



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

MONDAY, 22 MARCH 2010
9.00 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Mr Artur Appazov
Ms Erica Bussey

For the Registry:

Mr Gregory Townsend
Ms Rachel Irura
Ms Zainab Fofanah

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis
Mr Nicholas Koumjian
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC
Mr Terry Munday
Mr Silas Chekera

1 Monday, 22 March 2010

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.00 a.m.]

08:57:45 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. We will take appearances,
6 please.

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

09:02:16 10 MR GRIFFITHS: Good morning, Madam President, your Honours,
11 counsel opposite. For the Defence today, myself Courtenay
12 Griffiths. Also with me, Mr Terry Munyard, who is not in court
13 momentarily, and also we are joined today by Ms Vladislava
14 Stoyanova, who hasn't been with us before.

09:02:42 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Before we begin the
16 proceedings, I am given to understand that there are interpreters
17 to be sworn. We will swear them now.

18 [Interpreters sworn]

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, I was given to understand
09:04:02 20 that we are continuing with the re-examination of DCT-125.

21 MR GRIFFITHS: That is entirely correct, Madam President.
22 So can I indicate that firstly he has to be brought in, and
23 initially, at least, I would like us to be in private session.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then the witness will be brought in,
09:04:23 25 please, and the measures implemented.

26 For the members of the public listening in, we will start
27 with a private session, which is necessary for the witness's
28 protection.

29 MR GRIFFITHS: I wonder if we could have the overhead down,

1 please.

2 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
3 the transcript, pages 37710 to 37729, was
4 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
5 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

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

3 MR GRIFFITHS:

09:54:20

4 Q. Now, Mr Witness, do you recall, in connection with a
5 suggestion that the Libyans were engaged in supporting
6 terrorists, that you were shown two news articles regarding the
7 Irish Republican Army?

8 A. Yes, please.

09:54:43

9 Q. Could we please look at the document behind tab 13 which is
10 MFI --

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: MFI-423A.

12 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes, I am grateful:

13 Q. Can we look at the first page, please. Now, Mr Witness,
14 were members or elements of the Irish Republican Army in Libya?

09:55:41

15 A. No, the leadership of the IRA had contacts with Libya, but
16 never their militants were in Libya. All the time I have been in
17 Libya and had contacts with Libya I was never aware of it as a
18 founding member of the Mathaba and a member of the executive
19 committee, never.

09:55:59

20 Q. Now your attention was directed to the passage in this news
21 article which dealt with the Irish Republican Army obtaining
22 Semtex through Libya originated in the Czech Republic. If we
23 look at the last paragraph on that first page we see this:

09:56:23

24 "But as it grew throughout the 1970s and reorganised it
25 began to acquire a wider range of weapons from around the world,
26 principally through sympathisers in the United States of America,
27 and the skills to make increasingly sophisticated home made
28 bombs."

29 Were you aware of this link between the Irish Republican

1 Army and the United States of America?

2 A. No, I was never aware of it.

3 Q. Now another matter. At Camp Tajura, inside the camp were
4 the militants training from the various revolutionary groups
09:57:03 5 training in that camp, were they segregated from each other
6 inside the camp or could they mix with each other?

7 A. Every group was assigned at its own location and they were
8 never together.

9 Q. Were they fenced off from the other groups so that they
09:57:21 10 couldn't meet them, or what?

11 A. No, there was military discipline that they couldn't mingle
12 up with the others.

13 Q. But what about feeding facilities and so on; do you know
14 anything about that?

09:57:31 15 A. Feeding facilities, every group selects militants from
16 their group to go and collect the food from the kitchen.

17 Q. From the kitchen?

18 A. Yeah, from their area of - to their area of residence.

19 Q. So was it a central kitchen, or what?

09:57:48 20 A. It's a big kitchen where they cook for all the soldiers.

21 Q. For all the militants --

22 A. For all the militants of different movements.

23 Q. And so a representative from each movement would have to go
24 to that kitchen to get food for their group?

09:58:01 25 A. Yes, and to get bread in the morning, breakfast, to get
26 food in the afternoon and the evening for every group.

27 Q. So that the cooking facilities, at least, were shared
28 amongst all the soldiers in the camp?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Were there any other shared facilities; for example, the
2 training grounds and so on? Were those shared?

3 A. Every group has its time of training, and they were not
4 trained in groups.

09:58:26 5 Q. Now, did you in March 1999 meet with an RUF delegation in
6 Burkina Faso?

7 A. 1999? No, I never met RUF delegation anywhere. I did not
8 have any contacts with the RUF. Only I saw, as I said earlier,
9 Foday Sankoh when I met him in Gbarnga. That was the only

09:58:56 10 contacts I had with the RUF. I never knew RUF members, and I had
11 no contacts with them.

12 Q. Where were you in March 1999?

13 A. In March 1999 I was in Danane. I was still sick. I was
14 sick at that time, and I was not in Burkina Faso.

09:59:18 15 Q. Another topic: Did you introduce Suwandi Camara to
16 Charles Taylor in Libya?

17 A. Never.

18 Q. Did you introduce Suwandi Camara to Charles Taylor in
19 Burkina Faso?

09:59:30 20 A. Never.

21 Q. Did you introduce Suwandi Camara to Charles Taylor in
22 Liberia?

23 A. Never. Charles Taylor was not having relations directly
24 with our militants except through the chief of staff and his
09:59:48 25 aide-de-camp, who was one of our officials. The late Jackson.

26 Q. Now, do you recall being shown various documentation
27 regarding the assassination of an Afghani militant Ahmad Shah
28 Massoud?

29 A. Yes, please.

1 Q. Could we look, please, at the document behind divider 20,
2 MFI-416B. Now, before we look at this document, Mr Witness, do
3 you recall that your attention was directed to these documents
4 after a lengthy passage of testimony from Mr Taylor had been read
10:00:54 5 to you about some journalists and certain intelligence that
6 Mr Taylor had about them attempting to kill him, yes?

7 A. Yes, please.

8 Q. Now, as a former leader, you have received intelligence in
9 the past, have you?

10:01:14 10 A. Yes, please.

11 Q. Is that intelligence always correct?

12 A. No.

13 Q. I mean, for example, George Bush said there were weapons of
14 mass destruction in Iraq. That's been proved to be wrong, hasn't
10:01:30 15 it?

16 A. Yes, it was a big lie.

17 Q. Now, take a look now, please, at the document MFI-416B.
18 Now, a selected passage of this - it should look like this. I
19 think you are looking at the wrong document. It should look like
10:01:52 20 that.

21 MS IRURA: Your Honour, MFI-416 is one document.

22 MR GRIFFITHS: I have MFI-416 being the documents behind
23 tabs 19, 20, 21.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: It's part of 417, the Afghan web. It's
10:02:39 25 part of - just a minute. It's part of 417.

26 MR GRIFFITHS: Is it 417? I thought they were all given
27 416.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: 417, according to my note.

29 MR GRIFFITHS: So the documents, as I understand it now - I

1 will be corrected if I am wrong - behind dividers 20 and 21 both
2 bear the appellation MFI-417?

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, yes.

4 MR GRIFFITHS: Right.

10:03:54 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: 416 is pages 1 and 14 of The Green Book.
6 That is 416.

7 MR GRIFFITHS: Okay. It must be my fault.

8 Q. Could we - could you show the witness that one, please.

9 Now, Mr Witness, you were shown this document, but your attention
10:04:16 10 was not directed to a particular aspect of it. If we count up
11 six lines and you see to the right of that line:

12 "Massoud was chosen as the military leader of UNIFSA when,
13 on September 9, 2001, two days before the September 11 terrorist
14 attacks in the United States, Massoud was killed. He was the
10:04:45 15 victim of an Al-Qaeda suicide attack. The attackers posed as
16 television journalists, setting off a bomb packed inside their
17 video camera."

18 Now, were you aware of that fact?

19 A. No, sir.

10:05:02 20 Q. Very well. Put that document away, please. Now, the final
21 topic I want to deal with is this: Do you remember me asking you
22 earlier about your reason for not venturing far from your hotel
23 and you told me it was for security reasons, yes?

24 A. Yes, please.

10:05:48 25 Q. Now, listen very carefully to the way I ask the question,
26 because we are in public session. The President of the country
27 from which you originate was at one time a member of the same
28 group as you, wasn't he?

29 A. Yes, please.

1 Q. Is the President still a member?

2 A. He has never resigned and we have never sacked him also.

3 Q. Now help us: What is the attitude of the President towards
4 you?

10:06:30 5 A. The attitude of the President --

6 MR KOUMJIAN: Objection. This again is beyond the scope of
7 re-examination.

8 MR GRIFFITHS: If I am allowed a couple of uninterrupted
9 questions, the point will become clear.

10:06:44 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I am going to allow you the
11 uninterrupted questions.

12 MR GRIFFITHS:

13 Q. What is the attitude of the President towards you?

14 A. The attitude of the President towards me is of fear -
10:06:54 15 constant fear. Because when he took over power, our militants
16 who were with him requested that I should be recalled back to
17 take the leadership. Those militants, five of them were executed
18 the very same day.

19 Q. Help us with this: What would the President do to you if
10:07:16 20 he found you?

21 A. If he finds me today, he is going to chop my head off,
22 because he has tried many times: When I was kidnapped in
23 Guinea-Bissau; when I was in Dakar many times; and even when I
24 went to the country when he invited me --

10:07:34 25 Q. This is why I asked the question: You - it was suggested
26 to you that you travelled from West Africa in order to make
27 money, \$10,000. What's more important to you, your life or
28 \$10,000 US?

29 A. My life is more important, and I can be able to obtain my

1 way - my means of subsistence on my own.

2 Q. Because before I sit down, can we have a look, please, at
3 the US Department of State document placed before this witness,
4 the document behind divider 14. I have it as MFI-420.

10:08:42 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is correct.

6 MR GRIFFITHS:

7 Q. Just the first page. The last paragraph on that page:

8 "The government's poor human rights record worsened and it
9 continued to commit serious abuses. {Redacted}

10:09:12 10 dominance and restrictions on opposition" - can we redact the
11 name of the President, please?

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes.

13 MR GRIFFITHS:

14 Q. "Dominance and restrictions on opposition party continued.

10:09:30 15 In practice, citizens do not have an effective right to change
16 their government:

17 Then this:

18 "Security forces committed some extrajudicial killings and
19 beat or otherwise mistreated detainees and prisoners."

10:09:48 20 Do you have a real fear for your life?

21 A. I have a real fear for my life.

22 Q. Why did you come to The Hague to give evidence? Was it for
23 money?

24 A. I came to The Hague to tell the truth and I didn't come to
10:10:02 25 The Hague for money, because I was never told that I would be
26 given money.

27 MR GRIFFITHS: I have no further questions.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. I think we will deal with the
29 question of exhibits now before the witness leaves. Or we could

1 discharge him, if you prefer.

2 MR GRIFFITHS: Well --

10:10:42

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: I beg your pardon. The judges have one
4 or two questions for the witness. Madam Court Officer, the
5 questions that the judges want to pose will require a brief
6 private session for the security of the witness. Please organise
7 it.

8 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
9 the transcript, pages 37738 to 37739, was
10 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
11 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

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

3 MR GRIFFITHS: I raise it for this practical reason: The
4 matter I raised in Friday last, and I see that Mr Townsend is in
10:13:47 5 court to implement that, I would also like to be present at that
6 so it would be helpful if we could deal with the exhibits and
7 then if I could be excused so that I could be present.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Certainly.

9 MR GRIFFITHS: I am grateful.

10:13:59 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: And I think we will start with your
11 exhibits, Mr Griffiths. Yes, Mr Griffiths.

12 MR GRIFFITHS: There are three documents which we would ask
13 to be exhibited. They are MFI-408, MFI-409 and MFI-410. I deal
14 with them collectively for this reason: They are all different
10:14:44 15 versions of the same document. So there is the original
16 photocopied document, the translation and the extracted colour
17 photographs and I would ask for those documents to be exhibited,
18 please.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Would you prefer to have a single generic
10:15:04 20 number?

21 MR GRIFFITHS: I think that would be helpful for future
22 reference and then they could be A, B and C.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: So the copy of a publication called "La
24 Mathaba" - Mr Koumjian, I assume you have no objection?

10:15:31 25 MR KOUMJIAN: Correct, your Honour. As I indicated during
26 the direct, I have no objection to this document.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. The copy of the "La Mathaba
28 Mondiale", this is a French version of this book, formerly marked
29 MFI-408 is now D-412A. The unofficial English translation of the

1 same book, which was formerly 409 is now exhibit D-412B. The
2 bundle of coloured photographs taken out of the French version of
3 this book is marked exhibit D-412C.

4 [Exhibits D-411A to D-411C admitted]

10:16:30 5 MR GRIFFITHS: In order to shorten matters, can I indicate
6 that I have no objection to the admission into evidence of any of
7 the documents put to the witness by Mr Koumjian.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Mr Koumjian, should I assume
9 that all the documents marked --

10:16:46 10 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes, your Honour. There is one matter I
11 wanted to just raise, and I appreciate counsel's indication, but
12 on MFI-422 additional pages were read this morning and what I
13 would prefer is that we substitute the entire document behind the
14 tab 12 rather than - otherwise just the pages that were read. I
10:17:11 15 don't know if there would be an objection to that, the Court
16 would have the entire document.

17 MR GRIFFITHS: No objection.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: For some of these documents I'm afraid I
19 can't recall - I don't have the originals. I would want to admit
10:17:35 20 the actual document as marked.

21 MR KOUMJIAN: I am happy to provide your Honour my bundle
22 if that would help.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Especially the documents that were
24 written by the witness. Madam Court Officer, the first exhibit
10:17:57 25 is MFI-411.

26 It's been drawn to my attention that the next Defence
27 exhibit number was not 412, but rather 411. So I am going to
28 change the generic number of the last three exhibits from D-412A,
29 B and C respectively. That is the "La Mathaba Mondiale" and

1 associated exhibits. They are now D-411A, B and C.

2 Now, for the Prosecution exhibits, the document that is a
3 list indicated by the witness of countries that he has been to up
4 to March 2006, that is now admitted as exhibit P-499.

10:20:28 5 The list of SOFA forces in Liberia as written by the
6 witness is now exhibit P-500.

7 The report from WWS, that is the witness and victims
8 services, it's a memorandum stated 10 March 2010 consisting of
9 one page is respect of witness DCT-125 - it doesn't consist of
10:21:37 10 one page. This document previously marked as MFI-413 consists of
11 a memorandum that is one page and then two other pages of an
12 International Civil Service Commission DSA circular for February
13 2010 and another circular for March 2010. That's a total of five
14 pages is collectively admitted as exhibit P-501.

10:22:25 15 The next is a letter signed by the - addressed to the
16 Special Court for Sierra Leone signed by witness DCT-125 in its
17 unredacted form, together with its redacted form, are admitted
18 collectively as exhibit P-502 and they will be marked
19 confidential.

10:23:15 20 Now, the next was MFI-415. This is a copy of The Green
21 Book, part 3 entitled "The Social Basis of the Third Universal
22 Theory" comprising the cover page and pages 12, 13 and 14. That
23 will now be admitted as exhibit P-503.

24 The next exhibit which was MFI-416 is The Green Book, part
10:24:03 25 1, the title is "The Solution to the Problem of Democracy, The
26 Authority of the People" comprising of a cover page and pages 1
27 and 14 will now be admitted as exhibit P-504.

28 Now, the next exhibit comprising a number of newspaper
29 articles, there are actually I think three newspaper articles.

1 You have the BBC News article "Profile: The Lion of Panjshir",
2 September 10, 2001, comprising two pages. That will be
3 exhibit P-505A. A second article is from the Afghan web online,
4 that comprises two pages. This is not properly described. This
10:25:39 5 is an article entitled "Ahmad Shah Massoud" comprising two pages,
6 that will be exhibit P-505B.

7 The third article is from the New York Times entitled
8 "After Effects, Briefly Noted Afghan Panel to Investigate
9 Massoud's Death" comprising one page and dated 29 April 2003,
10:26:26 10 that will be now admitted as P-505C.

11 Then the article from LexisNexis entitled, "A Friendship
12 Dies in a Bloody Coup, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso", dated October
13 26, 1987, it's comprising three pages, that is now admitted as
14 exhibit P-506.

10:27:09 15 An article from the Human Rights Quarterly by Frans
16 Viljoen, dated - it's not dated, but I think it's volume 27 of
17 2005. The title is "The Special Rapporteur on Prisons and
18 Conditions of Detention in Africa, Achievements and
19 Possibilities", that article comprises the cover page and pages
10:27:51 20 165 and 166, that is now admitted as exhibit P-507.

21 A document entitled "The US Department of State, Diplomacy
22 in Action, The Gambia, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices,
23 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labour 2000", this is dated
24 23 February 2001, and it has 13 pages from pages 1 to 13, that is
10:28:32 25 now exhibit P-508.

26 There are two articles that follow now. One is an article
27 from LexisNexis entitled "Gambia Rebels Call on Senegal to Move
28 Troops", Dakar, Senegal dated August 1, 1981, comprising two
29 pages, pages 1 and 2, that is now exhibit P-509A.

1 Another article from the Boston Globe newspaper entitled
2 "Gambia Rebels Demand Pull-Out by Senegalese in Dakar, Senegal"
3 dated August 1, 1981 also comprising two pages is now
4 exhibit P-509B.

10:29:57 5 Another article from the Boston Globe entitled "Claim and
6 Counterclaim in Gambia Fighting" dated 2 August 1981 comprising
7 two pages will be exhibit P-509C.

8 Now, the next document, which was formerly MFI-422 now
9 comprising - it's a documented called "The Gambia: Studies in
10 Society and Politics" by Arnold Hughes now comprising pages - the
11 front page - two front pages, then pages 92, 98, 99, 100 and 103,
12 those pages together are now exhibit P-510.

13 The BBC news article entitled "The IRA's Store of Weaponry"
14 dated 14 August 2001, this is a BBC news web, is now admitted as
10:31:55 15 exhibit P-511.

16 And lastly, a copy of the New York Times, an article
17 entitled "Havel says his predecessors sent Libya explosives", 23
18 March 1990 comprising two pages, that is now admitted as
19 exhibit P-512.

10:32:31 20 [Exhibits P-499 to P-512 admitted]

21 Mr Witness, I would like to thank you for your testimony,
22 and we wish you a safe journey home.

23 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.

24 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, in order to facilitate the
10:32:43 25 matter I raised on Friday, Mr Taylor will leave Court for 15
26 minutes, but it need not hinder the commencement of the next
27 witness's testimony, so we can - as soon as the Court is vacated
28 by this witness, we can start with the other witness.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: We shall presume, as you have rightly

1 said, that Mr Taylor has waived his right --

2 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes, he has.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: -- to be present: Mr Munyard, are you
4 taking the next witness?

10:34:53 5 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, I am. If you will give me a
6 moment just to deal with Mr Griffiths's wires, that have
7 literally become crossed. So I am limited, as you can see, in
8 the scope - I will be about a minute, I think, if you don't mind.
9 Thank you, I am now disentangled.

10:35:33 10 Can I indicate that the next witness, DCT-146, as in the
11 case of all Defence witnesses, enjoyed a measure of protection as
12 a result of your Honour's order of 27 May 2009 in that his
13 identity was not to be disclosed publicly. In fact, I have
14 spoken to this witness this morning and he has confirmed that he
10:36:02 15 is willing to give evidence completely openly, including giving
16 his full name in court, and the language that he will give his
17 evidence in is Krio.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: May I inquire if the Krio interpreters
19 are in place?

10:36:22 20 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then let the witness be brought in,
22 please.

23 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, Mr Taylor is still here. I'm
24 assuming that's because arrangements are being made behind the
10:38:36 25 scenes for him to leave, but it may be more appropriate that he
26 goes before the witness is sworn, simply for the smooth running
27 of the Court.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. I thought he had left.

29 MR MUNYARD: So did I, and it wasn't until I heard a voice

1 behind me that I became alerted to the fact that he was still
2 here. You have the advantage over me in that you can see him; I
3 don't have eyes in the back of my head.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Could Mr Taylor please be escorted out of
10:39:06 5 the courtroom. Thank you.

6 [The accused not present]

7 WITNESS: DCT-146 [Sworn]

8 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR MUNYARD:

9 Q. Mr Witness, I am going to ask you first of all --

10:40:29 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. -- to give your name - your full name to the learned
12 judges. And when you give your evidence, can you speak --

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. -- slowly so that those who are interpreting your evidence
10:40:43 15 have a chance to do so?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. And although it may seem rather strange, while you are
18 being asked questions by me from this side of the Court, and
19 later you will be asked by counsel on the other side of the
10:41:02 20 Court, can you please look forward at the judges when you are
21 giving your answers; is that understood?

22 A. Yes, my Lord.

23 Q. Is your name Charles Ngebeh?

24 A. Yes, sir.

10:41:22 25 Q. And as far as spellings are concerned, Charles as in
26 Charles Windsor heir to the British throne, and Ngebeh
27 N-G-E-B-E-H

28 A. You are right, sir, my Lord.

29 Q. What country were you born in?

- 1 A. In Sierra Leone.
- 2 Q. And in what district in Sierra Leone were you born?
- 3 A. Kailahun District.
- 4 Q. And what is your tribe?
- 10:41:57 5 A. Mende by tribe.
- 6 Q. And, finally, what year were you born, Mr Ngebeh?
- 7 A. 1965.
- 8 Q. Did you go to school from your early years?
- 9 A. Yes, my Lord.
- 10:42:20 10 Q. Were you able to go all the way through school to the
11 normal time at which you would leave or not?
- 12 A. No, my Lord.
- 13 Q. And why weren't you able to go all the way through to the
14 final year of school?
- 10:42:41 15 A. My people hadn't funds.
- 16 Q. And so at what age did you leave school?
- 17 A. Well, I left school in 1987. Just calculate that.
- 18 Q. That looks like age 22 to me, although maths was never my
19 strong point. Were you in fact expecting to have stayed on at
10:43:15 20 school a little longer beyond 1987?
- 21 A. Yes. Yes, my Lord.
- 22 Q. You have told us that your family couldn't afford the funds
23 to pay and so what did you do when you left school?
- 24 A. I was engaged in mining, sir.
- 10:43:37 25 Q. Were you working for any particular person?
- 26 A. Yes, my Lord.
- 27 Q. And who was that person?
- 28 A. My in-law, Francis Samba.
- 29 Q. Were you doing the mining yourself or, if not, what job

1 were you doing in connection with mining?

2 A. I was an ordinary manager. I used to follow the workers in
3 the bush. I was representing my in-law in the bush at the site.

4 Q. And for how long did you do that particular job?

10:44:26 5 A. I was there till 1991.

6 Q. And where were you doing this?

7 A. In Tongo, Nghun.

8 Q. Nghun, I have a spelling that I will offer, N-G-H-U-N. I
9 am not sure if it's been spelt before.

10:44:53 10 A. You are correct, my Lord.

11 Q. What happened then in 1991?

12 A. Thank you, sir, my Lord. In 1991, I left Tongo to take my
13 mother and father to Kenema. By then the rebels had attacked
14 Bomaru. As this attack was going on in Bomaru, I was in Tongo.

10:45:42 15 My eldest sister told me to go and take my mother and my father.
16 Then I went to my village, that is Ngolahun Bongre, in the
17 Kailahun District. I was there when the rebels attacked us. I
18 was captured. My mother and father, including my younger sister
19 of the same parents. They took me to Pendembu together with my
10:46:15 20 family members.

21 Q. Pause there for a moment.

22 A. Thank you, sir.

23 Q. Mr Witness, it's very polite of you but you don't need to
24 thank anyone each time they ask a question. If you just give the
10:46:32 25 answer, don't worry about the niceties. Are you able to help us
26 with the spelling of your village that you just mentioned?

27 A. Yes, my Lord. N-G-O-L-A-H-U-N, Ngolahun.

28 Q. Now, you said that you and your parents and your younger
29 sister were taken to Pendembu together with family members. Who

1 was it who took you to Pendembu?

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause. Mr Munyard, were there not
3 two words to that location? It was Ngolahun something.

4 MR MUNYARD: There might well have been.

10:47:29 5 THE WITNESS: Ngolahun Bongre. Bongre is the name of the
6 chiefdom.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Can you please spell that chiefdom.

8 THE WITNESS: B-O-N-G-R-E, Bongre. The name of the
9 chiefdom is Pege Bongre. The town is Ngolahun Bongre.

10:47:54 10 MR MUNYARD:

11 Q. [Microphone not activated]. What is the first half of the
12 name of the chiefdom that you have just told us?

13 A. Page Bongre Chiefdom.

14 Q. Can you spell Pege for us?

10:48:18 15 A. Yes. P-E-G-E. Pege Bongre. Thank you, sir.

16 Q. Now, they take you with your parents, your younger sister
17 and family members to Pendembu. Who are these people who took
18 you there?

19 A. The RUF who attacked Ngolahun.

10:48:48 20 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
21 repeat his answer.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you please repeat your
23 answer.

24 THE WITNESS: The RUF who attacked Ngolahun took us to
10:49:00 25 Pendembu together with my family members.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Could I request Madam Court Officer to
27 adjust that microphone so that the witness is speaking into it.

28 THE WITNESS: Are you getting me clearly now?

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thanks, Mr Witness, we'll let you know if

1 we need help.

2 MR MUNYARD:

3 Q. Can I ask you just to help us with a little bit more
4 information about when you were captured by the rebels. What
10:49:39 5 exactly happened when the rebels arrived in your village? How is
6 it that they came to be able to take you and your family to
7 Pendembu?

8 A. Yes. Before the --

9 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat and speak
10:50:05 10 very slowly.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause, Mr Witness. The
12 interpreters are not catching up with you. Please repeat your
13 answer slowly.

14 THE WITNESS: Okay. The government sent troops to Ngolahun
10:50:25 15 to protect us, including some Guineans and Sierra Leoneans led by
16 former captain - he has died now but I will call his name later,
17 they came to protect us. They were in Ngolahun. They assured us
18 and told us not to run away, that they will provide security for
19 us. They were well equipped. Everybody was in town. In the
10:50:59 20 morning, we just heard some shooting that was coming from the
21 road towards the riverside, the Moya River. The soldiers who were
22 in town never responded. All of them ran away.

23 MR MUNYARD:

24 Q. And so when the rebels came into the town, was it only
10:51:27 25 civilians who were left or were there any soldiers, Guineans,
26 Sierra Leonean, or any other nationality, there to protect you?

27 A. All of them ran away. Only civilians remained.

28 Q. Mr Ngebeh, you said that they took you all to Pendembu,
29 yes?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. [Microphone not activated] to you all when you got to
3 Pendembu?

4 A. Well, I was taken from amongst my people. They took me to
10:52:50 5 Foya. They took me as manpower.

6 Q. Right. And what do you mean by "they took me as manpower"?
7 What did you have to do?

8 A. The items that they had looted they gave to me to carry to
9 Foya.

10:53:15 10 Q. Was it only you or was it other people who were taken from
11 Pendembu to Foya as manpower?

12 A. Yes, sir, we were many, sir.

13 Q. What happened when you got to Foya?

14 A. Well, things were difficult for me because Foya was a
10:53:45 15 strange place for me. I had never been there. To get food was
16 difficult. Even my movement was restricted. I found things very
17 difficult. I decided to return to my country.

18 Q. Just so that anybody who is listening understands, in what
19 country is Foya?

10:54:11 20 A. Foya is in Liberia. It has a boundary from Foya to Koindu.
21 Foya is in Liberia, but there is a boundary.

22 Q. You have told us that you were taken as manpower to Foya
23 and that life was difficult in Foya. Were any members of your
24 family in Foya at anytime while you were there?

10:54:38 25 A. No, sir. Sierra Leoneans were there, but they were not my
26 family members. My father and mother I left in Pendembu. But I
27 met Sierra Leoneans in Foya, but they were not my family members.
28 They did not know me, but we were all Sierra Leoneans who went
29 there.

1 Q. And are you able to help us at all with what month it was
2 or what time of year it was that you had been taken to Foya in
3 the first place?

4 A. It was in 1991 that all this was happening.

10:55:11 5 Q. Are you able to be any more specific about when in 1991
6 this was happening?

7 A. Well, approximately it was within April, to me.

8 Q. And for about how long were you in Foya before you decided
9 to return back to your country?

10:55:38 10 A. Well, I did not even spend a month. I can say two weeks or
11 under three weeks. Approximately two weeks.

12 Q. How was it that you were able to get back then to Sierra
13 Leone?

14 A. Well, fortunately for me, I saw a group of RUF members who
10:56:06 15 had come from Gbarnga. One person who was among this group was
16 Morris Kallon. He was in a vehicle. Then he spoke Mende. I
17 went closer to the vehicle and I greeted him. I said, "Good
18 morning, sir," in Mende. Then he responded. He asked me what I
19 had come to do in Foya and I told him I had been taken as
10:56:33 20 manpower to come there. He asked me how things were getting on
21 with me and I said things were difficult. Then he took out some
22 money and gave it to me. Then he said I should try and go back
23 to Sierra Leone. That was what happened to me in Foya. Then I
24 decided and returned to Pendembu. I travelled to Pendembu.

10:56:57 25 Thank you.

26 Q. When you got back to Pendembu, were you free to go wherever
27 you wanted to go or not?

28 A. No, my Lord.

29 Q. What happened to you when you got back to Pendembu?

1 A. The same problem that I was encountering in Foya was the
2 same I encountered in Pendembu. There was no free movement.
3 Even to fend food for my people, I was unable to do. I was with
4 my father and mother in Pendembu. Things were very difficult.

10:57:39 5 Q. And so what did you decide to do?

6 A. Well, since we had come there, those of us whom the rebels
7 had brought to Pendembu, whoever decided to go to Pendembu would
8 be killed by the soldiers. They would say that you were a rebel.
9 So I decided to stay in Pendembu. From that free movement as a
10:58:06 10 civilian was very difficult, so I decided to go to the training
11 base. Yes, my Lord.

12 Q. You say you decided to go to the training base. Training
13 for what or as what?

14 A. To be trained as a guerilla to liberate our country.

10:58:28 15 Q. To be trained as a guerilla by who?

16 A. Well, when I went to the training base, the training
17 commandant was called CO Jah Glory. He was the commandant. We
18 had one Special Forces who had come from Libya called
19 Mohamed Tarawalli. He was the training adviser. Thank you.

10:58:53 20 Q. And it may be obvious to you, Mr Ngebeh, but which group
21 did these people belong to who were training you?

22 A. Yes, my Lord. The group that was training me was mixed
23 with Liberians and Sierra Leoneans.

24 Q. But what was their name? It may be an obvious question,
10:59:20 25 but you haven't actually spelled out yet which organisation this
26 was.

27 A. This organisation in 1991, it was a combined forces of RUF
28 and NPFL.

29 Q. And when you say you wanted to liberate your country,

1 Liberate it from what?

2 A. From the rotten system.

3 Q. Was that your view, that the system was rotten?

4 A. Well, according to Foday Sankoh, who had brought the war,
11:00:08 5 he told us that no coup was oust the APC. He said the only way
6 to oust the APC was through a revolution. He said, "You Kailahun
7 people to whom I have brought this war, you are the people who
8 suffered in the hands of Siaka Stevens," he said, "I would want
9 you to provide your children in order to restore the SLPP back to
11:00:36 10 power. I am against the APC." This was the ideology that Foday
11 Sankoh brought to Kailahun District in order to win over the
12 Kailahun people.

13 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat and
14 slow down.

11:00:51 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause. Can you please repeat
16 where you said "this is the ideology", repeat that part slowly.

17 THE WITNESS: The ideology that Foday Sankoh used to win
18 over the people in Kailahun District and Pujehun District, he
19 used the name of the SLPP. He said, "Give me your children in
11:01:14 20 order for us to fight against the APC and oust them from power.
21 From there I would install the SLPP." That was the ideology that
22 Foday Sankoh preached in Kailahun District. That is why you are
23 seeing most RUF are Mende today. That was the sacrifice that we
24 made in order to restore the SLPP to power. Yes, my Lord.

11:01:41 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard, in view of the time, I think
26 the tape has run out, though I haven't been alerted yet. We will
27 take a half hour break and reconvene at 11.30.

28 [Break taken at 11.00 a.m.]

29

1 [Upon resuming at 11.30 a.m.]

2 [The accused present]

3 MS HOLLIS: Madam President, may I simply note for the
4 record that Mr Koumjian has departed the courtroom.

11:32:12 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: So noted. Thank you.

6 MR MUNYARD: Likewise, Madam President, Mr Griffiths has
7 gone but we are joined by Silas Chekera in his stead.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Munyard. Please proceed.

9 MR GRIFFITHS:

11:32:27 10 Q. Mr Ngebeh, you were talking before we had our break about
11 the ideology of Foday Sankoh. I don't want to go into it in any
12 detail, but will you tell the Court where you learned about
13 Foday Sankoh's ideology.

14 A. Yes. Well, when I was at the training base, Pa Sankoh used
11:32:53 15 to visit us at the base. That was where he gave us this
16 ideology, a call for a formation of all recruits. They told us
17 the aim - his aim of bringing the war to Sierra Leone. He said
18 the Mendes have suffered a lot in the hands of Siaka Stevens. He
19 said - they made an example of the old railway line that was in
11:33:20 20 Kailahun. He spoke about SLPMB and how it was destroyed. And he
21 stated a lot of reasons. He said he would want us to join him to
22 fight in order to restore the SLPP to power. He said today --

23 Q. I'm going to stop you there. I just wanted to know --

24 A. Okay.

11:33:38 25 Q. You said you learnt this at the training base. Where was
26 the training base?

27 A. Pendembu.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause. Mr Interpreter, I think
29 you need to speak clearly because a number of things you have

1 said appear as "indiscernible" in the record. This is not good.
2 I think that is because the people transcribing didn't hear what
3 you said properly. Please speak clearly so that the recorders
4 can record everything you say, Mr Interpreter.

11:34:15 5 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you, your Honour.

6 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, I think the main thing that's
7 missing there is a reference to the railway line. Can I just
8 clarify that with the witness and it will hopefully fill in the
9 gap in any event:

11:34:29 10 Q. You said he gave one example of the railway line. Can you
11 explain what you mean by that?

12 A. Yes. During Charles - after we had had independence, there
13 was a train in Kailahun District. There was a train from
14 Pendembu to Kenema. But when Siaka Stevens came, he stopped all
11:34:57 15 of that including the SLPMB. Kailahun District hasn't got
16 diamonds. We depended on cocoa and coffee. We had SLPMB, and
17 that was what was used for --

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please, talk with your sentences
19 separate. The way you are speaking, nobody can keep up with you.

11:35:18 20 THE WITNESS: Yes.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Slow down, please.

22 THE WITNESS: Okay.

23 MR GRIFFITHS:

24 Q. Siaka Stevens stopped all of that, you are talking about
11:35:30 25 the railway. Are you saying that the railway was no longer
26 functioning between Kenema and Pendembu?

27 A. Yes, my Lord.

28 Q. And you said we had to - you made reference to something
29 called SLPMB. Is that right?

1 A. Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board. It used to exist.

2 Q. And what did the marketing board do for the people in your
3 district?

4 A. In Kailahun District there were no diamonds. The people
11:36:30 5 depended on coffee and cocoa. Through the SLPMB, our parents
6 were able to educate us. They used to make our roads and build
7 good houses. But when Siaka Stevens came to power, we lost all
8 those facilities. Those were the points that Foday Sankoh raised
9 in Kailahun District.

11:36:56 10 Q. Back to your training, please. You say that Pa Sankoh used
11 to come and talk to you about his ideology. In addition to
12 ideology training, did you have any other kind of training while
13 you were at the base in Pendembu?

14 A. Yes, my Lord. We underwent the halaka. This halaka was
11:37:23 15 one of the hardest trainings. We used - sometimes we would crawl
16 whilst they are shooting at us. If you were unfortunate and you
17 are shot, you will die. Sometimes they used live cartridges and
18 sometimes blank cartridges. If anyone escaped from the training,
19 if you are not lucky, you will be killed. If you are lucking,
11:37:59 20 you will be punished.

21 Q. What was the halaka training part of?

22 A. It was a hard exercise for endurance.

23 Q. Let me try and ask the question in another way. You've
24 told us that you had some training in ideology, yes? You've told
11:38:24 25 us that you had training in other things apart from ideology and
26 you gave one example as halaka training.

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. Were you trained in any other areas apart from ideology and
29 halaka?

1 A. Yes. I underwent another training but after graduating
2 from the training base. I was trained to make weapons.

3 Q. Before we get on to that, I just want you to help the
4 judges with all the different types of training that you had at
11:38:59 5 the training base. We've dealt with ideology and halaka. Were
6 you trained to do anything else at the training base before you
7 left there?

8 A. Yes. In guerilla training, all the various trainings
9 included in the guerilla training like halaka and the one taken
11:39:23 10 by CO Mohamed and ideology. There were parades. We were taught
11 to parade. All the activities that enable you to be strong as a
12 guerilla we underwent at the training base.

13 Q. Did you have any kind of weapons training at the training
14 base?

11:39:44 15 A. No, my Lord.

16 Q. Did anybody apart from Pa Sankoh and I think you mentioned
17 Mohamed Tarawalli, did anybody apart from those two train you in
18 ideology?

19 A. At the training base, Pa Sankoh used to come to the
11:40:08 20 training base. He used to teach us ideology together with
21 CO Mohamed and CO Jah Glory and other instructors. There were a
22 lot of instructors, but these were the most important people at
23 the training base.

24 Q. [Microphone not activated] CO Jah Glory earlier. Was there
11:40:25 25 anybody else who was an important trainer in ideology?

26 A. The people were many, but those whom I have named, for me
27 those were the important people.

28 Q. So how long were you training at the training base before
29 you moved on to other training?

1 A. I was at the training base for some months.

2 Q. You told us that you had arms training after you left the
3 training base. When did you have arms training?

4 A. After I had graduated from the training base.

11:41:18 5 Q. So you had been there some months, you graduate, and then
6 where do you go for your arms training? Was it at the same base
7 or somewhere different?

8 A. It was a different place, sir.

9 Q. Are you able to tell us where it was?

11:41:39 10 A. Yes, my Lord. At the Executive Mansion Grounds, Pendembu.
11 The Executive Mansion Grounds at Pendembu.

12 Q. And what was the training in arms that you received there?

13 A. Yes, my Lord. I was trained in RPG, LMG, GPMG, AK-47. I
14 was trained to make RPG, GPMG, AK-47, LR, BR, G3s.

11:42:29 15 Q. Pause there. What is LR?

16 A. LR, light automatic rifle. It uses G3 rounds. It
17 resembles G3, but it's not the G3. Light automatic rifle.

18 Q. What is BR?

19 A. BAR and LAR are the same weapons, but they have some
11:42:55 20 similarities. They use the same cartridges.

21 Q. Very well. And G3 --

22 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Munyard, I think he said he was trained
23 to make those things.

24 MR MUNYARD: He started off by saying trained to make RPGs.

11:43:12 25 JUDGE LUSSICK: [Overlapping speakers] the rest.

26 MR MUNYARD: Yes, I'll ask what he means by that:

27 Q. Now, Mr Ngebeh, you told the Court a moment ago, "I was
28 trained to make" and then you started off with a whole list of
29 things; RPG, GMG, AK-47, LR, BR and G3. Did you yourself make

1 those particular weapons, or what, in the course of your
2 training?

3 A. Thank you, my Lord. After we had trained we were four in
4 number who were taken from the training base. I and my three
11:44:05 5 brothers and one other guy, four of us. We underwent this
6 training for a period of three months. We sat to an exam and I
7 emerged first position. From that we had a general adjutant CO
8 Kposowa. They organised a party for us.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Witness, you are not answering the
11:44:29 10 question that you were asked. Were you actually making these
11 weapons yourself?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: You were manufacturing these weapons?

14 THE WITNESS: Repaired them.

11:44:46 15 MR MUNYARD:

16 Q. Now let's just be absolutely clear about that. When you
17 first were trained in weapons in this second period of training,
18 did you yourself assemble all the pieces of pieces that made, for
19 example, an RPG? Did you put it all together from scratch? Or
11:45:13 20 were you repairing RPGs that already existed but you were putting
21 them into working order? Do you follow my question?

22 A. Yes. I only did repairs. After it had been damaged for
23 instance if the firing pin is finished, I can make it. I can
24 make the firing pin for AK-47. I only used to repair them. If
11:45:44 25 the arm cannot go automatic I can enable it to go automatic. I
26 repaired in that section. I was not manufacturing them.

27 Sometimes if they launched an RPG bomb and it goes cold, I will
28 open it and repair it and give it back to the soldiers to go and
29 launch it. That's the course I studied. I was not a

1 manufacturer but I used to repair them.

2 Q. I think the point is now clear. You said you were training
3 in that work for about three months. And where did you go once
4 you had finished your arms training?

11:46:27 5 A. Well, after I had graduated and had been appointed
6 commander among the four, my first assignment area was in Kui va.

7 Q. When you say you were appointed commander, commander of
8 what?

9 A. To lead the four people.

11:46:51 10 Q. And the four people, what was their job?

11 A. All four of us were trained as armourers but through the
12 examination that we took I emerged first position. The other one
13 was deputy. I had my deputy. The other one was an adjutant and
14 the other one was an operational man. All four of us had

11:47:18 15 positions but I was the commander.

16 Q. You were the commander of - you've mentioned them as
17 armourers. You were the commander of the armourers, were you?

18 A. Yes, my Lord.

19 Q. And you said that your next assignment was to Kui va. I
11:47:36 20 believe that's Q-U-I-V-A?

21 A. Yes, my Lord.

22 Q. There may be an alternative spelling of K-U-I-V-A. As we
23 know, there are many alternatives. I think it's accurately
24 recorded one way or the other. How long were you at Kui va?

11:48:00 25 A. Well, I was in Kui va for some months. I was there let me
26 say - after the three months I was there until the infighting
27 occurred between the RUF and the NPFL. I was in Kui va in 1991.

28 Q. Can you tell us what was this infighting that you've just
29 referred to?

1 A. Yes, my Lord. This infighting separated Mr Taylor and Pa
2 Sankoh in 1991. We had a commander - I'm coming, sir. We had a
3 commander called Sam Bockarie, alias Mosquito. He came to know
4 that the population of Sierra Leoneans were more than the
11:49:14 5 Liberians. He decided that the Liberians should return. We were
6 able to fight our war. What Sam Bockarie did was that he
7 organised the Sierra Leonean forces, that is the junior
8 commandos, including some vanguards, to execute all the
9 Liberians. This created a problem between us and the NPFL in
11:49:45 10 191. By then I was in Kiviwa. The commander who was in Kiviwa was
11 called Jim Kwie. He was the commander.

12 Q. I'm going to ask you to give us a spelling of the name
13 James Kwie. James as in the usual spelling. Is Kwie
14 [microphone not activated]?

11:50:05 15 A. I can't spell it. He was a Gio man. He is called Kwie.
16 James Kwie.

17 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, the spelling I can offer is
18 K-A-W-I-E:

19 Q. Tell us about Mr Kwie and what he did?

11:50:29 20 A. Mr Kwie was the commander and he said why is it that when
21 Liberians go to the war front they are the only ones who were
22 being killed. Then he understood that Sam Bockarie has organised
23 junior commandos to be killing the Liberians. This caused the
24 infighting between us and the NPFL in 1991. The first infighting
11:50:55 25 we called Top 20. He too put men together to go in search of the
26 all vanguards, those who were responsible.

27 Q. Can you tell us when in 1991 this started?

28 A. Well, let's take it from the time that I went to the
29 training base, I had spent three months there and I've gone to

1 Kui va. I can take it that it could be within around August.

2 Let's take it at that. August.

3 Q. You said a moment ago, "He put men together to go in search
4 of the vanguards, those who were responsible." Who was the he
11:51:48 5 you were referring to then?

6 A. Yes. One, Sam Bockarie. Two, CO Mohamed who was the
7 Special Forces. Three, Augustine. The last person was Issa
8 Sesay. But Sam Bockarie escaped and formed a jungle. They were
9 not able to arrest him. They were only able to arrest four RUF
11:52:17 10 people, CO Mohamed, Morris Kallon, Issa Sesay and Augustine. And
11 he brought them to Kui va. As this was going on I was still in
12 Kui va as arms specialist. I was working there.

13 Q. Pause there, please. Who is the he who was able to arrest
14 the four RUF people?

11:52:45 15 A. James Kawi e gave this command to go in search of these
16 people.

17 Q. So he arrested four of them and what did he do with the
18 four who he had arrested?

19 A. He put them under investigation.

11:53:06 20 Q. And what happened as a result of the investigation?

21 A. After the investigation it was found out that Sam Bockarie
22 and Augustine were responsible for the execution of the
23 Liberians. Augustine was executed at Kui va. He was a vanguard.
24 CO Mohamed, Morris Kallon, Issa Sesay were jailed.

11:53:38 25 Q. And how long were they jailed for?

26 A. This infighting went on for nearly three months but while
27 this was going on Pa Sankoh was in Gbarnga. What was going on
28 was unknown to Pa Sankoh.

29 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat this

1 Last bit.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are speaking too fast.

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, madam.

11:54:11

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please speak slowly and repeat. Repeat
5 what you just said.

11:54:39

6 THE WITNESS: While this infighting was going on between
7 the RUF and the NPFL, Pa Sankoh was in Gbarnga, while Pa Taylor
8 was in Monrovia. But the exact story as to what was causing the
9 infighting, these two people did not understand. The man who was
10 with the communication was unable to give the true information
11 about the infighting to those two people. After that, Mr Taylor
12 sent one of his commanders called General Dopoe Menkarzon for him
13 to go and investigate what was actually going on in Sierra Leone.

14 MR MUNYARD:

11:55:09

15 Q. What happened as a result of this commander being sent to
16 conduct this investigation in Sierra Leone? What was the end
17 result of that?

11:55:36

18 A. When General Dopoe Menkarzon came he was able. He went
19 straight to Kui va to Pa Jim Kawie. He met CO Mohamed who was a
20 Special Forces, Morris Kallon and Issa Sesay. They were in jail.
21 He released them from the jail. He said the Pa has sent him,
22 that is Pa Taylor, to come and investigate what was going on. He
23 heard that Liberians were dying and there were problems. That
24 was why he had come.

11:55:59

25 After all the investigations, he came with his own
26 signaller and he put the radio on. At that time I was in Kui va.
27 He called Mr Taylor and said what he had seen was that Liberians
28 were dying. Sam Bockarie said that Sierra Leoneans can now fight
29 their war. Therefore, we should withdraw. That was [microphone

1 not activated].

2 Q. I didn't mean to cut you off in mid sentence. You said
3 "that was". If you would just finish that sentence and I'll ask
4 you my next question.

11:56:40 5 A. General Dopee Menkarzon who had been sent by Mr Taylor
6 suggested that what he had seen was that the Liberians should
7 withdraw, all of them. Yes.

8 Q. And were the Liberians withdrawn following that?

9 A. From that Pa Taylor said he has given 72 hours to all the
11:57:07 10 Liberians, whoever knew that he was under my control or under my
11 command should evacuate that country. And when they are coming
12 all the arms that they had taken across they should bring back.
13 Nothing should be left behind.

14 Q. I'm going to come on to arms in a moment, but I just want
11:57:26 15 to understand a little more about the position of the Liberians
16 who were fighting in Sierra Leone.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Before you do that, Mr Munyard, the
18 witness said something that came out this way: "Whoever knew
19 that he was under my control or under my command should evacuate
11:57:46 20 that country." Who is he talking about there?

21 MR MUNYARD: Well, he says - that sentence actually started
22 from that Pa Taylor said he has given 72 hours to all the
23 Liberians whoever knew that he was under my control.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, but it's muddled. Please --

11:58:05 25 THE WITNESS: To evacuate.

26 MR MUNYARD:

27 Q. Mr Ngebeh, who was --

28 A. Yes, my Lord.

29 Q. Who was Pa Taylor referring to when he said that he had

1 given 72 hours to all the Liberians whoever knew that he was
2 under my control or command?

3 A. NPFL.

11:58:37

4 Q. Thank you. Now, you told us earlier that the Liberians
5 were fighting in that country. Did either the Liberians or any
6 of the Sierra Leoneans get any special protection whilst they
7 were fighting in Sierra Leone at this particular period of time?

8 A. Yes. People used to protect us. We had families who used
9 to protect us from bullets. We had them in Kailahun in Baiima in
10 1991. They used to protect us against bullets, yes.

11:59:11

11 Q. How did they give you that protection against bullets?

12 A. Sometimes we will be marked on our bodies. Sometimes we
13 would be embalmed. Sometimes they would smoke you in 1991.

14 Q. Pause there for a moment. Sometimes you were marked on
15 your body. Who by?

11:59:38

16 A. My lawyer. That marking area, it's a long story. The
17 statement is ahead. I don't want us to rush that. We will come
18 to that. Let's start from 1991.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Witness --

12:00:02

20 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: -- answer the question that you are
22 asked. And stop saying, "Yes, sir. Yes, sir." Just when I'm
23 talking, you wait. Okay? You were asked a question: Who marked
24 you? That is all. Answer that, please.

12:00:21

25 THE WITNESS: They used to mark us to protect us against
26 bullets in the Kailahun District. Our family members, they had
27 the protection.

28 MR MUNYARD:

29 Q. It was family members who would mark you. Is that what you

1 are telling us?

2 A. At the initial stage of the war, people used to mark us.
3 But we used to have some other groups to mark us to give us
4 additional protection.

12:00:49 5 Q. Was that at the initial stage or at a later stage that
6 other groups would mark you?

7 A. In 1991 our people used to protect us against bullets. But
8 when the war advanced, there were other people who came to
9 protect us.

12:01:07 10 Q. I'm going to ask you to tell us about it now since we're
11 dealing with this subject, even though you are saying that some
12 of the marking was done at a later stage in the war. Do you
13 understand?

14 A. I'm getting you.

12:01:27 15 Q. We understand that you wanted me to take it in time
16 sequence, but since we're dealing with this question of marking,
17 I will ask you to tell the judges what other people marked you
18 and you can tell them when that happened. Apart from family
19 members, you say at another stage other groups marked you. Who
12:01:52 20 were those other groups?

21 A. That was in '98. That was in 1998. We had another group
22 that came from Liberia from the ULIMO side. It was Sam Bockarie
23 who brought them for them to mark us in 1998.

24 Q. And was that marking the same kind of marking as 1991 or a
12:02:23 25 different kind of marking?

26 A. It was the same method.

27 Q. And just tell us very briefly, where on your body were you
28 marked and what was the nature of the marks?

29 A. They marked me on my chest, my arms, my back. I have

1 everything here.

2 Q. And what kind of marks are they?

3 A. They marked us with razor blades. It's a razor blade mark.

4 Q. And is it just one mark or more one mark in each --

12:03:10 5 A. No.

6 Q. How many marks [microphone not activated]?

7 A. It's many. It's many. It's many.

8 Q. That's marking. You also mentioned being embalmed. Now,
9 for some people embalmed has a very specific meaning. What do

12:03:29 10 you mean by "we were embalmed"?

11 A. To protect us from bullets.

12 Q. Yes. How was this other means of embalming done?

13 A. That was the only way I knew. I was marked. Others used
14 some other methods, but that was the only method I used.

12:03:54 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you have not explained to us
16 as the lawyer has asked you, what do you mean by embalment?

17 THE WITNESS: To protect us from the bullets.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm not asking the reason why. I'm
19 asking you to describe the process of embalment that you mean.

12:04:14 20 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, I think that he has actually
21 now clarified. By embalment he means protection against
22 bullets. He's described one type of it that happened to him,
23 which is marking. And I was just moving on to the other kind of
24 embalming that he mentioned earlier on which was a reference to
12:04:32 25 fire or smoke or something - smoking.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: I thought he spoke of three things.

27 MR MUNYARD: Yes, he did.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Marking, embalming and smoking.

29 MR MUNYARD: Yes. And embalming he is making clear is -

1 that is the generic term for the different things that were done
2 to him. He has, with respect --

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, I don't agree. I don't agree.

12:04:56

4 MR MUNYARD: Well, may I continue and see if we can clarify
5 the position?

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: If he is going to put things on the
7 record, he needs to explain. For me, embalming is something very
8 different that you do to a dead body to mummify the body.

9 MR MUNYARD: Precisely why I asked the question:

12:05:15

10 Q. Now, Mr Ngebeh, you mentioned other people being subjected
11 to some kind of smoke. Will you tell the judges what you mean by
12 that.

13 A. Yes. They would use some leaves, boil them, then that will
14 be placed on the ground and you will be covered with a blanket
15 clothing that smoke would not go through and you will be under
16 that set of clothes up to two hours and you will be sweating.
17 That sweat would allow the smoke to go into your system. That
18 was how they used to smoke people, but I did not undergo that,
19 but I saw it.

12:06:00

20 Q. And what was that smoking supposed to do to the people?

21 A. Well, the interpretation was that whilst you are under that
22 blanket, it healed - the heat would immunise you. Your body
23 would be protected from the bullets. Even when a bullet is
24 targeted at you, you will not be caught by that bullet. Yes.

12:06:25

25 Q. Just tell us, please, what you mean when you say "we were
26 embalmed".

27 A. Embalming was the general word for protection. That is
28 what we used to call it. Whether you underwent smoking or your
29 body was marked, we called everything as embalming. That was

1 what we used to call it, to protect you against bullets.

2 Q. Now, did you yourself believe in this process, either
3 marking or smoking to protect you against bullets?

4 A. No.

12:07:06 5 Q. Did any of the other people who you were with believe it?
6 Did they believe it would protect them?

7 A. Some people believed in it, but I did not believe in it.

8 Q. And did you see any of those other people who had been
9 embalmed in any way, did you see any bullets striking them?

12:07:34 10 A. Yes, my Lord.

11 Q. Were they protected from the bullets by the process of
12 embalming?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Very well. Thank you. Now, back to the infighting. You
12:07:53 15 told us about Commander Kawie and then also about Dopoe
16 Menkarzon. How long did the infighting go on for between the
17 NPFLs and the RUFs?

18 A. About three months.

19 Q. And have you any idea when it ended?

12:08:22 20 A. Well, about three months it ended. I cannot tell you the
21 exact date or the months, but the infighting lasted for three
22 months.

23 Q. In what year do you recall it ending?

24 A. 1991. That same 1991. That is when the infighting ended.
12:08:42 25 We started it in 1991 and it ended in 1991.

26 Q. You told us about - you made reference, rather, to Tap 10,
27 I think it was, or Tap 20.

28 A. Top 10, Top 20, Top Final, all within the same infighting.

29 Q. And what were those things?

1 A. Well, Top 20 was the beginning of the infighting between
2 the NPFL and the Liberians. After that, the other Top 20, the
3 same infighting continued. It's the same infighting.

4 Q. Did the Liberians --

12:09:26 5 JUDGE LUSSICK: Did the witness say "infighting between the
6 NPFL and the Liberians"?

7 MR MUNYARD: I think he did. I'll clarify that:

8 Q. Who was the infighting between?

9 A. The RUF and the NPFL.

12:09:47 10 MR MUNYARD: I think everyone has slips of the tongue from
11 time to time, your Honour:

12 Q. Did the Liberians withdraw after you said Pa Taylor told
13 them to do so?

14 A. Yes. Those who were loyal to him withdrew.

12:10:08 15 Q. Did any of them stay?

16 A. Yes. Yes, some stayed.

17 Q. And are you able to help us with the names of any of the
18 ones who stayed?

19 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:10:25 20 Q. Can you give us some names?

21 A. CO Nya, CO Isaac.

22 Q. [Microphone not activated] have another name that you knew?

23 A. That was the only name I knew since 1991 that I knew him,
24 CO Nya. That was the only name I knew.

12:10:52 25 Q. What about CO Isaac, did he have any other name that you
26 were aware of?

27 A. No, sir. No, sir.

28 Q. A short while ago you mentioned that the Liberian fighters
29 were told to bring back all their weapons. Do you recall saying

1 that?

2 A. Yes, my Lord.

3 Q. During this early stage of the RUF incursion in Sierra
4 Leone, where did the RUF get its weapons and its ammunition from?

12:11:29 5 A. Thank you, my Lord. At the initial stage of the war, in
6 1991, RUF used to have assistance from Mr Taylor. After that
7 infighting, it stopped. In 1991, the area where --

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

12:12:03 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat. You were
11 explaining your answer. Please repeat your answer.

12 THE WITNESS: At the initial stage of the war in 1991, RUF
13 used to get assistance from Mr Taylor. After that infighting,
14 Mr Taylor withdrew all his men including the arms which his men
15 had. They returned with them to Monrovia, Liberia. RUF, we
16 stayed on the ground. God helped us in 1991 to get arms from
17 Baiima.

18 MR MUNYARD:

19 Q. Pause there for a moment. During the initial stages you
12:12:54 20 say the RUF used to get assistance from Mr Taylor. What form did
21 that assistance take?

22 A. When used to get food from Liberia. He used to send us
23 medicines and some few ammunitions for us, but all those items
24 were being controlled by Liberians and not RUF, but he used to
12:13:17 25 send them for us. We used to get food, medicines in 1991.

26 Q. Right. And you say some few ammunitions also?

27 A. Yes, my Lord.

28 Q. During that time did you get any arms or ammunition from
29 any other source? This is during the same time as you were being

1 helped by Pa Taylor?

2 A. Yes, we used to attack. The ammunition that we had we
3 would attack and capture from our enemies. We used to get arms
4 from our enemies in 1991.

12:13:57 5 Q. It may sound an obvious question to you, but who do you
6 mean by "our enemies"?

7 A. The soldiers. The Sierra Leone army. We used to attack
8 them and get ammunition from them. Those are the only two areas
9 that we got arms from in 1991, either by attacking or assistance
12:14:18 10 from Mr Taylor.

11 Q. All right. Were the Sierra Leone army soldiers your only
12 enemies in 1991 or were there any other groups who you regarded
13 as your enemies then?

14 A. Yes, sir.

12:14:37 15 Q. Who were they, the others?

16 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, he is using a word that is
17 not clear.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause. Can you please repeat your
19 answer. There is a word that you used that the interpreter
12:15:04 20 didn't get.

21 THE WITNESS: Okay. The second enemy that we had were the
22 Guineans. They came to defend the Daru barracks. They were the
23 first troops that entered Sierra Leone to assist the Sierra Leone
24 Army, the Guineans.

12:15:28 25 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, I heard the witness mention
26 ECOWAS in the course of an answer just preceding this one and I
27 would like to pursue that with him, if I may. I don't want to
28 lead, but he did mention ECOWAS.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, did the witness mention

1 ECOWAS?

2 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, that was exactly why I
3 asked him to repeat because I did not get clearly what he was
4 saying.

12:15:53 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Overlapping speakers] did he not?

6 THE INTERPRETER: I didn't get it clearly. That was why I
7 asked for a repeat of his answer.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard, you may clarify.

9 MR MUNYARD: Thank you:

12:16:03 10 Q. Mr Ngebeh, did you mention ECOWAS when you were giving an
11 answer a little while ago?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. What were you saying about ECOWAS?

14 A. I said that the Guineans were the first ECOWAS member state
12:16:23 15 that sent troops to Sierra Leone to assist the Sierra Leone Army.
16 That was where I mentioned ECOWAS. First country.

17 Q. And did those troops from ECOWAS have a particular name?
18 Did the armed force from ECOWAS of which the Guineans were the
19 first group, did it have a name?

12:16:49 20 A. Yes, my Lord. They were called Bombardier.

21 Q. When you say they were called Bombardier, is that
22 Bombardier, B-O-M-B-A-R-D-I-E-R?

23 A. Well, in whatever way you can spell it that is how I can
24 pronounce it. Bombardier. You can spell it anyhow.

12:17:22 25 Q. So how did you get weapons from them?

26 A. When these people came they were based in Baiima in 1991 to
27 defend Daru barracks. They went - they brought all sophisticated
28 weapons in Baiima. These weapons never gave any chance to the
29 people in the Kailahun District. Overnight they would launch in

1 Pendembu, Kui va, Mobai , all the areas.

2 Q. And what were these sophisticated weapons called? Are you
3 able to help us with that?

4 A. Yes, my Lord. 106.

12:18:13 5 Q. What kind of weapon was 106?

6 A. It's a missile.

7 Q. Right. Any others?

8 A. Twin barrel .

9 Q. And what kind of weapon was a twin barrel ?

12:18:33 10 A. Anti -aircraft.

11 Q. Now, which weapons did you get from fighting the Guineans?

12 A. We had AK-47s, RPGs, GMG, automatic rifle. Those were the
13 ones we used to fight against them.

14 Q. Did you ever capture any of these weapons you've referred
12:19:08 15 to as sophisticated weapons?

16 A. Mortar gun. They had mortar guns, 82 millimetre and 120
17 millimetre mortar guns. All these are sophisticated weapons.

18 Q. Were those sophisticated weapons that you captured weapons
19 which your fighters were trained in and able to use, or not?

12:19:49 20 A. Nobody knew how to use them. Even I myself trained as an
21 armourer, that was my first time of seeing such weapons in 1991,
22 106, twin barrel too and trucks. But before this happened Pa
23 Sankoh had left Gbarnga and come to Pendembu. He had said that
24 he will never step his foot in Liberia. He said Mr Taylor had
12:20:26 25 sent an order for his arrest because of the infighting.

26 Q. I'm asking you at the moment about weapons, not about Pa
27 Sankoh or anybody else. These sophisticated weapons that you
28 said you had never seen before, what did you do with them when
29 you captured them?

1 A. Yes, my lawyer Mr Terry. You should first know who gave us
2 an order to attack Baiima. I want you to allow me to explain who
3 ordered the attack on Baiima. After that infighting what
4 happened next.

12:21:08 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause, please, Mr Witness. It would be
6 good if you would answer the questions that are asked to you.
7 Your lawyer knows best what he is doing and how he is doing his
8 case. He is not doing it according to your wishes. What we
9 would appreciate is if you simply answer to the best of your
12:21:29 10 ability the simple questions asked to you. Now, is that
11 understood?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. Carry on.

13 MR MUNYARD:

14 Q. Mr Ngebeh, I only want to know about the weapons and the
12:21:46 15 ammunition. So I'm just asking you questions about those, not
16 about people involved?

17 A. Yes. After we had captured this 106 too, the twin barrel
18 too and four trucks of Daracula and a lot of arms and ammunition
19 in Baiima including AK-47s, RPG bombs, GPMG, LMG, enough
12:22:20 20 quantities of those weapons that I have named. But to be frank,
21 these weapons, there were no persons in RUF who could operate
22 them, this 106. For the rest of that they were transporting
23 those weapons to Pendembu and the trucks which we had captured
24 from the Guineans.

12:22:43 25 Q. What did you do with the 106 weapons?

26 A. Well, everybody was giving his own information. Some
27 people said the weapons hadn't firing pins, the weapon was not
28 good. Then Foday Sankoh said, "No, the only person who would
29 give me a report on weapons is Charles. Go and call Charles."

1 When I came, --

2 Q. [Microphone not activated] that's you, is it?

3 A. Yes. Yes. Charles Ngebeh.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, I'm having problems with
12:23:19 5 what you are saying and how it's coming out on the record. The
6 witness said some people would say the weapons had no firing
7 pins. Is that what the witness said?

8 THE INTERPRETER: That is what he said.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, the exact opposite is on the record
12:23:41 10 and I think it's the way you are interpreting it.

11 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, can I move us on to what
12 happened in - I want to try and do it very briefly, if I can:

13 Q. Did you end up using the 106 weapon or not? Just tell us
14 yes or no, we used it or we didn't use it?

12:24:04 15 A. Yes. Yes, we used it.

16 Q. And very, very briefly just tell the Court how it was you
17 were able to use that weapon which none of you had trained in
18 before. Very briefly, please?

19 A. I, Charles Ngebeh sitting here, I would say that this has
12:24:30 20 firing pin and from then Foday Sankoh would tell me to go and
21 test it at Mobai Junction. One of the weapons had a bomb about
22 to be shot. I took this weapon to Baiima between Baiima and
23 Mobai. I set it up but I wanted to launch it. I called CO
24 Mohamed who was a Special Forces and told him how to launch it.
12:24:58 25 I went far away from the weapon. It was CO Mohamed who launched
26 it. That weapon which was launched created a serious problem for
27 us. The vibration. The vibration, some people were damaged
28 because when it was launched it got suspended.

29 Q. [Microphone not activated] use that weapon later or not?

1 A. From that that was the last day that we tested it and we
2 never used it any more.

3 Q. Now, that was - you say you obtained those materials at
4 Baiima. Is that right?

12:25:43 5 A. Yes, my Lord.

6 Q. And that was from the Guinean contingent of the ECOWAS
7 troops?

8 A. Yes, my Lord.

9 Q. Were there any other forces fighting against you apart from
12:26:00 10 Sierra Leone Army soldiers and ECOWAS troops from countries
11 outside of Sierra Leone? Were there any other groups of fighters
12 who you regarded as your enemies?

13 A. At the initial stage of the war it was only the Guineans.

14 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
12:26:26 15 repeat.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you said something after the
17 initial stage of the war it was only the Guineans. What did you
18 say after that?

19 THE WITNESS: I said it was the Guinean forces who were the
12:26:42 20 friendly forces to the Sierra Leone Army. They joined to fight
21 the RUF. The friendly force to the Sierra Leone Army.

22 MR MUNYARD:

23 Q. And at this initial stage of the war were there any other
24 groups within Sierra Leone who were fighting against you who you
12:27:00 25 regarded as your enemies?

26 A. Yes, we used to hear about Nigerians in Lungi who had jets.
27 We used to hear that, but at that time I only knew about Guineans
28 in 1991, but there were Nigerians as well.

29 Q. Were there any other Sierra Leonean groups who were

1 fighting you than at the initial stages of the war?

2 A. It was only the SLA.

3 Q. Now, what happened after the Liberians were withdrawn by
4 Pa Taylor? What did the RUF fighters then do?

12:27:44 5 A. Well, Foday Sankoh left Gbarnga and came to Pendembu where
6 he stayed. He then reorganised the RUF. He called us and asked
7 us if we will be able to fight the war and we said, "Yes, sir."
8 He said, "Minus Taylor, plus Taylor, I would fight my war." Now
9 he has said that these men should go because Sam Bockarie,
12:28:11 10 CO Mohamed, Issa, Morris Kallon, all of the top commanders,
11 including CO Isaac, all of them took up responsibilities.
12 Thank you, sir.

13 Q. And what responsibilities did they take up?

14 A. They sent Sam Bockarie to Kono to become the battalion
12:28:42 15 commander in Kono District. CO Mohamed, after Pa Sankoh, he was
16 the second in command. All commands were to be taken from
17 CO Mohamed. After Pa Sankoh it was CO Mohamed. He became the
18 battle group --

19 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat. That
12:29:05 20 answer is not clear.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, repeat the last part of your
22 answer. He became what?

23 THE WITNESS: Foday Sankoh appointed CO Isaac as battle
24 group commander in 1991.

12:29:26 25 MR MUNYARD:

26 Q. I think we've dealt with two of them. You mentioned Issa.
27 What happened to him?

28 A. At that time in 1991, Issa was the smallest guy among the
29 vanguards who came. Issa and --

1 Q. Mr Ngebeh, just tell us what [microphone not activated].

2 A. Yes. Issa hadn't an appointment at that time. He was only
3 a vanguard.

4 Q. Very well. I want to make sure I've included all of them.

12:30:11 5 Morris Kallon, what happened to him? Was his appointment?

6 A. Morris Kallon was the NP commander.

7 Q. What were you doing when they had been given those
8 appointments?

9 A. I was still an armourer commander.

12:30:34 10 Q. Right. And where were you at this stage?

11 A. I was in Pendembu. I had left Kivva. Pa Sankoh had
12 brought me to Pendembu.

13 Q. Where were you based?

14 A. At the Executive Mansion Grounds.

12:30:58 15 Q. And how long did you stay there?

16 A. We stayed there up to 1992.

17 Q. When in 1992?

18 A. Early in 1992. I was there up to the time the NPRC
19 overthrew, '92.

12:31:21 20 Q. Right. We've heard that NPRC referred to before. That's
21 the national - I'm sorry, there are too many of these acronyms.
22 Tell us, without worrying too much about what the letters
23 actually stand for, who was the leader of the NPRC and who did
24 they overthrow?

12:31:48 25 A. Captain Strasser overthrew the APC in 1992.

26 Q. APC was what?

27 A. That was a government.

28 Q. So Captain Strasser overthrew the government in 1992.

29 Captain Strasser was a captain of what?

1 A. Of the national army of Sierra Leone.

2 Q. Thank you. And you say you were in Pendembu up to the time
3 Captain Strasser led his coup that overthrew the government. How
4 much longer after that did you stay there?

12:32:36 5 A. Well, I was there until the day Sam Bockarie attacked
6 Gandorhun and captured some ammunition, weapons that he didn't
7 know how to use and they brought them to Pendembu.

8 Q. Right. Are you able to help us with how long after Captain
9 Strasser's coup did Sam Bockarie do this?

12:33:06 10 A. I can't tell the exact time, but it was in 1992.

11 Q. Are you able to help us whether it was a few days after the
12 coup, a few weeks, or a few months after the coup?

13 A. After the coup, the NPRC took over the entire country.
14 They were in Gandorhun when Sam Bockarie attacked there. It was
12:33:34 15 Captain Strasser's government that was in power.

16 Q. Right. And what happened to the RUF when the NPRC took
17 over the entire country?

18 A. Pa Sankoh asked us to ceasefire in order to hear what our
19 brothers were going to say.

12:33:54 20 Q. Which brothers?

21 A. The Captain Strasser's government, the soldiers. These
22 people are overthrown. Let's ceasefire. They are our brothers.
23 Maybe the war would come to an end. We ceased fire and we were
24 on the defensive.

12:34:16 25 Q. And what did your brothers in the NPRC say?

26 A. Well, after some weeks, we heard over the BBC when Captain
27 Strasser said that he was going to fight against the RUF from
28 land, the river, wherever we went, he will never negotiate with
29 the RUF. He will push them out of the country. That was what he

1 said over the wire, Captain Strasser.

2 Q. And did he push the RUF out of the country?

3 A. No, sir.

4 Q. Did he push any of the RUF out of the country?

12:35:00 5 A. Well, at the initial stage of the war when they overthrew
6 the APC government, RUF had the chance. We were on the
7 offensive. After that statement we started to attack their
8 positions. Sam Bockarie attacked Gandorhun and captured a lot of
9 ammunition, including two grenade launchers. These two grenade
12:35:27 10 launchers were what took me to Gandorhun. Sam Bockarie did not
11 know how to use these weapons and that was our first time of
12 seeing such weapons. He brought them to Pendembu to show them to
13 Pa Sankoh.

14 Q. One moment.

12:35:42 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Before we pursue that in a little more detail, just try to
17 answer the question I asked that led to that answer. Did Captain
18 Strasser push any of the RUF out of Sierra Leone?

19 A. In 1993 they pushed us to the border, but we were still in
12:36:11 20 Sierra Leone.

21 Q. They pushed you to the border. Did they push any of you
22 over the border?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. The border with which country?

12:36:20 25 A. Liberia and Guinea.

26 Q. So how many of the RUF were pushed out of the country? And
27 by that I mean what proportion of your fighters. [Microphone not
28 activated] you or was it many? Was it most of the RUF or less
29 than half of the RUF who were pushed out of the country by

1 Captain Strasser then?

12:37:13 2 A. In 1993 the RUF retreated and we lost a lot of manpower in
3 1993. We lost a lot of manpower. Some of them went to Liberia,
4 some went to Guinea and some surrendered to the NPRC. A lot of
5 them. We lost a lot of civilians in '93.

6 Q. You lost a lot of civilians in 1993?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. What about your fighters?

9 A. A lot.

12:37:29 10 Q. I want to go back then to what you told us in reply to that
11 question the first time I asked it. And you said that a weapon
12 was brought for you to look at after Sam Bockarie had captured
13 it. Do you remember saying that?

14 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:37:49 15 Q. Are you able to help us with the timing of this? How long
16 before Captain Strasser pushed RUF troops - fighters over the
17 border into Liberia and Guinea did Sam Bockarie capture this
18 weapon that you were asked to look at?

19 A. Yes, my Lord. This was at the initial stage when NPRC
12:38:22 20 overthrew in 1992 when Sam Bockarie managed to capture Gandorhun
21 from them. From there he advanced to Kono in '92. The
22 retreatment started in '92 ending - going to '93.

23 Q. What did you do, if anything, with the weapon that Sam
24 Bockarie brought for you?

12:38:43 25 A. Well, I had to train him. I detected that the weapon was a
26 grenade launcher. Then I told my men that this was a bullet. I
27 said it was a bomb that can explode. Pa Sankoh gave it to me. I
28 tested it and fired one shot. And it went and exploded. From
29 there Sam Bockarie requested me to be with him from Pa Sankoh

1 because of that weapon.

2 Q. Did you go and join Sam Bockarie or not?

3 A. Yeah. I went with him.

4 Q. For how long and to where?

12:39:28 5 A. Before I went I, CO Mohamed, all of us, moved to Gandorhun
6 to Sam Bockarie. All of us were in Gandorhun to Sam Bockarie in
7 1992.

8 Q. How long did you stay with Sam Bockarie?

9 A. I was with Sam Bockarie until the time that he entered Kono
12:39:48 10 in 1992. But I was not permanently with Sam Bockarie. I was
11 with CO Mohamed. The two of us moved together with CO Mohamed
12 and went to Gandorhun where Sam Bockarie had captured. That was
13 where all of us were up to the time that he captured Kono in
14 1992.

12:40:08 15 Q. And are you able to tell us when or roughly when in 1992 he
16 captured Kono?

17 A. 1992. I don't want to tell lies, but between - it was in
18 1992.

19 Q. Was it before, during or after the rainy season in 1992?

12:40:39 20 Can you remember?

21 A. Well, I can say between June or July. That was the year.

22 Q. Now, where were you getting your arms from apart from those
23 that you say Sam Bockarie captured in this time after the NPRC
24 takeover sometime in 1992?

12:41:17 25 A. In 1992 --

26 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat his
27 answer slowly.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you have to repeat your
29 answer. You said in 1992. What happened?

1 THE WITNESS: It was a self-reliant struggle. We used to
2 get arms and ammunition from attacks. We hadn't any other source
3 from getting ammunition. It was only from the enemies by
4 ambushes and attacks.

12:41:54

5 MR MUNYARD:

6 Q. You've given us one example of Sam Bockarie capturing
7 materials. Can you give us any other examples in 1992 before the
8 NPRC --

9 A. Yes.

12:42:08

10 Q. [Microphone not activated] some of the RUF out of Sierra
11 Leone? Can you give us any examples of other cases where you
12 were able to capture arms or ammunition?

13 A. Yes, my Lord. In 1992 - in 1992, before the RUF entered
14 Kono, the last village to enter Kono, we captured a war tank.

12:42:36

15 Enough ammunition and a twin barrel, a war tank. That war tank
16 was there - it was burnt. I think even up to now it's still
17 there in 1992. It was during that attack that Sam Bockarie was
18 able to capture Kono. That ammunition that we captured with the
19 war tank, that was what enabled us to enter Kono in 1992.

12:42:59

20 Q. Who did you capture that war tank and ammunition from?

21 A. From the NPRC.

22 Q. Right. Were you getting any materials from Liberia at that
23 stage?

12:43:27

24 A. 1992 it was a self-reliant struggle. We were not getting
25 ammunition from anybody. What we got from the enemy was what we
26 made use of. '91, '92, '93, '94 it was a self-reliant struggle.
27 We got nothing from Liberia at that time.

28 Q. You've talked about the NPRC pushing some of the RUF out
29 across the border into Liberia. Do you know who was controlling

1 the border between Sierra Leone and Liberia on the Liberian side
2 at that stage?

3 A. Yes, it was ULIMO.

4 Q. Did you yourself get pushed out of the country?

12:44:11 5 A. No, I was in Kailahun.

6 Q. Where in Kailahun?

7 A. After that massive retreat in '93 we were pushed out of
8 Kailahun, we went to Gandorhun, we were pushed out. We came to
9 Pendembu, we were pushed out again. We went to Koindu, we were
10 pushed out. I was in Sorokoro [phon] --

11 Q. Slow down, please, Mr Ngebeh.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Ngebeh, can you please speak breaking
13 your sentences because what you are saying is being recorded,
14 written by somebody.

12:44:46 15 THE WITNESS: Yes, yes.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: They cannot write at the speed at which
17 you are speaking. Please slow down. And repeat your answer
18 after the retreat.

19 THE WITNESS: In 1993 the soldiers were on a serious
12:45:07 20 offensive against the RUF. They pushed us out of Kono. We went
21 to Gandorhun. They pushed us out of Gandorhun. We went to
22 Pendembu. They pushed us out of Pendembu. And we went all the
23 way to Koindu. Where I was based with my family, it was in a
24 small village called Sorokoro Bendu, located between Liberia and
12:45:34 25 Sierra Leone. That was where I was based, Sorokoro Bendu, 1993.

26 MR MUNYARD:

27 Q. Are you able to help us with the spelling of Sorokoro
28 Bendu?

29 A. It's a Kissi name.

1 Q. It may be a Kissi name, but that doesn't help us as to how
2 you spell it. Are you able to help us with the spelling? Tell
3 us if you can't.

4 A. Take it according to how I've given my statement, Sorokoro
12:46:09 5 Bendu. Just take it that way.

6 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, we will try over the break to
7 obtain a spelling for that particular location:

8 Q. You're in this particular village having been pushed to
9 there by the NPRC soldiers. Apart from the NPRC soldiers, were
12:46:36 10 there any other groups inside Sierra Leone who were fighting the
11 RUF troops then?

12 A. Yes, my Lord.

13 Q. Yes, tell us, please?

14 A. The ULIMO who were in Liberia used to come and attack us.
12:46:58 15 They had surrounded us by then. The soldiers who were in Koindu,
16 the ULIMO were in Foya and Vahun and they used to attack us from
17 all fronts.

18 Q. Were there any other groups from Sierra Leone who were
19 attacking you at that time?

12:47:18 20 A. In 1993 the only group that I know about were the ULIMO-K,
21 ULIMO-J, and the soldiers. Those were the only groups I knew
22 about in 1993. Had there been any other troops I cannot tell
23 now.

24 Q. All right. Now, in 1993, having been pushed to that
12:47:44 25 village, how long did you stay there?

26 A. Well, after we had been pushed we together with
27 Foday Sankoh himself we are all in the bushes, we had lost all
28 the towns in Kailahun District and we are only controlling the
29 villages by then. That was in 1993. Sam Bockarie came and based

1 at Giema. He was based at Giema. And Giema is between Pendembu
2 and Kailahun districts. He was based there. He refused to go to
3 Koindu. And he went and attacked Giehun. Giema and Giehun are
4 two different villages. Sam Bockarie was based in Giema and
12:48:35 5 Giehun is a town going from Kailahun to Pendembu. It's about 7
6 miles away from Kailahun.

7 Q. And while he was there, did the RUF obtain any arms or
8 ammunition from ambushes of any of your enemies?

9 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:48:59 10 Q. Can you give us some examples of what arms or ammunition
11 you captured - you the RUF captured during that period of time?

12 A. Well, the ammunition that Sam Bockarie captured in Giehun
13 was the one that helped the RUF. Sam Bockarie attacked Giehun
14 and he set an ambush and captured a lot of ammunition including
12:49:27 15 US combats, medicines, enough AK-47 rounds and enough of
16 ammunition at Giehun in 1993 [microphone not activated].

17 Q. You say he captured that at Giehun in 1993?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. [Microphone not activated] that captured in an ambush or
12:49:51 20 was it captured in the course of a battle?

21 A. He ambushed and later attacked.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Do we have a spelling of that name of
23 that village?

24 MR MUNYARD: Is that Giehun? As I understand it it's

12:50:11 25 G-E-H-U-N:

26 Q. Mr Ngebeh, do you know if that spelling that I've given is
27 correct?

28 A. You are correct, sir. You are correct.

29 Q. Staying with 1993, where did you go next - you yourself?

1 A. In 1993 after Sam Bockarie had captured those ammunition at
2 Giema, he reported them to Foday Sankoh at Sorokoro Bendu. It
3 was from there that Foday Sankoh said now the NP --

12:50:59

4 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
5 to slow down his pace and repeat the last bit.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat your answer.

12:51:22

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. He said, "Now that the NPRC
8 have proven they want Kailahun District, we will leave them
9 behind in Kailahun District and we will go to the places where
10 they are coming from." It was Foday Sankoh himself who said
11 these words. The ammunition that Sam Bockarie had captured at
12 Giahun, he then distributed them.

12:51:46

13 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Munyard, before we lose sight of what
14 was captured, what is a US combat? It's at line 13 and 14 of
15 page 92.

16 MR MUNYARD: I can deal with that, your Honour:

17 Q. What do you mean when you say a combat?

18 A. The camouflage that soldiers use.

19 Q. When you say the camouflage that they use --

12:52:06

20 A. The combat that soldiers use. We captured a lot of them
21 from them.

22 Q. What do they use it for? I'm trying not to lead.

23 A. To identify themselves as soldiers.

12:52:30

24 Q. So when you say they use it as camouflage, is this a kind
25 of material?

26 A. My Lord, I want you to understand the statement I uttered.
27 I said we captured a lot of combat camouflage, the material that
28 we captured from the enemies is what I am explaining to you. I
29 mean combat, the clothing, the uniform the soldiers use.

1 Q. Thank you very much. I was trying to get there without
2 leading and it was proving a little difficult. And this
3 particular clothing, combat clothing, was United States combat,
4 yes?

12:53:05 5 A. You are right, sir.

6 Q. Now, let us see where you went once Foday Sankoh said that
7 you should go to the places where the NPRC soldiers are coming
8 from. Where did you go?

9 A. Let me just throw light on that statement. Foday Sankoh
12:53:31 10 said the places where the NPRC is coming from and trying to
11 penetrate Kailahun, he said we are not going to penetrate those
12 areas and that was where, it was Zogoda in the Kenema District.

13 Q. Let us be clear. I'm dealing with 1993, yes?

14 A. Yes.

12:53:54 15 Q. Sam Bockarie has captured ammunition, amongst other things,
16 that Foday Sankoh says you should then use, yes?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. [Microphone not activated] your next movement: The next
19 places you go to, yes?

12:54:15 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Where was the next place you went to from Sorokoro Bendu,
22 you personally?

23 A. Yes. After these ammunitions had been captured
24 Foday Sankoh left us in Kailahun District and went to Nomo

12:54:33 25 Faiama. It was from there that Papa went to Tongo, but I was
26 still in Kailahun with CO Mohamed and Issa Sesay.

27 Q. I should have asked you this earlier, did CO Mohamed have a
28 nickname?

29 A. Yes, Zino.

1 Q. So you stay where in Kailahun with CO Mohamed and Issa
2 Sesay?

3 A. We were still at the same Sorokoro Bendu.

4 Q. Did you go anywhere else after that with CO Mohamed?

12:55:12 5 A. Yes, my Lord.

6 Q. Right. Tell us, please?

7 A. After Sam Bockarie and Foday Sankoh had left to go and
8 establish Zogoda, Papa went and captured Tongo. It was then that
9 I moved with CO Mohamed to go to Tongo.

12:55:34 10 Q. Right. Where in Tongo did you go to?

11 A. Tongo is in the Kenema District. It's a mining area. I
12 think it's about some miles away from Kenema. It is a big town
13 anyway. It's under Panguma. They call it the Lower Bambara
14 Chiefdom.

12:56:02 15 Q. Were you in a town or were you somewhere else when you went
16 there?

17 A. Well, when we went to Tongo, we met our colleagues in
18 Peyama and Peyama is just a few miles away from Tongo. That was
19 where we met Papa.

12:56:20 20 Q. Papa who?

21 A. Papa was a commander at Peyama in 1993.

22 Q. Did you obtain any arms and ammunition when you went to
23 Peyama?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:56:37 25 Q. And where did you get it from, and tell us what it was you
26 got?

27 A. All the material that we met at Peyama were captured
28 materials from the enemies, those are the NPRC soldiers in 1993.

29 Q. Yes. And are these the materials you've already told us

1 about, or were there other materials that were captured that you
2 were able to get at Peyama?

3 A. The material that Foday Sankoh had left with CO Mohamed, we
4 travelled with them. And the ammunition that Papa had captured
12:57:25 5 in Tongo were the ones that he presented to CO Mohamed after we
6 arrived in Peyama. All the arms and ammunition that he had
7 captured in Tongo were all presented to CO Mohamed.

8 Q. What did Papa capture in Tongo? That's what I want to
9 know.

12:57:39 10 A. RPG bombs, and the weapon itself, a lot of those, AK-47s,
11 LMG, GPMG and their ammunition, including AK rounds.

12 Q. So that is all presented to CO Mohamed after you arrived in
13 Peyama. What do you do with all of those materials?

14 A. Thank you, sir. These materials, CO Mohamed did say that
12:58:24 15 the Pa had said that he should go and open a jungle in the north,
16 that is, the Temne area of the country, and this ammunition were
17 shared between Papa and CO Mohamed and then the remaining was
18 sent to --

19 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
12:58:40 20 again to repeat that last bit.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you said the remaining was
22 sent to where? Please repeat your answer.

23 THE WITNESS: The remaining was sent to Pa Sankoh at Zogoda
24 and Papa too took his own share so that he will be able to defend
12:59:04 25 his ground at Peyama and some were shared out to CO Mohamed.

26 That was what he took to go and establish his own jungle.

27 MR MUNYARD:

28 Q. Right. Are we still in 1993? These events you've just
29 told us about, are they still in 1993, or have we moved into

1 1994?

2 A. Well, we have now entered 1994. During '94 we were at
3 Peyama.

12:59:55

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Witness? Mr Witness has his hand
5 up.

6 THE WITNESS: I want to ease myself. I want to ease
7 myself.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Could the witness be escorted out,
9 please.

13:04:11

10 MR MUNYARD:

11 Q. Mr Ngebeh, we had reached a stage in 1994 you are in
12 Peyama?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. How long in 1994 did you stay in Peyama?

13:04:24

15 A. Well, we spent about three to four months in Peyama because
16 we went there in '93 and we were there up to '94. We were there
17 for about three to four months.

18 Q. And so can you help us with which month in 1994 you left
19 Peyama?

13:04:47

20 A. Well, we left Peyama around March. March 1994.

21 Q. And where did you go to when you left it?

22 A. Well, we went to the north. The idea was that CO Mohamed
23 was supposed to go and be based in the north, Masingbi.

24 Q. So CO Mohamed you say was supposed to go and be based in
25 Masingbi. Did that happen? Did he go there?

13:05:35

26 A. Yes, my Lord.

27 Q. Was he able to stay there?

28 A. No.

29 Q. So what caused him to leave there?

1 A. CO Mohamed entered Masingbi in April on Easter day. He
2 captured Masingbi. We passed the night there and the following
3 morning a force came from Makali and attacked us in Masingbi, so
4 we had to withdraw the following day.

13:06:14 5 Q. Just before we go on with what actually happened, I want to
6 ask you about Makali that you said the force came from. Does
7 Makali have another name as well as Makali?

8 A. Well, Makali, for me, it might have another name, but that
9 is the name I know. Makali is where the paramount chief is
10 based, Makali.

11 Q. The spelling I have for Makali is M-A-K-A-L-I. So a force
12 came from Makali and attacked you at Masingbi and you withdrew.
13 When you withdrew - had you been able to obtain any materials in
14 Masingbi before you withdrew?

13:07:11 15 A. Yes. Before we entered Masingbi, we captured a lot of
16 ammunition in Masingbi where the defence was based. We used that
17 ammunition and attacked Masingbi, and even in Masingbi town we
18 captured some ammunition. In fact, we got enough of ammunition
19 in Masingbi anywhere.

13:07:34 20 Q. [Microphone not activated] I'm going to ask you a little
21 more about that. When you say, "We captured a lot of ammunition
22 in Masingbi where the defence was based," who do you mean when
23 you say "the defence"? Who were they?

24 A. The national army. The NPRC.

13:07:53 25 Q. And where was it that they kept this ammunition that you
26 were able to capture?

27 A. Well, the armoury dorm was up the hill. When you entered
28 Masingbi coming from the Baama Konta area, you will have to drop
29 at the junction. Towards the right-hand side, there is a hill,

1 that is where the armoury dorm were.

2 Q. I don't immediate a map of the town or the area. I just
3 want to know from you: Was this ammunition kept in a particular
4 place from which you captured it, or did you capture it from
13:08:39 5 fighting the defence troops?

6 A. The ammunition was kept in a house where the commander from
7 Masingbi was based. That was where the ammunition was kept.

8 Q. And how much ammunition did you get there?

9 A. We got AK rounds by boxes. We got G3 round by boxes. We
13:09:07 10 got RPGs together with their bombs. GPMG. The one that we fix
11 in the chain belts. We got the magazine, up to 20 of them.

12 Q. When you say we got the ammunition in boxes, without
13 needing to go into numbers, did you get a few boxes or a lot of
14 boxes or something in between?

13:09:33 15 A. Well, in the case of the AK ammunition, there were five
16 boxes, and in each of the boxes there were two containers, which
17 means there were ten things in all because for each box there
18 were two things.

19 Q. We didn't need to go into the numbers, but we now have
13:09:54 20 them.

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. A small amount of ammunition, a medium amount of ammunition
23 or a large amount of ammunition, as far as you were concerned?

24 A. Anyway, that was medium, but it was sufficient for us.

13:10:12 25 Q. Did you capture any weapons there?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. [Microphone not activated] capture?

28 A. LMG, GMG, AK-47, RPG. We did not capture any
29 anti-aircrafts, but we captured a lot of automatic rifles.

1 Q. Thank you. So what were you able to do with those arms and
2 ammunition once you were driven out of Masingbi?

3 A. We took them along with us and we went and encamped
4 ourselves in a bush. There was a small village where we passed
13:11:05 5 the night with all the materials.

6 Q. And where did you take them to eventually?

7 A. That was the time CO Mohamed said, well, now, the best we
8 can do is that, as long as we have been in this area, we
9 shouldn't be afraid of the soldiers, because if we did they will
13:11:28 10 trace us everywhere we went. He said we should go and attack
11 Makali where their headquarters itself was. So we went and
12 attacked Makali in that same 1994. After Masingbi we went to
13 Makali. And in Makali - we captured Makali --

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Slow down again. You are running with
13:11:50 15 your testimony. Slow down as you speak.

16 THE WITNESS: Okay. Yes, my Lord.

17 MR MUNYARD:

18 Q. How far is Makali from Masingbi?

19 A. Well, it's approximately 15 miles. 15 miles.

13:12:23 20 Q. Now, I should have asked you in addition to arms and
21 ammunition at Masingbi did you capture anything else of use to
22 you?

23 A. Yes. We captured food, [i ndiscernible] and one
24 anti-aircraft gun, AA.

13:12:48 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, you said food and what?

26 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness repeat
27 it.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, what did you say?

29 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, it can't occur to me again.

1 Could the witness be asked to repeat it.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you said you captured food
3 and what else did you capture?

4 THE WITNESS: Rum, rice, drinks and some ammunition
13:13:20 5 including an anti-aircraft gun that was mounted on top of a
6 vehicle.

7 MR MUNYARD:

8 Q. What did you do with the anti-aircraft gun on the vehicle?

9 A. We removed it from the vehicle because we were based in a
13:13:41 10 jungle so I went there and removed the weapon from the vehicle.
11 From there the vehicle was burnt and it was burnt down.

12 Q. The vehicle was burnt. What happened to the anti-aircraft
13 weapon?

14 A. We took it away.

13:13:58 15 Q. So I'm sorry I broke into your account. You were saying
16 that you then went on to attack Makali. What happened at Makali?

17 A. We captured materials there, ammunition, including one
18 anti-aircraft, food, rum.

19 Q. I'm sorry if I've caused any confusion. Can I clarify in
13:14:29 20 case anybody else is confused. Where was it that you captured
21 this anti-aircraft gun that you - in the vehicle and you set fire
22 to the vehicle? Where was that?

23 A. Makali. Makali.

24 Q. Very well. All right. Move on then from Makali. Where
13:14:48 25 did you go next?

26 A. Kefy.

27 Q. K-E-F-Y is the spelling I have for Kefy?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. I don't believe it's a name that's been given before but

1 that's the spelling I have. And how long did you stay in Kefy?

2 A. Kefy is a mining village. They were mining gold there. We
3 went there and we stayed there for some time so that we could
4 look for an ideal place to be based in the hill.

13:15:31 5 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
6 to repeat that last - that word.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, repeat your evidence where
8 you say the mining gold was there. Now repeat what you said
9 after that, slowly.

13:15:50 10 THE WITNESS: I said we went and based at Kefy. I said
11 it's a mining area, gold mining area. G-O-L-D. They were mining
12 for gold there. That was where we were based.

13 MR MUNYARD:

14 Q. Did anything happen to you while you were based at Kefy?

13:16:13 15 A. Yes. The same soldiers from whom we had captured the
16 anti-aircraft from in Makali, they came and attacked us at Kefy.
17 Those same soldiers whom were attacked, they went and regrouped
18 themselves and they came and attacked us again at Kefy.

19 Q. What happened as a result of that attack?

13:16:40 20 A. We stood the attack. We were able to repel the attack.
21 And we were able to capture a lot of arms and ammunition from
22 them including one signalling communication set and the operator
23 himself, but he was damaged through the gunshots.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Who or what was damaged?

13:17:08 25 MR MUNYARD: The operator, Madam President.

26 THE WITNESS: The signaller. The man who was operating the
27 radio, the radio communication set that they had.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: He was injured?

29 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes, yes, yes. He got injured.

1 MR MUNYARD:

2 Q. Did he survive his injuries?

3 A. No, no, no, my Lord.

4 Q. So what happened to him?

13:17:34 5 A. We had to take the radio away from him.

6 Q. And if he didn't survive, that meant what?

7 A. He did not survive anyway.

8 Q. Did he die?

9 A. Yes. Yes, yes, yes.

13:17:53 10 Q. Were you able to use the radio communication set that you
11 got from him?

12 A. We had signalers.

13 Q. Right.

14 A. Yes.

13:18:08 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you have a tendency not to
16 answer the question you are being asked and I'm wondering why.
17 The question was: Were you able to use the radio communication
18 that you got from him? Now, the answer could be yes or no.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes.

13:18:29 20 MR MUNYARD:

21 Q. Where did you go after Kefy?

22 A. We went on top of the mountain Kangari Hills.

23 Q. Right. To where in the Kangari Hills?

24 A. In the middle of the hill. The middle of the forest.

13:18:53 25 Q. Did you still have this radio communications set that you
26 had captured?

27 A. Yes, my Lord.

28 Q. Did you keep it with you or did you do something else with
29 it?

1 A. We used it.

2 Q. Right. And when you got to this place in the Kangari

3 Hills, what did you do there?

4 A. That was where we based with all our families, our wives

13:19:25 5 and our children.

6 Q. Did your base have a particular name?

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. And would you like to tell us the name?

9 A. Yes, my Lord.

13:19:43 10 Q. Mr Ngebeh, I just want you to tell us the name of your

11 base, please?

12 A. International Boko. International Boko.

13 Q. Boko as in B-0-K-0. Is that correct?

14 A. Yes, my Lord.

13:20:10 15 Q. Was that its real name or was that a code name for where

16 you were?

17 A. That was our code name.

18 Q. How high up was it?

19 A. The place was too forested.

13:20:31 20 Q. And was it high up in the hills? Halfway up the hills? At

21 the bottom of hills? Where was it?

22 A. It was at the last peak of the hill up the mountain where

23 we went and stationed.

24 Q. Right. And how long did you stay at International Boko?

13:20:54 25 A. That particular base we were there up to '97. Up to 1997.

26 Starting from '94, '95, '96 up until '97.

27 Q. Having got there and established your base what did you do

28 with the arms and ammunition that you had captured from Masingbi,

29 Makali and Kefy?

1 A. Pa Sankoh sent reinforcements to us. When they came the
2 ammunition that we had, we shared them into three divisions. One
3 went to Pa Sankoh at Zogoda and then the reinforcement that came
4 from Pa Sankoh's place they also got one share, and those of us
13:21:54 5 who stayed at the base, we had our own share. But most times
6 when we captured things the Pa would always say they are
7 government property, so most times when we capture things, even
8 the ammunition, we had to conceal some so that the people who
9 came would not see them so later we would be able to distribute
13:22:15 10 them to our brothers who come. The ammunition --

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, I'm going to ask you again to
12 speak slowly. I know you don't naturally speak slowly but you
13 have to do this so that people can record what you say.

14 MR MUNYARD:

13:22:35 15 Q. You've told us that you divided up the arms and ammunition
16 but that because Pa had said that everything you get is
17 government property sometimes you had to conceal some.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Why did you sometimes conceal some?

13:22:59 20 A. Because if you knew the exact amount he would take
21 everything away from us.

22 Q. All right. And this signalling communication set that you
23 were able to get at Kefy, did you keep that with you in
24 International Boko or did that go somewhere else?

13:23:22 25 A. He said we should send it to him.

26 Q. Who is he?

27 A. Foday Sankoh.

28 Q. And did you send it to him?

29 A. Yes. Yes.

1 Q. Right. Now, you've said you then - well, you've said you
2 had that base at International Boko for several years. Did you
3 yourself stay there all those years?

4 A. I left there at a point in time.

13:23:57 5 Q. At which point in time?

6 A. Well, at the end of 1994 into '95 I left there.

7 Q. Before you left there, were you involved in any fighting
8 with any other forces apart from the soldiers?

9 A. Yes, fighting was going on. Fighting went on. We set
13:24:30 10 ambushes. We attacked places just for us to get arms and
11 ammunition.

12 Q. Give us some examples of where you set ambushes from
13 International Boko to get arms and ammunition and who did you get
14 them from?

13:24:51 15 A. In that same 1994 there was an ambush that we set between
16 Matele and Makali. And in this ambush, it was late Captain Barry
17 who was the commander. He was heading to go to Kono. And he
18 fell in an ambush. He travelled with armoured cars and a long
19 convoy. They were heading to Kono in 1994. And when he fell in
13:25:28 20 that ambush we were able to capture the armoured car and there
21 was a lot of ammunition in there. A lot of material. And that
22 was one of the heaviest operation that the RUF undertook to get
23 arms and ammunition in 1994. Thank you.

24 Q. And how much arms and ammunition did you get capture in
13:25:50 25 that particular incident?

26 A. Well, the armoured car itself had one anti-aircraft. It
27 had a GPMG. It had a mortar gun around it, but the mortar gun
28 that was inbuilt in the armoured car I was unable to remove it.
29 So I was only able to remove the anti-aircraft and the GPMG that

1 was inbuilt on the armoured car. From there, I had to --

2 Q. Pause there for a moment. How did this amount of arms and
3 ammunition captured in this particular incident compare with
4 other amounts that the RUF captured throughout the war?

13:26:35 5 A. We got ammunition in that ambush. We captured ammunition.
6 But it was not a large or heavy quantity of ammunition from
7 Captain Barry's mission, no. But we captured an armoured car.
8 AK rounds, G3 rounds. But it was not a large quantity of
9 ammunition. It was just the armoured car that was the heavy
13:27:07 10 weapon that we got, but we were able to get some material from
11 the ambush.

12 Q. Before we move off, I should mention there was a town that
13 the witness spoke of in - when he started the answer in that same
14 1994. There was an ambush that we set between, and the place is
13:27:25 15 Matele, M-A-T-E-L-E, on the spelling I have. It's at the
16 beginning of page 109 on my font.

17 So you've told us about this incident where you ambushed a
18 convoy led by Captain Barry. Now, is Captain Barry a soldier of
19 the Sierra Leone Army or of some other army?

13:27:53 20 A. He was a soldier.

21 Q. Of which army?

22 A. National army.

23 Q. Thank you. Were you ever involved in fighting people who
24 were not soldiers in an army, the Sierra Leone Army or one of the
13:28:12 25 ECOWAS armies?

26 A. I was an arms specialist. I was only there to repair arms
27 and ammunition.

28 Q. Sorry, I should have made it clear. Was the RUF involved
29 in fighting people other than soldiers, members of a national

1 army or an army part of ECOWAS?

2 A. Uh-huh. Yes, my Lord.

3 Q. Who? Who were they involved in fighting who were not
4 soldiers?

13:28:49 5 A. Well, the areas where the RUF were based in the north, you
6 know, they had Donsos and Kapras in that area. That is enough.
7 They were either to the national army --

8 Q. Pause there. They had Donsos, you said. D-O-N-S-O-S.
9 We've had that before.

13:29:16 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And what was the other name that you called?

12 A. Kapras.

13 Q. I don't know if we've had that spelling before, but I see
14 the time.

13:29:32 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: You could have the witness explain what
16 those are. Are they weapons, or what are they?

17 MR MUNYARD: We've had Donsos before, Madam President. I
18 don't know about Kapras, but I'll certainly ask him to give his
19 version of what they are:

13:29:45 20 Q. Who were these people, Donsos and Kapras?

21 A. These people were Civil Defence Forces.

22 MR MUNYARD: Thank you. I think that probably is an
23 appropriate moment.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. This is an appropriate moment. We
13:30:04 25 cannot use the court in the afternoon. As you know full well,
26 the court is being - courtroom is being used by another Court.
27 So we're going to adjourn these proceedings to tomorrow at
28 9 o'clock in the morning.

29 Mr Witness, I caution you that you are not to discuss your

1 evidence with anybody until you finish your testimony.

2 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Court is adjourned to tomorrow at 9.

4 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 1.30 p.m.

13:30:46 5 to be reconvened on Tuesday, 23 March 2010 at

6 9.00 a.m.]

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