It's not true I said it. The rest is true", so that's  
9 a highlight.

15:23:12 10 MR SANTORA: I understand it's a highlight, but in the past  
11 when the witness had said, "I didn't say it", maybe I don't know,  
12 "I didn't say it", we put at least a question mark.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, but she has just now in my hearing  
14 said she did say it.

15:23:29 15 MR SANTORA: I am sorry, that was just a reference to the  
16 2003 statement. This was the one I left alone.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: You are going backwards now.

18 MR SANTORA: I am going backwards. I didn't want to  
19 interrupt my learned colleague, but I believe he has moved off  
15:23:43 20 tab 5 and we have left it just highlighted. That is not a  
21 reflection of what the witness said if we just leave it  
22 highlighted. This is tab 5 in the third paragraph.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, my note for myself is that, "That  
24 last sentence is a lie. The person who wrote it, I did not say  
15:24:02 25 Issa" is what I have noted. Is that what you are referring to;  
26 the last sentence on tab 5.

27 MR SANTORA: That is part of it, yes.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, have we got tab 5 marked  
29 up? We seem to be going back instead of forward.

1 MR GRIFFITHS: I prefer to go forwards but --

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: So would I, but let's get this record  
3 correct.

4 MR GRIFFITHS: I am happy to go backwards. Would my  
15:24:38 5 learned friend like me to deal with all of that paragraph in tab  
6 5?

7 MR SANTORA: I think it has already been dealt with.  
8 That's the point. I don't mean to belabour this, but the witness  
9 did not say that she said this in this interview. That's what  
15:24:58 10 the record shows and I would be happy to go through the record,  
11 but she did not acknowledge saying a lie behind tab 5. And it's  
12 left right now - it's just been highlighted. My point is that  
13 it's just not consistent with what we were doing in the past. I  
14 don't mean to belabour the point and it's a very simple matter  
15:25:17 15 actually. I don't know if my learned colleague would concede  
16 that the witness did not say that.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, there are three sentences in  
18 the last paragraph of tab 5. Of those three sentences the  
19 witness has acknowledged the first sentence as correct. She says  
15:25:36 20 the second is not correct, it was Hawa and that was a mistake by  
21 the person taking the record of interview.

22 MR SANTORA: Yes.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: And on the last sentence, again, it's the  
24 person taking the record of interview and she concedes that she  
15:25:50 25 did not say Issa.

26 MR SANTORA: Exactly. Therefore it should be a question  
27 mark or - at least a question mark after the highlighting. Right  
28 now it's only highlighted. That's my point.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, do you agree with the

1 record?

2 MR GRIFFITHS: I am happy to put an asterisk and question  
3 mark there, your Honour.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. Let's have that recorded and  
15:26:14 5 move on, please.

6 MR GRIFFITHS: If it keeps Mr Santora seated, yes, let's  
7 have an asterisk and a question mark:

8 Q. Now, we are on - I hope it's possible to go back to tab 1  
9 now, to the record of 29 October 2003. Second page. On the last  
15:26:47 10 line, Mrs Bangura, the name Johnny Paul should not appear there,  
11 should it?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Because Johnny Paul was not in Buedu, was he?

14 A. Well, I did not know whether he was there.

15:27:03 15 Q. So why did you tell them that he was?

16 A. Well, like I said initially, I had said that I was not  
17 willing at that time to say anything to whosoever. That is it.

18 MR GRIFFITHS: Let's highlight that, "Johnny Paul", the  
19 name. Has it been highlighted? Perhaps I should ask Mr Santora.  
15:27:32 20 He is keeping track of this.

21 MR SANTORA: Certainly not for record purposes you  
22 shouldn't ask me.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: We will highlight Johnny Paul and there  
24 will be no asterisks or question marks added.

15:27:45 25 MR GRIFFITHS: No, there is no question mark or asterisk  
26 with that one:

27 Q. Let's go over the page, please:

28 "We were at Buedu one day which was in the dry season, that  
29 my commander CO Scorpion told us all, all of us under him, that



1 Mosqui to sent a radio message to Issa telling him about moves by  
2 SAJ Musa and his group called the Northern Jungle to invade  
3 Freetown."

4 Is that true?

15:28:18

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Was it Buedu or Makeni?

7 A. It was Buedu.

8 Q. Let's go behind divider 3, please. Second page, paragraph  
9 6:

15:29:07

10 "During the invasion in Freetown the witness was in Makeni  
11 and not in Buedu as stated in paragraph 5 of the statement dated  
12 29 October 2003."

13 Where were you when you received that message? Were you in  
14 Makeni or were you in Buedu?

15:29:29

15 A. I was in Buedu.

16 Q. So why were you correcting that in July 2005 and saying it  
17 was Makeni?

18 A. No, I did not say that. Maybe it was the one who wrote it  
19 down that made that mistake. I told them that since 1994 up  
20 through 1998 I was in Buedu. From there we went to Makeni. I  
21 did not say that from Makeni I went to Buedu. By then I was not  
22 there. We were yet in Buedu.

15:29:53

23 MR GRIFFITHS: Perhaps we ought to highlight paragraph 6  
24 and put an asterisk beside it.

15:30:13

25 MR SANTORA: Just which is paragraph 6, I'm sorry, counsel?

26 MR GRIFFITHS: Behind divider 3.

27 MR SANTORA: I am counting up the paragraphs.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, they are numbered, Mr Santora.

29 MR SANTORA: I'm sorry, okay.

1 MR GRIFFITHS:

2 Q. Was it Mosquito who sent a radio message to Issa?

3 A. Well, I don't know, but the message - I only got it from my  
4 commander's wife. She said it was Issa who had sent the message  
15:30:51 5 to her that they wanted back-up, but I don't know if it was  
6 Mosquito who sent the message to Issa and Issa passed it on to CO  
7 Scorpion or not. I don't know.

8 Q. So that must be wrong then, that Mosquito sent a radio  
9 message to Issa. You don't know anything about that, do you?

15:31:10 10 A. Nothing. I don't know anything. Whether it was Mosquito  
11 who sent the message to Issa or it was Issa who sent the message  
12 to some other person, I don't know. But the only thing was that  
13 my boss's wife told me that it was Issa who had sent the message  
14 to Scorpion and Scorpion told his wife.

15:31:31 15 Q. So you had no business saying to the investigators that  
16 Mosquito sent a radio message. You shouldn't have said that,  
17 should you?

18 A. I did not say that. I did not even say that it was  
19 Mosquito who sent the message. I said it was Issa who sent the  
15:31:48 20 message to CO Scorpion that SAJ Musa had sent a message that he  
21 wanted back-up to go to Freetown. That was the statement that I  
22 gave.

23 Q. So those words "Mosquito sent a radio message", it must  
24 have been the person who wrote this who put that in?

15:32:08 25 A. Well, I don't know because I did not mention Mosquito's  
26 name. I mentioned SAJ Musa name.

27 Q. Well, if you didn't mention Mosquito's name the person who  
28 wrote it must have invented that name?

29 A. Well, I don't.

1 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, let's highlight "Mosquito sent a radio  
2 message" any wanted put a question mark beside it. Line 2. Madam  
3 Court Manager, it's page 3 behind divider 1. I think you are in  
4 the wrong place. You have got it now? Line 2 from the top,  
15:32:59 5 "Mosquito sent a radio message" and then we are going to put a  
6 question mark beside that:

7 Q. And then it continues:

8 "Few months, say about two, CO Scorpion again said Mosquito  
9 sent a radio message instructing Issa him to send a back-up to  
15:33:33 10 SAJ Musa's group for the invasion of Freetown."

11 Is that true?

12 A. Well, it is not correct. Because that was not the way I  
13 put it. That is not what I said in the statement. I said it was  
14 SAJ Musa who sent a message to Issa and Issa in turn told  
15:33:53 15 Scorpion and Scorpion told his wife. That was how I got to know.  
16 I did not know say it was Scorpion or somebody else who sent the  
17 message to Issa, no.

18 Q. So maybe we ought to highlight all of that and put a  
19 question mark beside it. And you see it follows, "Issa appointed  
15:34:28 20 Scorpion who led the back-up from Kailahun to Freetown". Is that  
21 true?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. "Superman also went with the back-up." Is that true?

24 A. Well, I don't know if he went.

15:34:47 25 Q. Can you help us as to how it appears here; that it has been  
26 written down?

27 A. Okay. The thing is, you know, when someone is in the  
28 jungle you will not get any information from any other person  
29 except the commander with whom you would be. And if you are a

1 girl child you would only get a message or information through  
2 the commander's wife. So whatever I am saying, it was my boss's  
3 wife who told me. So I don't know if Superman went or not. I  
4 don't know.

15:35:29 5 Q. Well, let me ask a different question: Did Scorpion's wife  
6 ever tell you that Superman also went with the back-up?

7 A. No.

8 Q. So why did you say that to the investigator?

9 A. Just like what I am saying, I was not willing. I was never  
15:35:53 10 willing to come and testify. I had said to myself whatever I  
11 have in my mind, let it be there and stay there forever.

12 Q. So that was a lie that you told?

13 A. Yes, that was not true because I was not willing to say it.

14 Q. Well, let's highlight that one and we don't need either an  
15:36:20 15 asterisk or a question mark for that one. Then it goes on:

16 "Morris Kallon was in the northern jungle so I cannot tell  
17 whether he was with the group that did the advance for Freetown  
18 invasion."

19 Is that true?

15:36:43 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. "Since my commander Scorpion left I did not get any  
22 information on what was happening at the front for the Freetown  
23 invasion because it was he who was keeping us constantly informed  
24 about communication between Mosquito and Issa."

15:37:07 25 Is that true?

26 A. Well, Mosquito should not be there, but it is true.

27 Q. So the name Mosquito should not appear in that sentence?

28 A. No.

29 Q. Did you mention the name Mosquito in that sentence?

1 A. Well, I don't recall.

2 Q. Well, let's just highlight "Mosquito" and put a question  
3 mark. Next paragraph, "Amara Peleto was in Scorpion's group that  
4 left Kailahun for the back-up to SAJ Musa and his group". Is

15:38:00 5 that right?

6 A. I never mentioned that name. Or even if I mentioned it I  
7 don't know it now. Just like I said, I was not willing. Some of  
8 the things that I said, some of the names just came up and I just  
9 said them. Some names just came up in my mind and I said just  
10 said them out. I was not willing to talk to them.

15:38:16

11 Q. So is that sentence false?

12 A. It is wrong.

13 Q. And did you tell them that?

14 A. Well, I do remember telling them, but it is really not

15:38:39

15 correct because I was not willing to talk to them.

16 Q. Right. Can we just highlight it, please. Let's skip the  
17 next sentence because we have dealt with that and pick it up four  
18 lines from the top of that paragraph:

19 " I do not know what happened during the invasion of

15:39:03

20 Freetown as I was in Buedu and Scorpion, who used to give us  
21 latest discussed on the communication set was no longer with us  
22 when he left to provide the back-up."

23 Is all of that correct?

24 A. Yes.

15:39:19

25 Q. "Issa did not go to the front but he gave instructions".

26 Is that correct?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. "I was not present when Issa gave Scorpion the instruction  
29 to go with men for the Freetown invasion but it was Scorpion who

1 told me."

2 Is that correct?

3 A. Yes. He did not tell me as such. Like I said, he told his  
4 wife and his wife in turn told me.

15:39:50 5 Q. So that name Scorpion shouldn't appear there. The name  
6 which should appear there was or should be --

7 A. Hawa.

8 Q. Hawa?

9 A. Yes.

15:40:04 10 Q. "There is nobody I can direct you to corroborate what I  
11 have said as everybody is now on his or her own and I do not know  
12 the whereabouts of the others."

13 Is that true?

14 A. The question again.

15:40:23 15 Q. That last sentence:

16 "There is nobody I can direct you to corroborate what I  
17 have now said as everybody is now on his or her own and I do not  
18 know the whereabouts of the others."

19 A. Yes.

15:40:38 20 Q. Tell me, Mrs Bangura, what does the word "corroborate"  
21 mean?

22 A. Corroborate? Well, I did not use that kind of English.  
23 The person who wrote it, maybe that person knows what he meant.  
24 I don't know what that means.

15:40:57 25 Q. That's precisely why I asked the question, you see.  
26 Because that's not the kind of word you would use, is it?

27 A. No. I don't even know that word. I don't know what it  
28 means even.

29 Q. And it follows that you never uttered that word at all.

1 That's right isn't it?

2 A. That word, I never uttered it.

3 Q. You see this might give us a clue, mightn't it,

4 Mrs Bangura, why many of these mistakes and lies appear in your

15:41:35 5 statement; that the person who wrote it was making things up and  
6 attributing them to you. Is that fair?

7 A. Well, some of the things I said them. Some of them I did  
8 not say them. As I said, whatever mistake is here is because I  
9 was not willing to talk to anybody because whatever had happened

15:41:59 10 to me I just decided to have that in my mind and stay there.

11 Some of the things I said actually and later I would just forget  
12 that I had said them before even.

13 Q. Let's finish this exercise by going over the page please,

14 to the final page, second line, "After the Lomé Peace Accord I

15:42:30 15 left Kailahun for Makeni". Is that true?

16 A. No. I was not in Kailahun, I was in Buedu.

17 Q. So that's a lie, is it?

18 A. It was not in Kailahun. Throughout I was in Buedu.

19 Q. So that's a lie, is it?

15:42:51 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And did you tell the lie for the same reason?

22 A. Yes, because I was not willing.

23 Q. Right. Let's highlight that one minus asterisk or question  
24 mark. For completeness: "It was Superman and Gbao that led the

15:43:08 25 men that kidnapped the UNAMSIL personnel at Macote". Is that  
26 true.

27 A. It was not Macote. It was Makoth, yes.

28 Q. "I know because I was in Makeni. I disarmed in 2000 at  
29 Makeni". Is that true?

1 A. It was not 2000.

2 Q. When was it?

3 A. Well, I cannot recall the year now, but I don't know if it  
4 was in 2000 or not. I cannot recall the year now.

15:44:13 5 Q. Now, after that first interview did you begin having  
6 confidence in the people who were asking you questions about your  
7 experience?

8 A. No, I still had fear. In fact the other time they even  
9 went to look for me and I hid. I said maybe there was trouble,  
15:44:30 10 so I hid.

11 Q. Now, do you remember telling me this earlier this morning,  
12 that you'd carried a gun on those two food finding missions?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And if we now have a look, please, behind divider 2, the  
15:45:12 15 last bullet point on that page: "I fought during the war in  
16 surrounding villages of Buedu. We were doing food finding and I  
17 carried a gun. I fired a gun." Is that true?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And that is something you said again on oath before this  
15:45:51 20 Court this morning, isn't it?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. So help me, please. Let's go behind divider 5. Why did  
23 you say on 26 of October 2005: "During the food finding missions  
24 the witness was not armed as stated in the interview notes of 30  
15:46:25 25 June 2004". Why did you say that?

26 A. I did not say that. I said we went on the food finding  
27 missions and I had a gun, I said that. But I did not say this  
28 other one, that I did not have a gun.

29 Q. So how does it come about that on 26 October 2005, somebody



1 writes down something which totally contradicts what you told us  
2 today? Can you help us as to how that came about?

3 A. Well, sometimes it was the way questions would be asked of  
4 you, that was the way you could respond to them. Maybe if it was  
15:47:14 5 the way that question you asked it, if it was that same way the  
6 question was asked then you would answer it that same way. But  
7 you know there are so many people asking me questions. So this  
8 person would come and ask you a question a different way and some  
9 other person else may come and ask you a question a different  
15:47:34 10 way. So that was how attention could get confused and how I just  
11 responded to the questions the way they were asked of me.

12 MR GRIFFITHS: I'm slightly confused, Madam President.  
13 Could I have of a moment to check a reference, please?

14 Yes. Could we go, please, behind divider 7, page 43. This  
15:49:12 15 was on a previous occasion when you were asked the question.

16 Line 1:

17 "Q. Did you tell the Prosecution that you had gone on food  
18 finding and carried a gun and fired it?

19 A. No. I only told her that I was taught how to fire a  
15:49:34 20 gun."

21 Do you remember saying that on a previous occasion?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. So now we have you repeating what you'd said on 26 October  
24 2005, that you had not in fact had a gun when you went on food  
15:49:56 25 finding missions. So which of them is right? Did you have a gun  
26 or didn't you?

27 A. Well, I held a gun when we went on the food finding  
28 mission. I held a gun when we went on the food finding mission.  
29 It was the person who wrote it must have made this mistake.

1 Q. No, no, but here you were being asked questions in a  
2 different situation altogether to that where you were being asked  
3 questions by an investigator. And all I'm trying to get your  
4 assistance with is when you were asked that particular question  
15:50:39 5 on 4 November 2005 why did you say no for a second time?

6 A. I forgot. But I had a gun.

7 Q. How could you forget having a gun as a child?

8 A. I was afraid. In fact even when I went to the Court - even  
9 when they had given me confidence I was still afraid. That's why  
15:51:15 10 I said I did not have a gun. I just thought that afterwards they  
11 would still go and arrest me. But I actually had a gun.

12 Q. So did you on two occasions deliberately lie and say you  
13 didn't have a gun because you were frightened of being arrested?

14 A. Yes. I thought that if anybody admitted having a gun that  
15:51:46 15 person would be arrested. That was the fear that I had.

16 Q. Now, you know before you started giving evidence today you  
17 took an oath to tell the truth and nothing but the truth. Do you  
18 remember that?

19 A. Yes.

15:52:04 20 Q. Did you understand the importance of that oath?

21 A. Yes, I do.

22 Q. And you held the Bible whilst you did it, didn't you?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Because you appreciated it was a solemn oath you were  
15:52:21 25 taking?

26 A. Yes, and I was risking my life.

27 Q. And do you remember taking a similar oath on a previous  
28 occasion?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. And when you took the oath on that previous occasion, did  
2 you take it seriously?

3 A. Yes, very seriously.

15:52:56

4 Q. So tell me: Why then did you tell a lie and say you didn't  
5 have a gun?

6 A. I was afraid. I was afraid because I had - I had first  
7 said it in the statement but later I had the fear. That's why I  
8 did not say it.

15:53:17

9 Q. So just so that we fully understand, on a previous  
10 occasion, despite taking an oath on the Bible to tell the truth,  
11 you lied?

15:53:43

12 A. Well, that was up to me because I don't think I will come  
13 here to take an oath on the Bible and put my life at stake,  
14 because if you take an oath on the Bible it has to do with God  
15 and my life. So I know that when I came here and took the Bible  
16 with my right hand and if I tell a lie afterwards, that that  
17 would affect me.

18 Q. But you did precisely that on a previous occasion in  
19 November 2005. Why did you do that?

15:54:03

20 A. I have said because I was frightened. I had a fear in me.  
21 Even now, as I am here, I still have fear in me.

22 Q. So through fear on a previous occasion in November 2005 you  
23 deliberately told a lie even though you had taken an oath, is  
24 that right?

15:54:25

25 A. Yes.

26 Q. Now you feared the Kamajors as being cannibals, didn't you?

27 A. While we were in the bush?

28 Q. Yes, you heard that the Kamajors ate people, didn't you?

29 A. Yes, if you attempted to escape.

1 Q. And if they caught you they wouldn't just kill you. They  
2 would eat you as well?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And you believed that, did you?

15:55:13 5 A. Yes, I believed that. That is why I didn't even attempt  
6 escaping.

7 Q. Who told you that?

8 A. It was Hawa.

9 Q. Now, one other matter. Do you remember the time when there  
15:55:34 10 was major infighting between Superman, Rambo and Issa Sesay?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Just tell us briefly what happened.

13 A. Okay. At that time, we were in Makeni. We had already  
14 come to Makeni. We did not know what had happened and where the  
15:56:03 15 infighting has started. Superman came one night and went to  
16 Station Road and killed Rambo. So as he was advancing towards  
17 Issa's place, because Issa was towards the hills and Issa got  
18 information that Superman had come and he had killed Rambo. So  
19 Issa ran into the bush, right up to Magburaka he went there, and  
15:56:30 20 so he used to come from there and come to attack Makeni and at  
21 that time Superman had come from Lunsar and was now based in  
22 Makeni.

23 Q. What caused all of that?

24 A. I don't know. I just witnessed the fighting.

15:56:51 25 Q. And how long did the fighting go on for?

26 A. Well it was more than two weeks, but it was not on a daily  
27 basis that they attacked. If for example they came today  
28 tomorrow they will not come and maybe even the other day, the day  
29 after tomorrow, they would not come. Maybe on the third or

1 fourth day they would come. It was not on a daily basis, because  
2 there were civilians in the town, that is in Makeni, so they  
3 actually did not come on a daily basis. Maybe if they come  
4 today, they may not come tomorrow or the day after. Maybe if  
15:57:31 5 they come in the morning and they come in the evening again on  
6 the same day.

7 Q. Were many people killed?

8 A. Well, the area where I was nobody was killed there. They  
9 did not kill anybody there. The area where I was, they did not  
15:57:49 10 kill anybody there.

11 Q. To your knowledge, did Superman and Issa ever speak again  
12 after that?

13 A. Well, I don't know because at that time we had come to  
14 Makeni and everybody was free to do anything. So I don't know  
15:58:09 15 except - no, I don't know.

16 Q. But in Makeni, during the period you were there and Issa  
17 was in charge, the MPs imposed discipline, didn't they?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. So that, for example, if a soldier raped he would be  
15:58:43 20 executed, wouldn't he?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And it's also right, is it not, that at that time, whilst  
23 Issa was in charge in Makeni --

24 A. Yes.

15:59:11 25 Q. -- looting, burning of houses, raping and so on you  
26 couldn't do any of that, could you?

27 A. No. The looting that one continued, but they did not burn  
28 houses because from the first time that they entered they were  
29 told not to burn and they were told, say, "Oh, no burning. No

1 killing", but they were to loot. So after we had come and based  
2 there Issa passed an order that they should not loot any more and  
3 they should not rape any more, but there was never any burning.

4 Q. And just so you understand where it is that I get this  
16:00:05 5 from, could we go please behind divider 7 and look at page 53,  
6 line 4:

7 "Q. Was it known that Issa Sesay would kill RUF if he  
8 discovered that they raped civilians?

9 A. Yes, because if they went to a house and they met any  
16:00:34 10 young girl and they raped her and if you are able to  
11 identify that particular individual who raped you just go  
12 and lodge the complaint to the MP. Then the complaint  
13 would be conveyed to him.

14 Q. And Issa Sesay would respond and execute the RUF when  
16:00:52 15 he found an allegation proven, am I right?

16 A. He would first of all warn the individual and if the  
17 individual does not desist then he would kill.

18 Q. And the soldiers under his control in Makeni all knew  
19 that was the way Issa Sesay would deal with them. Am I  
16:01:20 20 right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Would you agree that from what you saw of the rebels in  
23 Makeni they were therefore frightened of Issa Sesay and  
24 would not commit such crimes when he was around?

16:01:37 25 A. Yes."

26 Pause there. Do you agree that you said all of this  
27 before?

28 A. Yes, but there is one that is not correct.

29 Q. Which one is that?

1 A. Where I said that I saw Issa kill one person because he set  
2 an example, he said because they said that person had raped, that  
3 was in my presence. I saw that with my eyes where he shot him.  
4 I did not say he warned him.

16:02:09 5 Q. Very well. In fact, you did say that on this previous  
6 occasion. It's just that I haven't copied the page, but I accept  
7 you did say that you witnessed Issa executing someone for the  
8 record and for completeness, but let's go back to the record here  
9 at page 53:

16:02:37 10 "Q. Can you confirm that he gave orders to the RUF rebels  
11 in Makeni not to harm civilians?

12 A. Yes, he gave that order.

13 Q. Was it an order which the rebels understood would be  
14 followed by punishment if they broke the order or disobeyed  
16:02:59 15 the order?

16 A. Yes. They understood that because he would pass the  
17 order with some seriousness and he said now that we've come  
18 from the bush and we've come to town all the bad life that  
19 we've had in the bush should be left there. It should  
16:03:19 20 not be brought into the town."

21 Is that true?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. "Q. So he ordered no raping, no killing, am I right?

24 A. Yes.

16:03:31 25 Q. No looting, am I right?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. No burning people's properties, am I right?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. No harm of any kind no harassment of civilians; am I

1 right?

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. If he discovered any of those things had been done  
4 execution was a real possibility?

16:03:55 5 A. Yes, more for rape, because as regards looting, if you  
6 are caught looting you would take the things and return  
7 them from - to the civilians from where you took them. You  
8 would be flogged and you would be locked in the guardroom.  
9 After two or three days then you would be freed.

16:04:19 10 Q. So flogged on the orders of Issa Sesay; am I right?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Flogged by rubber, a piece of rubber tyre; am I right?

13 A. It could be used. They could also use the cable that  
14 is used for electricity."

16:04:41 15 Is all of that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And did you witness RUF soldiers being beaten with electric  
18 cable?

19 A. Yes. Particularly when they did these things, yes.

16:04:56 20 Q. And that was the situation in Makeni from when you went  
21 there until disarmament, is that right,

22 A. Well, no, because after we had got there those things used  
23 to happen, but from the time Issa passed the order they announced  
24 a ceasefire and so all of those stopped. So if a rebel saw a  
16:05:24 25 lady and was interested in that lady you would go and approach  
26 the lady and you said - no, you would tell the lady you were  
27 interested in her. If that lady did not accept and if you forced  
28 her to have sex with you and you were reported, you would be  
29 dealt with.



1 Q. Thank you. And help me with this. For how long were those  
2 laws in place?

3 A. I cannot tell.

4 Q. Very well. One final matter, Madam Witness, you will be  
16:06:01 5 pleased to know, and it's this. Since the war, have you worked?

6 A. What kind of work?

7 Q. Any kind of work?

8 A. Well, when I was at Masingbi I was not working initially  
9 because I was with my grandmother. I was the first grandchild  
16:06:27 10 and so she did not allow me to work. But while we were in the  
11 bush I used to work, I used to pound rice, I used to launder and  
12 I used to cook. Right up to the time we came to Makeni I used to  
13 launder and cook too, but I did not pound rice any more.

14 Q. No, you misunderstand me. I'm talking about after  
16:06:50 15 disarmament. Since disarmament have you worked?

16 A. No, I was training, but I was not working in any office.  
17 That was not even in Makeni. It was in Port Loko. I was in  
18 school.

19 Q. But you have never worked since you disarmed?

16:07:17 20 A. No.

21 Q. Can we have a look behind divider 10, please. The reason I  
22 ask, you see, is this. According to records which we've got -  
23 let's look at the top entry. In October 2003, when you first  
24 spoke to the Prosecutors, they paid you money for lost wages.

16:07:48 25 Now, how could you be paid lost wages by the Prosecutor when you  
26 weren't working? Can you help us?

27 A. It was not lost salary that was given to me as such. They  
28 said it was just something like a token. Maybe if I come from a  
29 far distance they would give that money to me for transport fare,

1 or something else, but it was not as a salary that I had lost  
2 because I was not working.

3 Q. Well, let's just look and see what - can you see what is  
4 written there? "29 October 2003". Now we know that was the  
16:08:28 5 first occasion that you spoke to them and you were studying at  
6 the time, you weren't working, but according to them, "Payment to  
7 witness for lost wages while meeting with members of the OTP",  
8 Office of the Prosecution. Have you any idea why they wrote this  
9 down?

16:08:53 10 A. I don't know. They just gave me the 5,000 leones. I don't  
11 know if it was for that. I don't know.

12 Q. But it would be a lie to say that you were being given  
13 money for lost wages, wouldn't it?

14 A. Well, they never told me that they were giving me that  
16:09:12 15 money because of salary that I had lost. They just gave me the  
16 money. At times they said because of the time that I had spent  
17 with them they will say, "Okay, you can have this", or maybe if I  
18 was going to a far distance they can say, "Well, use this as  
19 transport fare". That is what they used to tell me.

16:09:29 20 Q. So you were told that you were being given it as a token,  
21 were you?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. As a gift?

24 A. That was how it looked like.

16:09:38 25 Q. So in effect you were being given a gift for giving them a  
26 statement?

27 A. It was not a gift. 5,000, that is a small amount. They  
28 just gave that to me and they said, "Oh, you can have this for  
29 transportation cost if you are living far off". That was just

1 the reason.

2 Q. But you see, you've never worked since disarmament but  
3 let's just go over to the next page, shall we. Entry number 7.  
4 19 February this year, 2008, payment made to witness for lost  
16:10:26 5 wages while meeting with members of the OTP to review his  
6 protective measures. But you weren't working in February this  
7 year, were you?

8 A. No, I was not working. Okay, except the course, except the  
9 studies. Maybe that was why they said I was working, but I was  
16:10:55 10 not working.

11 Q. So what this really should have said was: Payment to  
12 witness for taking time off college. That's what it should have  
13 said, shouldn't it?

14 A. Yes. In fact I don't even know that they wrote this one  
16:11:13 15 here.

16 Q. I know you didn't know, but based on the fact that you  
17 weren't working at the time this is a lie, isn't it?

18 A. They lied. On that they have. Even now I am not working.  
19 I am still studying. Even now I am not working. I am still  
16:11:35 20 studying.

21 Q. But they lied, didn't they?

22 A. Yes, because I'm not working.

23 MR GRIFFITHS: I have no further questions.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Griffiths. Re-examination,  
16:11:44 25 Mr Santora?

26 MR SANTORA: Just a few questions Madam President. I think  
27 we will conclude today too.

28 RE-EXAMINATION BY MR SANTORA:

29 Q. Madam Witness, I'm just going to ask you a few questions

1 arising from some of the matters that you just discussed when my  
2 learned colleague the Defence counsel was asking you questions.

3 Okay?

4 A. Yes.

16:12:05 5 Q. Was anyone ever punished for raping you, Mrs Witness?

6 A. When I was captured?

7 Q. At any time was anyone punished for raping you?

8 A. No, nobody was punished.

9 Q. How old were you when you first were raped?

16:12:29 10 MR GRIFFITHS: She has told us that on a number of  
11 occasions. I don't know why we are revisiting this particularly  
12 horrendous situation.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: That has been both in chief and in  
14 cross-examination, Mr Santora, that age.

16:12:40 15 MR SANTORA: Okay, it was a matter of husband versus rape,  
16 but I do understand. I will withdraw that question:

17 Q. Mrs Witness, on several occasions when you were answering  
18 questions from Defence counsel, in regards to the first statement  
19 you gave to the Office of the Prosecution in October of 2003 you  
16:13:06 20 said that you were not willing to talk them. Explain what you

21 mean you were not willing?

22 A. Okay. Why I said I did not want to explain to them was  
23 because I had taken it that whatever had happened to me, let it  
24 just stay within me, right up to the time maybe I would console  
16:13:34 25 myself and get into something else. And in fact I had a fear  
26 that maybe what if I come and talk to these people, what will be  
27 the consequence or what would happen as a result of my testimony.  
28 That's all I - those are the reasons I had the fear in me. Maybe  
29 in the future they will just say, "Okay, all of those who

1 participated in this thing, let us arrest all of them". That was  
2 the reason I was afraid.

3 MR SANTORA: No further questions, Madam President.

16:14:23

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Santora. Mr Griffiths, you  
5 are on your feet.

6 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, one omission which is I  
7 would like to have marked for identification the two sheets of  
8 payments that I put to the witness, which would be MF-3, I think.

16:14:44

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just let me make sure I have got the  
10 correct ones. It relates to the payment of Wednesday, 29 October  
11 2003 and the payment relating to Tuesday, 19 February 2008.

12 MR GRIFFITHS: Your Honour, yes.

16:15:10

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: That will become MFI-3. They are two  
14 pages, headed "Special Court for Sierra Leone, All disbursement  
15 for witnesses", and, Madam Court Officer, please note that it's  
16 the entry 3 and entry 7.

17 MR GRIFFITHS: And finally I think, Madam President, I  
18 would ask that those three documents be exhibited. I don't know  
19 if there is any opposition to that.

16:15:29

20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, you have heard the  
21 application from counsel for the Defence.

22 MR SANTORA: Just a point of clarification. For the first  
23 two exhibits I would request - I think that they should be  
24 submitted as confidential for certain reasons regarding the prior  
25 measures. I think I am referring to the first two ones, I am  
26 referring to a prior proceeding.

16:15:45

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: It is a bit late in the day, they have  
28 been publicly shown. But let me hear what counsel for the  
29 Defence says.

1 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, you will have noted that I  
2 have been at pains not to make reference to any other proceedings  
3 and I have done that quite deliberately.

4 In light of the discussions we had on Friday when we were  
16:16:20 5 talking about the lifting of restrictive measures, it seems to us  
6 that we need to logically separate what happened on a previous  
7 occasion and what we are about today. And it seems to us, not  
8 only because those documents were dealt with openly, but because  
9 by making those exhibits open in this case we are in no way  
16:16:45 10 disturbing any order made in a prior case, you are merely dealing  
11 with matters presented before this particular tribunal. And it  
12 seems to us in those circumstances issues of confidentiality, in  
13 reality, and practically, do not arise.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, you have moved this, Mr Santora,  
16:17:28 15 but let us --

16 MR SANTORA: Just to make sure of the reasons I gave,  
17 because my understanding was these were confidential in the other  
18 instance. They were not displayed and that's the reason. In  
19 this instance I don't believe the relevant portion that would  
16:17:44 20 cause any problem with the prior order was actually displayed.  
21 That's why I'm making the application that the first two be  
22 confidential.

23 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, can I raise one other  
24 matter? It is totally unrelated, but it's a practical point  
16:18:04 25 which was brought to my attention, I think helpfully by  
26 Mr Taylor, and it's whether you consider it appropriate for the  
27 witness to sign and date those two documents for our purposes.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: That would not include the cover sheet  
29 which obviously is a document created by someone else.

1 MR GRIFFITHS: No. But I think purely for identification  
2 purposes I think Mr Taylor does make a valid point, that it might  
3 be useful to have the witness sign and date both of those  
4 documents.

16:18:40 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Allow me to confer.

6 It appears to us there are two issues here. First is that  
7 question of confidentiality. We agree with counsel for the  
8 Defence that these documents were openly received. There is no  
9 reference to any other proceedings and in our view exhibiting  
10 them does not disturb the order of any other Court. That is  
11 issue number one.

12 We also agree that it would be appropriate that the witness  
13 sign and date the document which she has recognised and  
14 acknowledged and accordingly I will direct that they are now  
15 signed and dated and after that I will deal with them as a matter  
16 of tender.

17 THE WITNESS: Today's date?

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Let me explain, Madam Witness. Because  
19 you acknowledged those two pieces of paper today and said they  
20 were your writing, you've not signed them before and we want you  
21 to sign them to show that you have acknowledged they were your  
22 writing and, that you acknowledged them today, put today's date.  
23 Do you understand?

24 THE WITNESS: Okay.

16:23:15 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. The following documents  
26 become exhibits. First was referred to as MFI-1. It was a two  
27 page document. That document has now been signed and dated by  
28 the witness following her acknowledgment of her own writing.  
29 That becomes D-67.

1 [Exhibit D-67 admitted]

2 The second is also a two page document which again the  
3 witness has signed and dated after acknowledging her own writing.  
4 That becomes exhibit D-68.

16:23:49 5 [Exhibit D-68 admitted]

6 And thirdly is a two page document with entries number 3  
7 and 7 highlighted. That becomes Defence exhibit D-69.

8 [Exhibit D-69 admitted]

9 If there are no other matters I will release the witness.  
10 Yes, Madam Witness.

16:24:19

11 THE WITNESS: So I would like you to do me a favour. I  
12 want to see Shyamala because she was a person who played a great  
13 role in my life. After I had testified, I lost my two children  
14 and I called her and informed her. She did not give me anything,  
15 but what she did to me was much more than giving me money,  
16 because every day she would call me and console me. So when I  
17 came to Freetown I was told that she was here and since I came  
18 here I have nobody to inquire about her. That is why I am  
19 requesting that please do me this favour for me to see her.

16:24:46

20 Maybe after this time I will never see her again in my life. So  
21 please do me this favour for me to see her.

16:25:06

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Witness, I think I know the person  
23 you are talking about, a young lady. I believe she is here at  
24 the ICC but I cannot make any directions. Instead I will ask  
25 witness support if they can contact her on your behalf.

16:25:27

26 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, that person was in the  
27 public gallery today and I am not sure that it's not beyond the  
28 wit of those opposite to organise it. I think it's the very  
29 least they could do for this young woman.



1           PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I am asking. Mr Griffiths, I cannot  
2 order something that is not within my jurisdiction. So I am  
3 therefore requesting that every assistance be given to contact  
4 and if necessary I --

16:26:03 5           MR SANTORA: Just to note it is being done and that was  
6 something - we were of course waiting until after the conclusion  
7 of her testimony. That was appropriate.

8           PRESIDING JUDGE: Indeed, that would be most proper,  
9 Mr Santora. That is being done for you, Madam Witness. Rest  
16:26:17 10 assured.

11           THE WITNESS: Thank you.

12           PRESIDING JUDGE: We will also thank you for coming to give  
13 your evidence. That evidence has now been completed and we are  
14 grateful for your coming to the Court and we wish you a safe  
16:26:32 15 journey home. Thank you. Please assist the witness to leave.

16           Mr Santora, I note the time. There is only a few minutes  
17 left. It really doesn't seem practical to start a new witness,  
18 but if you can indicate to us who the next witness will be so  
19 that we can ensure the interpreters, et cetera, are in position.

16:27:18 20           MR SANTORA: The next witness is being led by Mr Koumjian.  
21 It is TF1-158 and the witness will testify in Krio.

22           PRESIDING JUDGE: Since it's only two minutes to the end of  
23 the tape and our normal adjournment time I will just ask the  
24 interpreters to ensure they are in position for tomorrow and we  
16:27:40 25 will adjourn and commence with a new witness tomorrow morning.

26           Please adjourn Court until 9.30 tomorrow.

27                                 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.30 p.m.  
28                                 to be reconvened on Tuesday, 21 October 2008 at  
29                                 9.30 a.m.]

## I N D E X

### WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:

EDNA M BANGURA	18662
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR SANTORA	18662
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR GRIFFITHS	18699
RE-EXAMINATION BY MR SANTORA	18791

### EXHIBITS:

Exhibit D-67 admitted	18796
Exhibit D-68 admitted	18796
Exhibit D-69 admitted	18796