



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

TUESDAY, 24 JUNE 2008
9.30 A.M
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Mr William Romans
Ms Sidney Thompson

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura

For the Prosecution:

Mr Nicholas Koumjian
Ms Shyamala Alagendra
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay Taylor:

Mr Terry Munyard

For the Office of the Principal Defender:

Mr Silas Chekera

1 Tuesday, 24 June 2008

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:29:55 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. I note some changes of
6 appearance. I think the Prosecution Bar is as before. Is that
7 correct, Mr Koumjian?

8 MR KOUMJIAN: With the exception of Brenda J Hollis who is
9 not present.

09:30:10 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Indeed I overlooked that. I will make a
11 note accordingly. Mr Munyard?

12 MR MUNYARD: Good morning, Madam President, your Honours,
13 counsel opposite. The Defence are represented this morning by
14 myself Terry Munyard, Thomas Scott an intern from the Defence

09:30:24 15 team is present and also this morning is Silas Chekera
16 representing the Office of the Principal Defender.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Munyard. If there are no
18 other matters I will remind the witness of his oath. Mr Witness,
19 yesterday you took the oath to tell the truth. That oath is
09:30:44 20 binding on you and you must answer questions truthfully. Do you
21 understand?

22 THE WITNESS: Yes.

23 WITNESS: TF1-375 [On former oath]

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: And again I remind you to speak slowly so
09:30:54 25 the interpreters and the court reporters can make sure they have
26 everything you say correctly recorded. Mr Koumjian, please
27 proceed.

28 THE WITNESS: Yes.

29 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR KOUMJIAN: [Cont.]

- 1 Q. Good morning, sir, and also to remind you if you can
2 continue, as you did in the afternoon yesterday, when you give a
3 longer answer to pause after every sentence or two. Sir, when we
4 were talking yesterday you explained to the Court that you had
09:31:27 5 left Kono and gone with Komba Gbundema up to Kurubonla. When was
6 the next time you saw Superman?
7 A. I saw him in Kurubonla.
8 Q. When was it that Superman arrived in Kurubonla?
9 A. After the attack on Mongor Bendugu.
09:31:56 10 Q. Thank you. When Superman arrived what happened?
11 A. They held a forum.
12 Q. Who was present at this forum after Superman arrived?
13 A. SAJ Musa, Superman, General Bropleh, Brigadier Mani,
14 Colonel T and others.
09:32:29 15 Q. Was this a commanders' forum or was it an open forum for
16 all fighters?
17 A. Commanders' forum.
18 Q. Were you present at the forum?
19 A. Yes.
09:32:46 20 Q. Can you please tell us what was discussed at this forum
21 after Superman's arrival?
22 A. Yes.
23 Q. Please explain to us.
24 A. When Superman got there, when the forum was convened
09:33:11 25 Superman briefed SAJ Musa. He told SAJ Musa that Sam Bockarie
26 had told him to go and work along with SAJ Musa to try and get to
27 Kabala.
28 Q. Did Superman explain anything else about the plans for the
29 forces that he had joined?

1 A. Yes, he further explained to SAJ that Sam Bockarie told him
2 to work along with the AFRC to join forces, that it would be good
3 for them to get back to Freetown.

09:34:07 4 Q. Was there any discussion of any plans for offensives after
5 Kabala?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Please explain what was talked about at this forum
8 regarding the offensives planned.

09:34:33 9 A. In the forum they said we should go and attack Kabala. If
10 the attack is successful we should advance to Makeni and from
11 Makeni we were to advance to Freetown. When we got to Kabala we
12 had some problems there.

13 Q. Okay. Mr Witness, just sticking to the forum for now, when
14 you heard Superman talk about going all the way on to Freetown,
09:34:54 15 did that surprise you that Freetown was an objective?

16 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat that answer.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter did not hear
18 you. You must repeat your --

19 MR KOUMJIAN:

09:35:18 20 Q. Perhaps, Mr Witness, I don't know if you're uncomfortable
21 but if you could move your chair closer to the microphone it
22 would be easier for you, I believe. Let me repeat the question
23 for you, sir.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Koumjian. I think that's
09:35:35 25 the best thing to do.

26 MR KOUMJIAN:

27 Q. My question was in the forum when you heard Superman talk
28 about the offensive and having an objective to go all the way to
29 Freetown, did that surprise you?

1 A. No, it did not surprise me.

2 Q. Can you explain to us why it did not surprise you?

3 A. Yes, because we knew that when we came together we will
4 make it when we got back to Freetown. That was why it was not a
09:36:10 5 surprise to me.

6 Q. When Superman arrived in Kurubonla did he come with any
7 men, or supplies, or ammunition?

8 A. Yes, he came with some men, some bodyguards and some
9 ammunition.

09:36:36 10 Q. Were his men armed?

11 A. Yes, they were well armed.

12 Q. Can you tell us anything else about the ammunition that
13 Superman brought with him?

14 A. Yes. It was the same ammunition that we had brought from
09:37:00 15 Gbarnga. That's what they used to reinforce us, the ammunition.

16 Q. And what led you to that conclusion? Why do you believe it
17 was the same ammunition you brought from Gbarnga?

18 A. Because I knew the boxes. They had different rounds that
19 we were using in Liberia and Sierra Leone. They were not among
09:37:30 20 the ammunition.

21 THE INTERPRETER: Correction, interpreter. "We knew the
22 differences between the ammunitions."

23 MR KOUJIAN:

24 Q. What kinds of ammunition was it that Superman brought?

09:37:50 25 A. AK rounds, GMG rounds, RPG rockets and some mortar bombs.

26 Q. Sir, you have told us that at the forum Superman talked
27 about attacking Kabala and eventually going to Freetown. What
28 was the reaction of the SLA officer SAJ Musa --

29 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, we are not sure which of the

1 officers said that. It simply says, "At the forum they said we
2 should go and attack Kabala." I am personally wondering who
3 "they" are.

4 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay, thank you very much:

09:38:29 5 Q. Mr Witness, who at the forum talked about attacking -
6 first, who at forum talked about attacking Kabala?

7 A. Superman and SAJ Musa.

8 Q. One or - are you saying one of them, you're not sure which
9 one? Are you saying both? Can you explain to us?

09:38:53 10 A. Superman was the first that made the proposal to attack
11 Kabala and SAJ Musa supported him that he too was planning to
12 attack Kabala, but he hadn't the manpower and ammunition, so it
13 was good for them to go and attack Kabala.

14 Q. And who at the forum spoke about going to Makeni and
09:39:18 15 Freetown?

16 A. SAJ Musa.

17 Q. What was the reaction of Superman?

18 A. Superman said when they got to Kabala, when we would have
19 gotten Kabala we would take another mission for Makeni, but our
09:39:46 20 first mission was for Kabala.

21 Q. After this forum was there an attack on Kabala?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. About how long after the forum did the attack take place?

24 A. After the forum the following day we started moving, but we
09:40:10 25 spent a week on the way to attack Kabala.

26 Q. When you say "we started moving", what was the composition
27 of the forces that attacked Kabala?

28 A. Superman was there, SAJ Musa and some STF fighters. Both
29 AFRC, RUF, STF fighters, but Superman and SAJ Musa were leading

1 the attack.

2 Q. Was Kabala defended by any force?

3 A. Yes, they had two ECOMOG forces in Kabala at the time.

4 Q. What were the two ECOMOG forces in Kabala at that time?

09:40:58 5 A. The Guinean and Nigerian contingents.

6 Q. What happened when you attacked Kabala?

7 A. We took Kabala for three days.

8 Q. Were you - when I say "you", the AFRC and RUF forces. Were
9 you able to capture all of the town of Kabala?

09:41:32 10 A. No.

11 Q. Please explain that.

12 A. We entered, we took over the town, but they had one
13 secondary school there called Kabala Secondary School. We were
14 unable to take over that campus. That was where the Guinean
09:41:58 15 contingents were based.

16 Q. Were any ammunition or weapons captured during this attack?

17 A. Yes, we captured a lot of weapons and ammunition from the
18 Guinean contingent.

19 THE INTERPRETER: "From the Nigerian contingent", instead
09:42:28 20 of Guinean.

21 MR KOUMJIAN:

22 Q. What ammunition was used for the attack on Kabala?

23 A. Well, the ammunition that we captured from Mongor, the
24 remaining ammunition that Superman brought with him.

09:43:05 25 Q. Can you now recall specifically any of the weapons that
26 were captured in Kabala during that attack and if you can't, just
27 tell us?

28 A. I can recall some.

29 Q. Please tell us what you remember.

1 A. They had a weapon called FM, the LAR rifles from the ECOMOG
2 contingent, we captured up to 400. And some pistols and other
3 weapons that I can remember.

09:43:49 4 Q. Okay, thank you. Mr Witness, the transcript didn't get all
5 of that so I am going to repeat what we did understand and ask
6 you to repeat what we did not.

7 MR MUNYARD: Before my learned friend talks about what we
8 understood, I didn't understand very much and I would like the
9 witness to explain.

09:44:05 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: We will start with the witness repeating
11 his answer. Mr Witness, parts of your answer were not heard
12 clearly. Please repeat your answer. If necessary we will ask to
13 have the question put again.

14 THE WITNESS: Ask the question again.

09:44:33 15 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, what I was going to do was read
16 the transcript up to the indiscernible and then ask the witness
17 to continue.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: If you put the question again, please,
19 Mr Koumjian.

09:44:46 20 MR KOUMJIAN: I will restate the question:

21 Q. Mr Witness, can you tell us what you remember about any
22 weapons captured in Kabala?

23 A. Yes.

09:45:01 24 Q. Please say it slowly, especially when you get to the names
25 of the weapons because we are not all familiar with those. So
26 please explain.

27 A. Yes, we captured some AK-47s, LAR rifles and some pistols,
28 mortar.

29 Q. Okay, the end of your answer you said "pistols, mortar".

1 Are those two different weapons, just to be clear?

2 A. Yes, when I talk about pistols they are side weapons. When
3 I talk about mortar they are heavy weapons, mortar guns. Mortar
4 guns.

09:45:50 5 Q. Can you describe for us the mortar guns that were captured?

6 A. Yes, we captured 60 millimetre mortar bombs, 81 millimetre
7 mortar guns.

8 Q. Thank you. Mr Witness, what happened after the three days
9 that you occupied Kabala?

09:46:21 10 A. They pushed us out of Kabala and we retreated from Kabala.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just before we move out of Kabala,
12 Mr Koumjian, I notice in the first answer the witness mentioned
13 something called "FMs" and I don't know what an FM is.

14 THE WITNESS: FM is the same LAR, but we cut it short, FM.

09:46:49 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

16 MR KOUMJIAN:

17 Q. Just so we are clear, what is an LAR?

18 A. That gun was always used by the Nigerian contingent.
19 I don't know much about it.

09:47:07 20 Q. Is it a heavy weapon, is it a firearm, a handgun or a
21 rifle?

22 A. It is a heavy weapon, because it is bigger than an AK-47.

23 Q. Is it something that a man can carry? One man can carry?

24 A. Yes, one person can carry it alone.

09:47:35 25 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Witness, is it an LAR or an SLR?

26 THE WITNESS: LAR. LAR.

27 JUDGE LUSSICK: Some kind of rifle, is it?

28 THE WITNESS: Yes, gun. LAR. LAR. They used the same
29 bullets used by a G3. It uses the same bullets like G3.

1 MR KOUMJIAN:

2 Q. Thank you. Sir, during this attack on Kabala was there any
3 communication that you know of between the forces that were doing
4 the attack and anyone else?

09:48:26 5 A. Which of the forces are you talking about? I do not
6 understand that question.

7 Q. Well, you have indicated that the attack - on the attack
8 was Superman and SAJ Musa, correct, and various other RUF and
9 AFRC and STF forces? Is that correct?

09:48:50 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Did any of these forces that were attacking Kabala
12 communicate with anyone outside of that Kabala area to your
13 knowledge?

14 A. Yes.

09:49:10 15 Q. Please tell us what you know about communications from
16 Kabala.

17 A. There was Superman communicating with Skinny - Mosquito -
18 SAJ Musa was communicating with Brigadier Mani in Kurubonla and
19 other communications were also going on at the time.

09:49:40 20 Q. Thank you. Now, you used the name Skinny. Can you explain
21 who is Skinny?

22 A. Sam Bockarie.

23 Q. Mr Witness, who called Sam Bockarie Skinny?

24 A. All his friends used to call him Skinny because of his
09:50:06 25 body.

26 Q. Sir, after being pushed out of Kabala, what happened to the
27 forces that had attacked? Where did you go?

28 A. We went to Koinadugu Town.

29 Q. The ammunition and arms that were captured, was there any

1 communication regarding those arms and ammunition?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Can you please explain that?

4 A. Yes, I was in the radio room with Superman, SAJ Musa, when
09:51:02 5 Sam Bockarie called and said that the ammunition and arms that we
6 had captured from Kabala he wanted us to send some to him so that
7 he can send it to the other front lines.

8 Q. What else was said then?

9 A. Repeat the question. I have not understood it.

09:51:23 10 Q. After Sam Bockarie said that he wanted some of the
11 ammunition sent to him, what happened?

12 A. After the communication Superman and SAJ Musa and other
13 commanders called a meeting, and in that meeting they discussed
14 that the distance is too far to send those ammunition to Kailahun
09:51:52 15 District and so they would like to call Sam Bockarie and tell him
16 that they would like to use the ammunition to attack Makeni.

17 [Indiscernible]. After the meeting --

18 Q. Mr Witness, I am sorry that was my fault. I was speaking
19 over the interpreter I believe at the end of the answer. We got
09:52:16 20 on the transcript "... to attack Makeni" and then the interpreter
21 added something that I didn't get.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, can you recall the last
23 part of the answer?

24 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, "That was what was on."

09:52:33 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am not quite sure if that makes sense
26 to me.

27 THE INTERPRETER: "That was what was going on in short."

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: "After the meeting"? The words - it is
29 before the words, "After the meeting."

1 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, I believe the witness then said,
2 "After the meeting." I am sorry, because I started speaking when
3 the interpreter was adding something. I apologise.

4 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, he has to be advised to
09:52:59 5 stop mumbling the last bit of his answers. He mumbles them. We
6 hardly get them clearly.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well, I will tell him. Mr Witness,
8 the interpreter is having a problem. You are going more slowly
9 now, that is good, but the interpreter tells us that you are
09:53:12 10 speaking slowly and mumbling at the end of your answers. You
11 must keep the same volume throughout your answer, you understand?

12 Proceed, Mr Koumjian.

13 MR KOUMJIAN:

14 Q. Mr Witness, I have the same problem of dropping my voice at
09:53:33 15 the end of a sentence and so I will try not to. Sir, you
16 indicated that there was discussion that the distance was too far
17 to send the ammunition and so they would like to call Sam
18 Bockarie and tell them that they would like to use the ammunition
19 to attack Makeni. What happened then?

09:53:55 20 A. After that they went into the radio room and called him.
21 After they had called him, he protested that they should send the
22 ammunition to him. In fact, he was going to send some people to
23 come for the ammunition.

24 Q. Okay, thank you. Now just clarify for us, so we are
09:54:16 25 absolutely clear, who called who? You used "he" and "them". Who
26 called who in the radio room?

27 A. It was Superman that called Sam Bockarie. Superman and SAJ
28 Musa called Sam Bockarie and Sam Bockarie told them that he
29 needed the ammunition. In fact, he will send - he, Sam Bockarie,

1 will send people to come and collect the ammunition.

2 Q. Thank you. Did Sam Bockarie send anyone to collect the
3 ammunition?

4 A. Yes, he sent people.

09:54:56 5 Q. When did they arrive?

6 A. After the communication, I think three weeks later people
7 arrived to Koinadugu Town.

8 Q. Can you remember then approximately - well, first of all
9 let us make it clear. What year was this that we are talking
10 about?

09:55:19

11 A. '98.

12 Q. And can you remember if it was dry season, or rainy season?

13 A. It was during the rainy season. It was raining at the
14 time.

09:55:41

15 Q. About how long after the time you were pushed out of Kabala
16 did the men arrive?

17 A. When they - almost one month when they arrived there.

18 Q. Okay, thank you very much. And the attack on Kabala, just
19 so we are clear, was that in the dry season or the rainy season?

09:56:09

20 A. Early in the rainy season.

21 Q. Where were you when the men arrived sent by Bockarie?

22 A. In Koinadugu Town.

23 Q. Who were these people that arrived?

24 A. They had Liberians among them. The Liberians were in the
25 majority, with some Sierra Leoneans who escorted them.

09:56:39

26 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Sorry to interrupt, Mr Koumjian. The
27 witness said it was raining at the time and was during the rainy
28 season of which year? Have I missed something? '98?

29 MR KOUMJIAN: I believe he started saying - he did say that

1 at the beginning before I asked him about the dry season and
2 rainy season. Thank you:

3 Q. Mr Witness, can you give us an estimate - we understand we
4 are not asking for an exact number. How many men approximately
09:57:18 5 arrived?

6 A. Roughly, I think 60 men roughly.

7 Q. Now, you said some were Liberians. Can you estimate
8 approximately what percentage, or how many of them, were
9 Liberian?

09:57:34 10 A. I can't remember the number, but the majority of them were
11 Liberians and a few Sierra Leoneans among them.

12 Q. Thank you. Was anyone leading this group?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Who was that?

09:57:59 15 A. One Senegalese. Senegalese.

16 Q. And who was this person? First, is Senegalese a name or a
17 nickname?

18 A. It is a nickname because he was tall.

19 Q. What was the nationality of this Senegalese?

09:58:24 20 A. He was a Liberian man.

21 Q. What else do you know about him?

22 A. I knew him for the first time after we had gone for the
23 ammunition in Kenema. He was the same Senegalese that I met in
24 Kenema.

09:58:44 25 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat that last
26 bit.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please repeat the last part of your
28 answer, Mr Witness, for the interpreter. Pick up where you said,
29 "He was the same Senegalese that I met in Kenema."

1 THE WITNESS: When we were in Freetown, we were sent to
2 Kenema to go and collect ammunition. The Senegalese that I met
3 with Jungle was the same Senegalese that I met in Koinadugu.

4 MR KOUMJIAN:

09:59:17 5 Q. Thank you. Can you remind us, this Senegalese do you know
6 if he was a member of any military force?

7 A. Yes, Senegalese he was one of the Special Forces for
8 President Taylor in Liberia.

9 Q. What happened after this force arrived with the majority
09:59:44 10 Liberian?

11 A. They decided to call a forum. Superman and SAJ Musa
12 decided to call a forum for all senior officers, including
13 Senegalese and CO Vincent [sic]. He called them all to a forum.

14 Q. And who attended the forum?

10:00:13 15 A. All the senior commanders attended the forum, including
16 myself. I was there serving as bodyguard to Superman.

17 Q. What was discussed in the forum?

18 A. The first thing was that they welcomed them. Superman told
19 them they were welcome and that he understood that Sam Bockarie
10:00:43 20 sent them to collect arms and ammunition to be carried to
21 Kailahun, but that at present they were unable to turn over the
22 arms and ammunition to them. They said they will call him and
23 tell him that, "We want to use you to work along with us to move
24 forward to Freetown."

10:01:00 25 Q. Mr Witness, when you said "they said they will call him"
26 please explain who said they will call who?

27 A. Superman said that they will call Sam Bockarie.

28 Q. Thank you very much. Anything else happen at this forum
29 after Superman made these remarks?

1 A. Yes. After that SAJ Musa brought up a decision that they
2 should look out for Gullit, they should try and locate Gullit.
3 Gullit.

10:01:44 4 Q. Can you explain what you mean when you say try to locate
5 Gullit?

6 A. Yes. At the time Gullit was in the jungle and nobody knew
7 his whereabouts, so SAJ Musa was trying to say that they should
8 try to locate him so that they could join hands together.

9 Q. What was the reaction of Superman to this suggestion?

10:02:09 10 A. Yes, Superman said it was good for them to form a battalion
11 to send them to go and search for Gullit.

12 Q. Okay, before we come to talk about that battalion what then
13 was done with the group led by Senegalese after the forum?

14 A. Repeat that question. I did not understand.

10:02:40 15 Q. Let me ask another question. What happened to Senegalese
16 after the forum?

17 A. After the forum they told Senegalese to be taking care of
18 the training base because we established a training base in
19 Koinadugu Town, so they told him to head the training base in
10:03:01 20 Koinadugu Town. That was Senegalese.

21 Q. Thank you. Who, if anyone, was being trained at the base?

22 A. Yes, there were a lot of people on the base for training.

23 Q. What kind of people were being trained at the base?

24 A. They had adults, children, females on the base.

10:03:35 25 Q. Mr Witness, were these people that had volunteered to join
26 your forces?

27 A. No.

28 Q. Who were they?

29 A. They were the people that we abducted in Kabala and its

1 surroundi ngs.

2 Q. Besi des Senegal ese do you recal l the names of any other
3 Liberians who were in the group that came that was led by
4 Senegal ese?

10:04:08 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Who do you recal l?

7 A. I recal l a Liberian man called CO Vincent. We used to call
8 hi m CO Vensy [phon].

9 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you. Your Honour, our phonetic
10:04:34 10 spelling is a l i t t l e d i f f e r e n t t h a n V i n c e n t , i t ' s V - E - N - S - E - N .

11 MR MUNYARD: Can we just have the witness please spell. If
12 there is any question about names I would like the witness to
13 spell them out.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, do you know how to spell the
10:04:52 15 name Vincent?

16 THE WITNESS: No, I don't know how to spell Vensy.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, is it Vincent or Vensen?

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness is saying
19 Vensy, CO Vensy.

10:05:15 20 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: For the record then that says Vincent is
22 not correct, it should be Vensy.

23 JUDGE LUSSICK: I am not sure what he is saying. Is it
24 Vensy, V-E-N-S-Y phonetically, or is it Vensen, V-E-N-S-E-N?

10:05:40 25 MR KOUMJIAN: I understand the latter, but it is phonetic
26 and I don't have another document with the spelling of that name.

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, why don't you spell the name
28 you have.

29 MR KOUMJIAN: Just phonetically exactly as the justice has

1 said, V-E-N-S-E-N:

2 Q. Sir, anyone else among the Liberians that you recall?

3 A. I can't recall the names of all of them now.

4 Q. Thank you very much. These Liberians that were there, were
10:06:15 5 they people that had military training? Could you tell that or
6 not?

7 A. I have not heard from the interpreter. I don't know if my
8 mic is not activated. I am not hearing anything.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, did your counterpart
10:06:36 10 interpret the question for the witness?

11 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, I did not get anything from
12 that side.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am told the question was interpreted.
14 Madam Court Attendant, could you assist please in checking the --

10:06:51 15 MR KOUMJIAN: Perhaps I could just try again and maybe it
16 will come out.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well.

18 MR KOUMJIAN:

19 Q. Mr Witness, do you know if the Liberians that came with
10:07:01 20 Senegalese were people with military training or experience?

21 A. I am just hearing directly from you.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, we are having it checked if
23 you wish to sit.

24 MS IRURA: Your Honour, the technicians are checking to see
10:07:24 25 if there is a problem.

26 MR KOUMJIAN: Perhaps the Court Officer might check the
27 headset also.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: We are informed that they should be able
29 to check this quite quickly. If it looks as though it is going

1 to take longer than quite quickly then we may have to retire.

2 We are informed that this will take about 10 minutes and
3 therefore we will adjourn briefly for those 10 minutes. If the
4 witness is to be escorted out then it will be necessary to put
10:12:51 5 the blinds down.

6 Mr Witness, the technicians need to look at this problem
7 more closely so we are going to leave the Court for about 10
8 minutes. Please adjourn the Court temporarily.

9 [Break taken at 10.13 a.m.]

10:19:26 10 [Upon resuming at 10.20 a.m.]

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: I understand it is rectified now, but
12 Mr Koumjian if you put your question again and Mr Witness please
13 tell us first if you hear the interpretation?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

10:20:30 15 MR KOUMJIAN:

16 Q. Sir, do you know if the Liberian forces that came under
17 Senegalese, came with him, if these were people with any military
18 training or military experience?

19 A. Yes.

10:20:50 20 Q. Who were they?

21 A. Most of the Liberians they said they were former NPFL
22 fighters and like C0 Vensy was an SSS man. He is presently in
23 the SSS in Liberia.

24 Q. Thank you. Now a bit earlier, Mr Witness, in talking about
10:21:13 25 the forum, you said that Superman said it would be a good idea to
26 form a battalion to search for Gullit. Was anything done about
27 that suggestion?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Tell us what was done.

1 A. They tasked each commander to give men to form the
2 battalion.

3 Q. When you say a battalion, approximately how many men were
4 put together to form this battalion, if you know?

10:21:50 5 A. We cannot estimate the men, but when we talk about
6 battalions we are talking about 62, but sometimes it went up to
7 150 depending on the type of men we had on the ground.

8 Q. This battalion, was it given a name at this time?

9 A. Yes.

10:22:20 10 Q. What was the name of the battalion?

11 A. Red Lion.

12 Q. Was a commander appointed for the Red Lion battalion?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Who was that?

10:22:37 15 A. One O-Five from the AFRC.

16 Q. Do you know his real name?

17 A. I can't remember his real name.

18 Q. You said the various commanders were tasked with providing
19 men. What was the make up - the final make up - of the Red Lion
20 battalion?

10:23:04 21 A. SAJ Musa gave his bodyguards, Superman gave some of his
22 bodyguards, Komba Gbundema gave some of his bodyguards and they
23 added those to the Liberians that came from Kailahun to form the
24 battalion.

10:23:33 25 Q. Thank you. Besides those that you mentioned, were there
26 any other forces inside this Red Lion battalion besides the
27 bodyguards and the Liberians that had come with Senegalese?

28 A. Yes, they had the SLA fighters and some other RUF fighters.

29 Q. Thank you. What about Senegalese, was he part of the

1 battalion or not?

2 A. He was not part of the battalion.

3 Q. What then happened to the - what orders did the Red Lion
4 battalion receive, to your knowledge?

10:24:23 5 A. They told them to go and search for Gullit, where he was,
6 and for them to join him, and when they get there they gave them
7 a code. They should call back and wait for instruction; that
8 instructions would further be given to them.

9 Q. What happened then?

10:24:49 10 A. When they went, they were successful. They got there
11 safely and they called back to the base. They called Superman
12 and SAJ Musa.

13 Q. Now, at that time where were Superman and SAJ Musa?

14 A. In Koinadugu Town.

10:25:15 15 Q. Was there any communication about the Red Lion battalion
16 finding Gullit between the forces in Koinadugu Town and anyone
17 else?

18 A. Yes, there was communication between them.

19 Q. Explain to us what you know about communications from
10:25:37 20 Koinadugu Town after the Red Lion battalion joined Gullit?

21 A. When they got there they called and it was one Alfred Brown
22 that called, CO Alfred. He was the radio man operator for Gullit
23 at that time. He was a former Liberian fighter, Alfred. He was
24 the one that called. He said, "Oh, we have received our brothers
10:26:05 25 here. Our brothers have reached us here and we are happy to
26 receive them." So they called Superman and Superman also called
27 Kailahun that, "The men who had been sent to go and look for
28 Gullit have arrived safely and that I have just received
29 communication from CO Alfred", and CO Alfred was the

1 communications man for the RUF at that time. So, when they got
2 there they called - CO Alfred called. Everybody was happy.

3 Q. Just to be absolutely clear, CO Alfred was he an SLA?

4 A. It was not CO Isaac. It was Alfred. He was not an SLA.

10:26:46 5 He was a former NPFL fighter and later he came to the RUF. He
6 was one of the radio communications man for the RUF. He was a
7 Liberian. He was not an SLA soldier.

8 Q. Thank you. You also said that "Superman also called
9 Kailahun." When you say "Superman called Kailahun", explain what
10:27:07 10 you mean?

11 A. He called Sam Bockarie's station, Vision 1, Sam Bockarie's
12 radio station. He called there and he spoke with Sam Bockarie
13 directly.

14 Q. Thank you very much. Now, Mr Witness, those - you talked
10:27:36 15 about the Liberians that came with Senegalese and some of them
16 went to the Red Lion battalion. What happened to the rest of the
17 people that came with Senegalese?

18 A. Few - just few remained with Superman and the rest of them
19 went along with the Red Lion battalion. A few of them remained
10:28:01 20 with Superman in Koinadugu Town.

21 Q. You also told us that bodyguards of Superman and Komba
22 Gbundema joined the Red Lion battalion. What was the nationality
23 of these bodyguards?

24 A. Even before the arrival of the Liberians Superman already
10:28:29 25 had some Liberian bodyguards with him, so most of them were
26 Liberians and some were Sierra Leoneans.

27 Q. Okay, thank you. Do you know what the group that the
28 Liberians joined, the Gullit group, where they were when the Red
29 Lion battalion found them?

1 A. I think it was around - I don't know the name of the area
2 again, but we used to call there Eagle Base. I don't know the
3 actual place, but it was in Tonkolili District. I think maybe
4 Tonkolili District or Bombali District at that time.

10:29:19 5 Q. Thank you. Did that group remain in that location,
6 Gullit's group, or did it go anywhere else?

7 A. Yes.

8 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Koumjian, he is not even sure - the
9 witness is not even sure what district it was - and now you have
10:29:33 10 asked him did they remain there. I got the impression from his
11 last answer that he was just guessing. He said, "I think it was
12 around. I don't know the name of the area, maybe Bombali
13 District", and so I don't think it is very helpful for you to say
14 did they remain in that area when he didn't know the area they
10:29:54 15 were in anyway.

16 MR KOUMJIAN: Perhaps the witness knows where they went
17 next. That is what I am trying to elicit. I will try again,
18 your Honour, to make it more - rephrase my question:

19 Q. Sir, Mr Witness --

10:30:06 20 A. [Indiscernible].

21 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, that was not clear.
22 Counsel was speaking over the witness and so it was not clear to
23 the interpreter.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Could you repeat what you just said,
10:30:15 25 please. The interpreter did not hear it.

26 THE WITNESS: They were based in Bombali District between
27 Kabala and Makeni. They were based along that axis, Bombali
28 District.

29 MR KOUMJIAN:

1 Q. Mr Witness, you have told us you are not sure exactly where
2 that was, but do you know where they went?

3 A. Yes, from there when they started attacking we used to
4 listen to them. They used to call when they were moving ahead.

10:30:53 5 Q. Where did they go, if you know?

6 A. They attacked Lunsar, Waterloo, Freetown.

7 Q. Explain to us how you know about these movements of
8 Gullit's group?

9 A. For everywhere they reached when they started fighting we
10:31:24 10 would hear from over the BBC, because they used to call us.

11 Major CY was there as the bodyguard commander to Superman. He
12 used to call Superman and inform him directly.

13 Q. Mr Witness, you've talked about Gullit's group attacking
14 and you named three places; Lunsar, Waterloo, Freetown. During
10:31:47 15 these attacks, let's start with Lunsar, what was the group that
16 you were with doing?

17 A. I was with Superman's group.

18 Q. And what did Superman's group do while Gullit's group was
19 attacking Lunsar?

10:32:08 20 A. At that time we launched an attack on Kabala for the second
21 time.

22 Q. Was that attack successful?

23 A. No.

24 Q. You've talked about Gullit attacking Lunsar. Do you know
10:32:26 25 what forces, if any, were defending Lunsar?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Who were the forces defending Lunsar?

28 A. The Nigerian ECOMOG and the Gbethis, the Kamajors.

29 MR KOUMJIAN: We will get a spelling for Gbethis, your

1 Honour:

2 Q. Who are the Gbethis?

3 A. They were the same as Kamajors, but in Temne they call them
4 Gbethis and in Mende they call them Kamajors. They were the same
10:33:12 5 CDF, but in Temne they call them Gbethis and in Mende they call
6 them Kamajors.

7 MR KOUMJIAN: The spelling is G-B-E-T-H-I-S.

8 Q. When Superman, you said after he attacked Lunsar - excuse
9 me, Gullit. Do you know if Gullit's forces were successful in
10:33:45 10 taking Lunsar?

11 A. Yes, they were successful.

12 Q. And then you indicated that they attacked Waterloo. Where
13 was the force you were with when Gullit's forces were attacking
14 Waterloo?

10:34:03 15 A. At that time we were moving towards Makeni.

16 Q. Were your forces facing any fighting at that time, the time
17 that Gullit's forces were around Waterloo?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Who were you fighting against?

10:34:30 20 A. At first we fought amongst ourselves. That was an
21 infighting in Koinadugu and later we started attacking Alikalial.
22 We attacked Alikalial going towards Bumbuna to Makeni.

23 Q. Thank you. Let's first deal with the fights among
24 yourselves. Can you explain the circumstances that led to this
10:35:03 25 internal fighting?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Please tell us what happened that led to the internal
28 fighting.

29 A. That was the time Senegalese was appointed at the training

1 commandant and when he went to the training base he beat up one
2 of the recruits until he killed him. So SAJ Musa said they
3 should court-martial him and Superman said, no, he did not have
4 any control over Senegalese. He was one of the Special Forces.
10:35:46 5 He said we would have to inform Sam Bockarie. And SAJ Musa said
6 he will not take orders - SAJ Musa said he will not take orders
7 from Sam Bockarie and that he was going to court-martial
8 Senegalese. So Superman said he will not agree to that. So the
9 infighting started. That was the time the infighting started.

10:36:07 10 Q. Thank you. When you say "infighting", are you talking
11 about arguing with words or fire fights?

12 A. We fought with guns. Infighting.

13 Q. Who was fighting against who?

14 A. RUF, STF versus AFRC and former SLA soldiers.

10:36:38 15 Q. The AFRC in this internal fighting were led by who?

16 A. SAJ Musa.

17 Q. And the RUF in this internal fighting were led by who?

18 A. Superman.

19 Q. Now, you have also mentioned the STF. Who was leading the
10:36:59 20 STF?

21 A. General Bropleh.

22 Q. Which side was the STF on in this infighting?

23 A. On RUF side.

24 Q. Were all of the SLAs together with SAJ Musa?

10:37:25 25 A. No.

26 Q. Who was not with SAJ Musa?

27 A. Brigadier Mani, Colonel T, Rambo Red Goat, they were not
28 with SAJ Musa.

29 Q. Who were they with?

1 A. They were with Superman.

2 Q. You've previously told us who Brigadier Mani and Colonel T
3 are. Who was Rambo Red Goat?

10:37:59

4 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can I learned counsel please
5 repeat the question.

6 MR KOUMJIAN:

7 Q. Mr Witness, who was Rambo Red Goat?

8 A. He was one of the senior officials from the AFRC.

9 Q. Which side was Rambo Red Goat on during the infighting?

10:38:24

10 A. At the time the firing was going on he was on SAJ Musa's
11 side.

12 Q. Where did this fighting take place?

13 A. Koinadugu Town.

14 Q. Then what happened?

10:38:46

15 A. After the fighting, I think civilians went and informed
16 ECOMOG in Kabala that infighting was going on in Koinadugu Town.
17 So ECOMOG and the Gbethis and the Kapra - ECOMOG and the Kapras
18 decided to come and attack us in Koinadugu at that time, but
19 before that SAJ Musa has jumped into the bush with his forces.

10:39:13

20 So when ECOMOG attacked us we repelled the attack and he came and
21 told us that we will not be able to sit here again because ECOMOG
22 already knew about us, so we decided to retreat and go to Pumpkin
23 Ground. So we went to Yira Filaiia. We burnt down the town. We
24 burnt Koinadugu Town.

10:39:33

25 Q. Thank you. If you could slow up a little bit, Mr Witness.

26 We need to go over a few things. You said ECOMOG and who decided
27 to attack you in Koinadugu during the infighting?

28 A. The Kapras.

29 Q. Who are the Kapras?

1 A. They were part of the CDF, but they called them in -
2 I don't know how they called this tribe. In their own tribe, in
3 the Kabala district, they called them the Kapras. In the Koranko
4 they called them Kapras. They were part of the Kamajors, the CDF
10:40:23 5 forces.

6 Q. Thank you. Now, then you said --

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is that correctly spelt in the
8 transcript?

9 MR KOUMJIAN: I will check that, your Honour. I am not
10 familiar with the word, but we will check it:

11 Q. Sir, you said that, "So when ECOMOG attacked us we repelled
12 the attack and he came and told us we will not be able to sit
13 here." Who said that?

14 A. Superman told us that we will not be able to sit here
10:41:02 15 again. Superman.

16 Q. When SAJ Musa, you said, took his forces out of Koinadugu,
17 what happened to Rambo Red Goat?

18 A. Rambo Red Goat surrendered to us and he said we are all
19 brothers.

10:41:23 20 Q. What happened after he was surrendered? How did you
21 receive him?

22 A. We received him nicely. We just laughed at him because he
23 was talking funny, funny things and everybody was just laughing.
24 We received him fine.

10:41:49 25 Q. Now, you said you went to Pumpkin Ground. Can you explain
26 what that is?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. What is Pumpkin Ground?

29 A. When we got to the town we did not meet anybody there. We

1 only met pumpkins in all the rooms in all under the beds, so we
2 referred to the place as Town Pumpkin Ground, Town Pumpkin
3 Ground.

4 Q. Do you know the real name of this place?

10:42:33 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Can you tell us please?

7 A. Yira Filai a.

8 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness say that
9 again.

10:42:43 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat the name for
11 the interpreter.

12 THE WITNESS: Yira Filai a.

13 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honours, the spelling, if it isn't spelt
14 already, Y-I-R-A and the second word F-I-L-A-I-A:

10:43:09 15 Q. Because it is easier for me to pronounce I will call this
16 Pumpkin Ground. What happened after you went to Pumpkin Ground?

17 A. We based in Pumpkin Ground and Superman said we should
18 start running missions to attack the ECOMOG forces.

19 Q. Did you attack any ECOMOG forces at this time?

10:43:33 20 A. Yes, we attacked ECOMOG forces.

21 Q. Where did you attack the ECOMOG forces?

22 A. We attacked Alikalia, [indiscernible].

23 Q. In this attack were any weapons or ammunition captured?

24 A. Yes, we captured a lot of arms and ammunition there.

10:44:15 25 Q. Sir, I want to go back to one thing you said when
26 discussing the infighting. You said that when Superman said you
27 should leave he gave some orders about what you should do in
28 Koinadugu, is that correct?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. What in fact happened to Koinadugu after the infighting?

2 A. Superman told us to burn the town down.

3 Q. Was any part of the town burnt?

4 A. We burnt the whole town.

10:44:52 5 Q. Were there any civilians in Koinadugu at that time?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What happened to those that were in Koinadugu at that time?

8 A. We started setting fire on the houses. Some of them left,
9 they went into the bushes, and some stayed in the houses and got

10:45:19 10 burnt.

11 Q. After the attack on Alikalia where did you go next?

12 A. We started moving towards Makeni.

13 Q. Mr Witness, do you recall approximately when this was that
14 you started moving towards Makeni?

10:45:45 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Tell us approximately when this was?

17 A. I think it was December '98. December.

18 Q. On your way to Makeni, were any other places attacked?

19 A. Yes, they attacked us, but we did not attack any places.

10:46:30 20 They attacked us for the first time and the second time we
21 attacked.

22 Q. Okay, who attacked you?

23 A. We were attacked by the ECOMOG forces.

24 Q. Do you know where these ECOMOG forces that attacked you
10:46:50 25 were based?

26 A. Yes, they were based in Bumbuna Town.

27 Q. What was the contingent of ECOMOG, if you know, that
28 attacked you?

29 A. The Nigerian forces.

1 Q. And what happened after you were attacked in Bumbuna?

2 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, can I learned counsel kindly
3 be asked to repeat the question.

4 THE WITNESS: After the attack --

10:47:31

5 MR KOUMJIAN:

6 Q. I will repeat the question, please, Mr Witness. My
7 question is what happened after the attack - you were attacked in
8 Bumbuna?

10:47:48

9 A. The attack did not take place in Bumbuna. The attack was
10 around Bumbuna. Around Bumbuna. The forces were based in
11 Bumbuna and the attack was around Bumbuna.

12 Q. Thank you for that correction. What happened after the
13 attack by the forces that had been based in Bumbuna?

10:48:10

14 A. We were not based in Bumbuna. The attack was around
15 Bumbuna and we were going towards Bumbuna, but we did not enter
16 Bumbuna. The forces attacked us around Bumbuna and the forces
17 were based around Bumbuna, so it was the jet bomber that came
18 over and attacked us. The jet even gave me some problem around
19 my thigh at that time.

10:49:02

20 Q. At the time the forces you were with were moving towards
21 Makeni, do you know of any movements of other forces around
22 Sierra Leone?

23 A. Yes.

10:49:24

24 Q. First, let me ask you how do you know about other forces
25 moving around Sierra Leone?

26 A. We had regular communications between us.

27 Q. Do you know about any other movement of RUF forces around
28 this time as you were moving towards Makeni?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Please explain to us what you remember about that?

2 A. After we had taken Alikalia it was at the same time that
3 Issa Sesay and his group, Rambo, took over control of Kono, Koidu
4 Town. They were moving towards Magburaka whilst we were moving
10:50:06 5 towards Binkolo. We were having regular communication between us
6 at the time.

7 Q. As your forces were moving towards Makeni, do you know
8 where Issa Sesay's forces were?

9 A. Yes.

10:50:26 10 Q. Where were they?

11 A. At the time they attacked us around Bumbuna, they were in -
12 around Magburaka.

13 Q. Do you know if Magburaka was defended by any forces?

14 A. Yes.

10:50:50 15 Q. Who was defending Magburaka?

16 A. The ECOMOG contingent, Nigerian troops.

17 Q. Was there a battle there in Magburaka?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And do you know what the result was?

10:51:09 20 A. RUF succeeded. It was successful.

21 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, I am just wondering where
22 was this witness throughout all this that he is able to give this
23 evidence? Surely, he was not everywhere. If you could have some
24 foundation, I would like to know.

10:51:36 25 MR KOUMJIAN:

26 Q. Sir, you talked about hearing radio communications, but
27 where were you when you heard - with which forces were you when
28 you heard these communications?

29 A. I was with Superman's group.

1 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: That was in Koinadugu?

2 MR KOUMJIAN:

3 Q. At the time that the attack on Magburaka took place, where
4 was Superman's group at that time?

10:52:02 5 A. We were in Binkolo. We attacked Binkolo. Binkolo, the
6 road leading from Makeni to Kabala on the main road.

7 Q. Just so we are clear, in which direction were you going?
8 Towards Makeni, or away from Makeni?

9 A. We were going towards Makeni because it is very close to
10:52:30 10 Makeni, up to four or five miles.

11 Q. What happened in Binkolo?

12 A. We entered Binkolo and we captured some priests in Binkolo.
13 We captured some priests from the Catholic mission.

14 Q. And what was done with the priests that were captured?

10:52:57 15 A. We took them to Superman. At the time I was resting
16 because I was encountering some problems. I didn't know what
17 next they did to them.

18 Q. Okay, thank you very much. Now, you talked about --

19 JUDGE LUSSICK: Just before you leave that, Mr Koumjian,
10:53:22 20 I am curious to know what type of problems this witness
21 encountered.

22 MR KOUMJIAN: I just don't want to be too specific.

23 I could do it perhaps in private session.

24 JUDGE LUSSICK: I see. It will go to his identity, will
10:53:41 25 it?

26 MR KOUMJIAN: Perhaps.

27 MR MUNYARD: Well could we, before we abandon this point
28 completely, find out whether or not it does go to his identity?
29 At the moment, it could be any kind of problem.

1 JUDGE LUSSICK: Well the reason I ask is it seems that
2 whatever problems they were were serious enough to prevent him
3 finding out the fate of these Catholic priests, so seeing he is
4 so well informed on every other instance of these attacks I am
10:54:11 5 just wondering what degree of problems he is talking about.

6 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, can I say that from the papers
7 that have been disclosed to us on the face of it the problems
8 that appear on the papers do not go to his identity.

9 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, I can do this as your Honours
10 wish, in open or closed session. Our general position is that,
11 while a particular piece of information may not identify the
12 witness, a combination of pieces of information could identify
13 the witness to those knowledgeable. So, I am at your discretion.
14 I could either do a couple of questions in private session, or
10:54:56 15 I can ask him openly.

16 JUDGE LUSSICK: Well, look, I don't know what he is going
17 to say, Mr Koumjian, whereas you do, and so if you say it could
18 betray his identity perhaps it might be something we can deal
19 with later on.

10:55:16 20 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay, let me try to go around it while
21 answering your Honour's concern about his basis of knowledge:

22 Q. Mr Witness, you have told us that you don't know about the
23 priests. During a period of time were you no longer among the
24 fighting men?

10:55:31 25 A. No.

26 Q. Where --

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: When you say "No" do you mean no you were
28 no longer among the fighting men, or no that is not correct?

29 THE WITNESS: I was no longer among the fighting men at the

1 time.

2 MR KOUMJIAN:

3 Q. And can you tell us where you were, the place?

10:56:05

4 A. I was behind them. I was always behind them, the back
5 team.

6 Q. And during this period of time were you listening to the
7 radio, or for some reason unable to listen to the radio?

10:56:29

8 A. When we were at the back we were the ones who had the
9 radio, so we had access to radio. We were listening to radio,
10 our local radio, BBC and other radio stations.

11 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is that how the witness knew the
12 movements of these other groups, through commercial radio?

13 MR KOUMJIAN: I believe he previously indicated both
14 internal and commercial, but I can ask him.

10:56:48

15 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: But in his recent answer all the radios
16 he has named are commercial radios.

17 MR KOUMJIAN: I will clarify.

18 THE WITNESS: Radio communications. The RUF radio
19 communication.

10:57:00

20 MR KOUMJIAN:

21 Q. Mr Witness, when you talk about what you know about where
22 other groups were at the time you were somewhere else, can you -
23 you said it was from radio. Can you explain what you mean? How
24 did you learn where other RUF forces were and AFRC forces through
25 the radio?

10:57:18

26 A. Yes, normally when RUF is moving they can't take the radio
27 at the forefront because of security reasons. The radio would
28 always be at the back. Where the radio was it was the same area
29 that they took me, so whenever communication was going on I would

1 be with the radio communication so that I can listen and I knew
2 about the movement about the other groups.

3 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, I believe actually in
4 reconsidering it I can deal with it openly because something has
10:58:01 5 already been stated:

6 Q. You said earlier you had a problem with your thigh. Is
7 that related to what you are talking about now as far as your
8 movements?

9 A. Yes.

10:58:14 10 Q. When you had this problem, what happened to you? Just
11 where did you go?

12 A. The problem when I said I had a problem on my thigh, I was
13 having an injury on my thigh. That did not stop me from going
14 behind the enemy - the forces. I was not at the forefront, but I
10:58:41 15 was behind them. We were moving because we hadn't a base at the
16 time.

17 Q. Mr Witness, you talked about SAJ Musa leaving Koinadugu
18 with his forces. Do you know where he went?

19 A. Yes.

10:59:03 20 Q. Where did he go?

21 A. When they were sitting down, the radio - when the radio man
22 for the RUF at the time sent to Superman saying that they wanted
23 to talk to him on the radio, so when Superman got into the radio
24 room later when he returned he said he has just spoken with SAJ,
10:59:28 25 SAJ Musa, and he told me that he hadn't any problems with me. We
26 should join hands together. He had joined Gullit's group and
27 that they were moving to Freetown, but I hadn't any problem with
28 us and so he too spoke with him. So, I told him that I hadn't
29 any problem with him and so Superman told me that. He said SAJ

1 Musa called him and talked to him over the radio.

2 Q. If I understand you you said, "He had joined Gullit's
3 group." Just to be clear, who had joined Gullit's group?

4 A. SAJ Musa.

11:00:11 5 Q. And when you say SAJ Musa, does that include the forces, or
6 just SAJ Musa himself, or the forces he commanded also?

7 A. SAJ Musa and the forces he was commanding.

8 Q. After SAJ Musa joined, Gullit, do you know if there was any
9 communication with Gullit?

11:00:42 10 A. Yes, there was communication with Gullit.

11 Q. Communication between Gullit and who?

12 A. Gullit and Superman.

13 Q. How do you know about that?

14 A. As I told you, I was always with the radio man. At the
11:01:05 15 time I was having this problem I was always in the radio room.

16 When Superman goes to the radio room I was always with him in the
17 radio room.

18 Q. Thank you. Now, you had mentioned this Red Lion battalion.

19 Was there any communication with the Red Lion battalion to your
11:01:23 20 knowledge?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Who was communicating from the Red Lion battalion?

23 A. Superman's bodyguard, Major CY.

24 Q. When you say he was Superman's bodyguard, when was he
11:01:48 25 Superman's bodyguard?

26 A. I think from the starting of the revolution until the time
27 that they dispatched them as Red Lion battalion he was bodyguard
28 to Superman. He went to represent Superman at the time.

29 Q. So was CY a member of the Red Lion battalion or not?

1 A. Yes, he was a member of the Red Lion battalion.

2 Q. Do you recall what Major CY said to Superman during these
3 communications? Do you recall any of that?

4 A. Sometimes he used to tell Superman because the
11:02:41 5 communication - everybody used to listen to it. It was like a
6 telephone. Sometimes he used to tell Superman that things are
7 fine and that they were putting things together to move to
8 Freetown, but sometimes they had some communication problem. It
9 was not every time that he had access to radio to talk to
11:02:58 10 Superman.

11 Q. When you say sometimes they indicated there were some
12 problems, can you explain what you mean?

13 A. Yes. When SAJ Musa got there he told them - I think only
14 the radio people used to talk over the radio. It's not everybody
11:03:30 15 talking on the radio with his own idea, so they didn't have the
16 free time to talk over the radio.

17 Q. Okay, Mr Witness. I am not sure about others, but I didn't
18 understand your answer so can you just give it again a little bit
19 more slowly. What were some of the problems that you talked
11:03:50 20 about? Can you explain again.

21 A. Yes, when SAJ Musa got there he put a strong rule,
22 according to them, because I was not there. He told them that
23 whoever wanted to communicate with any other station should
24 pass - should go through a procedure before communicating with
11:04:10 25 anyone. So CY passed the message over to Superman and Superman
26 was telling us that he hasn't got any direct line any more with
27 CY at the time.

28 Q. Now, what happened to SAJ Musa to your knowledge?

29 A. From there when we were moving towards Freetown

1 I understood that he was killed in Benguema barracks.

2 Q. Do you recall where you were when you first heard that SAJ
3 Musa was killed?

4 A. Yes.

11:04:51 5 Q. Where were you?

6 A. At the time I was strong now, I was in Lunsar. We were
7 moving towards Lunsar.

8 Q. Where was Superman?

9 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat that answer.

11:05:09 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter needs you to
11 repeat your answer. The question was "Where was Superman?"

12 Please repeat your answer.

13 THE WITNESS: Makeni.

14 MR KOUMJIAN:

11:05:32 15 Q. What do you remember - how did you learn that Superman had
16 died?

17 MR MUNYARD: We started on SAJ Musa and we are now moving
18 on to Superman's death. It may just be a slip, I make them all
19 the time, but I wasn't sure if it was a slip.

11:05:52 20 MR KOUMJIAN: I think it was ten points for the Defence on
21 that one. Yes, it was my fault:

22 Q. Sir, where were you when you heard that SAJ Musa had been
23 killed?

24 A. I said earlier we were in Lunsar. Lunsar.

11:06:13 25 Q. But where were you? Were you in a radio room, were you in
26 a hotel, did someone tell you? How did you learn about SAJ Musa
27 dying?

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is that not two questions in one, or are
29 you trying to link into something?

1 MR KOUMJIAN: Let me try it again:

2 Q. When I ask where were you, describe as best you can the
3 circumstances of how you learned that SAJ Musa had died?

11:06:51

4 A. When we moved to Lunsar we moved with the advance team with
5 Komba Gbundema --

6 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, can the witness repeat and
7 slowly.

11:07:03

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are going fast. Repeat
9 your answer, speaking more slowly. Start where you said, "We
10 moved with the advance team with Komba Gbundema." Pick up from
11 there.

11:07:26

12 THE WITNESS: We moved with the advance team. Komba
13 Gbundema was the commander when we got to Lunsar. The following
14 day Superman joined us in Lunsar and told us that the people in
15 front of us have encountered problem. We understood that SAJ
16 Musa was dead. We understand that SAJ Musa is dead, so we should
17 try and get to them.

18 MR KOUMJIAN:

11:07:43

19 Q. What was the reaction of the people you were with when you
20 learned that SAJ Musa was dead?

21 A. Some of the SLAs that were with us, they felt bad, and some
22 of the RUF were happy because they said SAJ Musa was ambitious
23 for power, like my commander Superman and other commanders.
24 Komba Gbundema even said it openly.

11:08:10

25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Witness, you are running again. Slow
26 down, please.

27 MR KOUMJIAN:

28 Q. So, sir, did you learn who, if anyone, took SAJ Musa's
29 place?

1 A. Yes. What? Yes.

2 Q. Who did you learn had taken SAJ Musa's place?

3 A. Bazy.

4 Q. Where was Gullit at this time?

11:08:47 5 A. Gullit was there with them. He was there with them at the
6 time.

7 Q. To your knowledge, what was the relationship between Gullit
8 and Superman?

9 A. They had a good - they had a good working - they had a good
11:09:18 10 job because during the death of SAJ Musa Gullit started
11 communicating with Superman because he said SAJ Musa was the
12 cause for the poor communication between them.

13 Q. When you say "during the death of SAJ Musa Gullit started
14 communicating" do you mean before or after SAJ Musa died?

11:09:39 15 A. After the death of SAJ Musa.

16 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: What is the meaning of "they had a good
17 job", Mr Interpreter?

18 THE INTERPRETER: That is what he said.

19 THE WITNESS: I am talking about good relationship, good
11:09:55 20 relationship.

21 MR KOUMJIAN:

22 Q. Where did you go then? You said Superman joined you and
23 then where did you go?

24 A. We attacked Gberi Junction.

11:10:22 25 Q. Mr Witness, at one point you had said that Superman was in
26 Makeni, is that correct?

27 A. Yes, Superman was in Makeni, yes. For the first time when
28 we attacked Makeni we left him there and we went with the advance
29 team to Lunsar and he met us in Lunsar.

1 Q. Okay, this attack on Makeni, do you remember what month it
2 was?

3 A. The attack on Makeni? I do not understand the question.

4 Q. Do you remember which month and year the attack on Makeni
11:11:01 5 took place?

6 A. Yes, December.

7 Q. What year?

8 A. '98.

9 Q. Who attacked Makeni?

11:11:19 10 A. RUF.

11 Q. Were you part of that attack, or not?

12 A. I was there, but I did not take part in a physical battle
13 at the time.

14 Q. Who were the commanders of the forces attacking Makeni?

11:11:41 15 A. From our group, from Superman's group, Superman was the
16 commander because we met with Issa Sesay's group at the same
17 time. Issa Sesay was the commander for them.

18 Q. When you say Issa Sesay was the commander for them, did
19 Issa Sesay have any forces under his command?

11:12:06 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Was that a small force, or how would you describe it?

22 A. It was a big force. I think he was moving with a brigade.
23 He was moving with a brigade from Makeni. He moved along with
24 cars and other things.

11:12:25 25 Q. When you say cars, what kind of cars are you speaking
26 about?

27 A. He used trucks to load many ammunition in them. He used
28 some pick-ups to put heavy weapons like the 50 calibre, one
29 barrel BZT to move along with. He was having cars with him.

1 Q. Besides the 50 calibre and one barrel BZT, do you know if
2 Issa Sesay brought any other heavy weapons to that attack on
3 Makeni?

4 A. Yes, he brought some mortars with him.

11:13:12 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: The witness has said two things. One, he
6 didn't take an active part in the attack. Two, he says I think
7 that Issa Sesay's group was moving from a bridge to Makeni, or
8 with a brigade from Makeni. Is this guesswork on his part, or
9 how does he know these things?

11:13:34 10 THE WITNESS: No, I did not say so.

11 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Well, please clarify that area.

12 MR KOUMJIAN:

13 Q. Mr Witness, how do you know about the forces that Issa
14 Sesay brought with him?

11:13:47 15 A. I said earlier we were in Binkolo. Superman and Issa Sesay
16 communicated. Issa Sesay told Superman that he was presently in
17 Magburaka, that he had taken over Magburaka while Superman said
18 he had taken over Binkolo, so the next target was to attack
19 Makeni, Teko barracks. So Issa Sesay told Superman that Superman
11:14:13 20 should take his troops to attack the barracks directly while he,
21 Issa Sesay, with his group will attack Makeni Town. At the time
22 I was not far away from them. I was with them. When I say far,
23 I was behind them. It was not like a mile or two miles. I was
24 behind them, but I was not taking part in active battle at the
11:14:37 25 time.

26 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Yes, but that doesn't throw any light as
27 to how he knew the weapons they carried and the composition of
28 the Issa Sesay team.

29 MR KOUMJIAN:

1 Q. Mr Witness, first let me ask you: Did you ever actually
2 meet the forces that Issa Sesay brought with him?

3 A. Yes. The fighting in Makeni took more than three days.
4 The fighting in Makeni took three days. We took over the town,
11:15:06 5 two days. The third day we got the barracks, the Teko barracks,
6 because the barracks was far away from the town. When we
7 attacked and took over the town we were all together, so we used
8 to see them. We used to see them with the one barrel BZT, the 50
9 calibre in the car and some mortar bombs and trucks of ammunition
11:15:29 10 behind them. All of us were together in the town when we joined
11 forces to attack the barracks the third day. So I saw them with
12 my own very eyes.

13 Q. Mr Witness, you told us you didn't take active part in the
14 fighting. During the fighting did you have any way to learn what
11:15:48 15 was going on?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Can you explain how you were aware of what was going on?

18 A. Yes, I was not at the front line, but we had the safe zone
19 where the commanders - like Issa Sesay didn't take part in any
11:16:15 20 fighting, so where he was based with the radio that was where
21 I was based. Issa Sesay didn't take part in fighting. He would
22 always be behind with the ammunition, the radio, because of
23 security, so where Issa Sesay was based in Makeni Town that was
24 where I was based and so every information about the fighting,
11:16:33 25 every fighting for the day was reported directly to him. Every
26 fighting for the day was reported directly to him, so I knew all
27 the information about the fighting and how things went.

28 Q. I just want to make sure I understand. You told us that
29 you had come with Superman's group. Were you actually in the

1 same place with Issa Sesay during the fighting?

2 A. Yes, during the fighting in Makeni when we took over the
3 town, the Makeni Town itself, we were together. We joined forces
4 together in the town. We were based in the town when we attacked
11:17:10 5 the barracks. We were together and all the radio were together
6 at the time.

7 Q. Did you ever learn where the heavy weapons came from that
8 Issa Sesay brought to this attack on Makeni?

9 A. No, some of the weapons they told us that they had captured
11:17:35 10 them from Kono like the one barreled BZT.

11 Q. Okay, thank you very much. Who was defending Makeni during
12 this fighting?

13 A. The Nigerian ECOMOG.

14 Q. Can you give us any descriptions of the strength of the
11:18:01 15 defending forces?

16 A. I did not understand that part.

17 Q. Can you tell us anything about how strong the forces were
18 that were defending Makeni?

19 A. Yes.

11:18:26 20 Q. Tell us what you know about the defending forces.

21 A. One, from my experience from the fighting and for those who
22 were involved in the fighting like Superman, to have fought for
23 three days that was my first time to see that, to fight over a
24 town for three days before taking it over, so I knew that the
11:18:49 25 forces in Makeni were very strong and Makeni Teko barracks was
26 the second biggest barracks in Sierra Leone, Teko. They had two
27 brigades there. One brigade was basing in Teko. The one that
28 was in Kono they retreated and they based in Teko. They joined
29 the other brigade and so they had a strong force there.

1 Q. Did the defending forces have any heavy weapons?

2 A. Yes, yes.

3 Q. Did the defending forces have many vehicles?

4 A. Oh, yes.

11:19:31 5 Q. So, Mr Witness, can you tell me how long would it take to
6 drive a vehicle from Makeni to Freetown?

7 A. Yes.

8 MR MUNYARD: Well what sort of vehicle, in what kind of
9 conditions, in which season? This is a very sweeping question.

11:19:53 10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: And it has to presume that the witness is
11 a driver who has experience in driving, which you have not shown
12 yet. We are mindful of his age at the time.

13 MR KOUMJIAN: But I would submit that he may as a passenger
14 be able to estimate the time of the trip:

11:20:12 15 Q. Sir, have you ever either driven or been in a vehicle that
16 went between Makeni and Freetown?

17 A. Yes, I myself can drive and I have been in cars from Makeni
18 to Freetown.

19 Q. So, Mr Witness, let's say in an army truck in the dry
11:20:34 20 season, something like December, how long would it take an army
21 truck to drive from Makeni to Freetown?

22 A. Well for a truck maybe two hours ten minutes, or two hours
23 25 minutes, from Makeni to Freetown in a truck.

24 Q. What happened to the forces that were defending Makeni
11:21:02 25 during this attack?

26 A. Well, the forces we destabilised them. We cut off their
27 supply road. From the barracks towards Freetown you can pass
28 through the town, so we took over the town. It was not easy for
29 them to retreat and so we destabilised them and many of them got

1 killed in the barracks. We saw their corpses there.

2 Q. Was anything captured by the RUF forces during this attack?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What do you recall that was captured?

11:21:43 5 A. We captured arms and ammunition, including armoured car,
6 trucks and some - these small tactical jeeps for the officers and
7 camouflage combat and other things.

8 Q. After Makeni where did you go?

9 A. After Makeni we went to Lunsar.

11:22:20 10 Q. Did you have to fight to go to Lunsar, or was Lunsar
11 already occupied?

12 A. After Makeni, it was a time we and Komba Gbundema went with
13 advance team. At the time I was all right. We and Komba
14 Gbundema went to Lunsar to occupy Lunsar.

11:22:42 15 Q. How many people went with Komba Gbundema to Lunsar?

16 A. I can't estimate, but we were many because we went with so
17 many cars.

18 Q. Do you remember about how long this was after Makeni had
19 been taken?

11:22:57 20 A. I think in a week's period once --

21 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat that last
22 one. He was mumbling.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, could you repeat your answer
24 from the point you said, "I think in a week's period once --"

11:23:17 25 Continue from there, please.

26 THE WITNESS: I said within a week, five days, we advanced
27 to Lunsar.

28 MR KOUMJIAN:

29 Q. I apologise, but I need to go back for a moment to the

1 attack on Makeni to ask you some questions I forgot to ask you.

2 In that attack on Makeni what, if anything, happened to civilians
3 who were there?

4 A. Yes, yes.

11:23:56 5 Q. My question is --

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Repeat the question.

7 MR KOUMJIAN:

8 Q. My question, Mr Witness, is what happened to the civilians
9 who were in Makeni?

11:24:05 10 A. Okay, most of the civilians - because when we got to Makeni
11 everybody got married at that time, all the girls. Whoever saw a
12 woman, if you saw a fine woman it was for you. Some people
13 looted.

14 Q. Mr Witness, you say everyone got married. Can you please
11:24:30 15 tell us what that means and be as precise as possible?

16 A. Yes, we captured girls and made them our wives. We
17 captured some SBUs and gave them guns. We captured some other
18 people to work at our houses.

19 Q. You said you "captured girls and made them our wives" and
11:25:01 20 you also used that word yesterday talking about Superman Ground.
21 What does that mean - what do you mean when you say you make
22 these girls wives?

23 A. When you captured somebody, whether she was willing or not
24 when you want her you would make her your wife, so forcibly or
11:25:26 25 willingly she has to become a wife for - you have to become a
26 wife whoever liked you. That is what I mean.

27 Q. Is there any ceremony when you make someone your wife?

28 A. No ceremony. The only ceremony is to go and sleep.

29 Q. What is the duty of the wife?

1 A. Sometimes she slept with you, prepared food for you to eat
2 and do other domestic chores, launder your clothes and other
3 things.

11:26:12 4 Q. Mr Witness, when you say, "Sometimes she slept with you",
5 when you say sleep with a man what do you mean?

6 A. I can't explain that really.

7 Q. Sir, this is a - we are all adults and this is a court and
8 we need to be precise. When you say sleep with these girls, what
9 do you mean?

11:26:35 10 A. That is what I said. I can't explain because everybody
11 here is a mature person. When two mature people sleep together
12 everybody should know what they are on, so I can't explain that.

13 Q. You have to explain it, I am sorry, sir. What do you mean
14 when you say they sleep together and everybody knows what that
11:26:59 15 means?

16 A. I have problem with that. I have a problem with that.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: What is the problem?

18 THE WITNESS: I can't sit in the presence of people to
19 explain that they had sex with them, or any other thing. I have
11:27:33 20 problem with that. When I say they sleep with them, I think that
21 is enough for me. I can't go beyond that.

22 MR KOUMJIAN:

23 Q. Mr Witness, you just said, "... explain that they had sex
24 with them." Who had sex with who?

11:27:49 25 A. I said the RUF boys.

26 Q. Had sex with who?

27 A. The girls that were abducted.

28 Q. Was anything taken from civilians in Makeni?

29 A. Yes. At the first instance, yes.

1 Q. Explain what you mean by "At the first instance"?

2 A. When we took over the town, the first one or two weeks
3 looting was going on. After that Issa Sesay said nobody should
4 loot any more, because he is Temne and Makeni is his home town.

11:28:37 5 Nobody should loot. He started killing people and so the looting
6 stopped, but for the first one or two weeks there was no control.
7 Everybody looted property, cars.

8 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you, Mr Witness. Your Honour, this
9 would be a convenient time.

11:28:51 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Koumjian.

11 Mr Witness, we are going to take a break during the
12 morning. The break is from 11.30 to 12. We will be adjourning
13 now until 12 o'clock. Please adjourn court until 12.

14 [Break taken at 11.30 a.m.]

11:53:01 15 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, please proceed.

17 MR KOUMJIAN:

18 Q. Mr Witness, you were telling us after Makeni where you
19 went. Can you tell us where you went after Makeni was taken?

12:00:09 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Where did you go?

22 A. Lunsar.

23 Q. Now, Mr Witness, after Makeni was taken, do you know where
24 Gullit was?

12:00:28 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. Where was Gullit?

27 A. Waterloo.

28 Q. Did you hear any news about the movements of Gullit from
29 Waterloo, where he went from Waterloo?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. What did you hear?

3 A. At first I heard that Gullit attacked Masiaka and from
4 Masiaka they attacked Waterloo.

12:01:06 5 Q. Did you hear where Gullit went from Waterloo?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What did you hear?

8 A. From Waterloo he attacked Benguema barracks.

9 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Koumjian, I'm just trying to understand
12:01:28 10 this current evidence. I understood this witness to say that
11 when SAJ Musa was killed his place was taken by Bazzy and the
12 questions you're asking now seem to imply that Gullit is in
13 charge of operations.

14 MR KOUMJIAN:

12:01:50 15 Q. You understand, Mr Witness, I'm talking about Gullit. I'm
16 not talking about any particular force.

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian surely, honestly speaking,
18 you are leading this witness in a particular direction.

19 MR KOUMJIAN:

12:02:10 20 Q. The forces that you were talking about, to clarify, to go
21 back, you said after SAJ Musa died what happened to those forces?

22 A. After the death of SAJ Musa the forces advanced to
23 Freetown.

24 Q. Where were you when you first heard that these forces went
12:02:33 25 to Freetown?

26 A. Masiaka.

27 Q. How did you hear that?

28 A. From the radio communication, our local radio
29 communication.

1 Q. When you say local radio communication, do you mean
2 internal, or do you mean commercial radio?

3 A. The RUF radio station.

4 Q. What was it that you heard?

12:03:10 5 A. Superman was at Gberi Junction at the time we were at
6 Masiaka, so he sent a car behind us and said that the men have
7 attacked Hastings and they were already about to enter Freetown.
8 So he said we should rush and take over Waterloo, because they
9 left Waterloo empty, so he said we should rush and get Waterloo.
12:03:35 10 Superman sent to us at the front line.

11 Q. What was the reaction of the other RUF fighters with you
12 when Superman gave the news that the forces were about to enter
13 Freetown?

14 A. Everybody was happy and we were trying to reach into the
12:03:57 15 capital city, so we were trying to rush and get Waterloo.

16 Q. What was Superman's attitude?

17 A. He too joined the forces. He came to the front line and he
18 led the forces to Waterloo. He joined us at the front line.

19 Q. Now, you said you heard from Superman that these forces
12:04:22 20 were about to enter Freetown. Did you hear anything else later
21 about these forces?

22 A. Yes, he told us something about the forces, yes.

23 Q. Okay, what did Superman tell you?

24 A. Superman told us that we should try and open the road to
12:04:48 25 open Freetown, to join our friends and brothers in the city.

26 Q. After hearing this news from Superman did you hear anything
27 about these forces from any other source?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. What did you hear?

1 A. Say that question again, please.

2 Q. You said Superman told you about the forces being about to
3 enter Freetown and my question is: Besides Superman, after you
4 heard that news, did you hear anything about those forces from
12:05:33 5 any other source?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What was it that you heard?

8 A. We heard from other people that the people entered Kossoh
9 Town, Calaba Town and that they were now heading for the State
12:05:56 10 House and that we should try and get to them. We heard that from
11 other people apart from Superman. There was one of Issa Sesay's
12 bodyguards that joined us to run the operation to Waterloo, Rambo
13 and other people.

14 Q. Now, do you know if these forces that Superman told you
12:06:14 15 were about to enter Freetown, if they ever did enter Freetown?

16 A. Yes, they entered.

17 Q. How do you know that?

18 A. From the area I stopped to enter Freetown I was seeing the
19 destruction that was going on in the city. There was burning,
12:06:39 20 there was fire flaming and from the radio communication we knew
21 that something was happening there and we heard it directly from
22 our friends Superman and others, that our brothers had entered
23 Freetown, and we saw the actions that were going on there.

24 Q. When you saw the action, where were you exactly when you
12:06:58 25 saw this?

26 A. When we passed Waterloo, we advanced to Yams Farm. Yams
27 Farm was located on top of the hill. It was something like a
28 mountain. You can stand on top of the hill and see everything
29 that was going on in the capital city. We saw the fighting going

1 on, we saw cars passing by, we saw that houses were burning and
2 we heard Sam Bockarie over the BBC when he gave a threatening
3 remark over the BBC with regards Freetown in particular.

12:07:42 4 Q. Was there any reason you were listening to the BBC at that
5 time?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Can you explain why?

8 A. Because some of the communication between Superman and Sam
9 Bockarie, sometimes I was not present in the radio room and
12:08:00 10 Superman will call and sometimes Sam Bockarie - Superman told us
11 that, "Sam Bockarie will always be over the BBC, so you should
12 wait and listen sometimes", and so by that we were also
13 encouraged to always listen to the BBC.

14 Q. Now, Mr Witness, do you know who were the commanders of the
12:08:21 15 forces that entered Freetown?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Can you tell us?

18 A. Gullit.

19 Q. Anyone else?

12:08:36 20 A. Bazzy.

21 Q. Who was in overall command, if you know?

22 A. Bazzy was the senior for Gullit, but with regards the
23 command structure I did not know how they entered because at that
24 time the person who was fighting was the person who was supposed
12:08:59 25 to take the command, but I knew that Bazzy was a senior person
26 for Gullit.

27 Q. Thank you very much.

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, what do you mean by
29 "senior for Gullit"? Do you mean senior to?

1 THE INTERPRETER: Senior to, your Honours. Interpreter's
2 mistake.

3 MR KOUMJIAN:

12:09:25

4 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you indicated that there was some talk
5 about joining your brothers. Was there any attempt --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Okay, can you explain?

12:09:49

8 A. Yes, when we got to Waterloo, Superman, Issa Sesay, Komba
9 Gbundema and some senior officers got together and distributed
10 the troops. They said Colonel Babay together with other
11 commanders should go to Benguema barracks, whilst Rambo for the
12 RUF, the late, should take another group to Hastings to attack
13 Hastings including Red Lion - Red Goat, I mean. Rambo Red Goat.
14 Myself and other commanders should go and attack Hastings, Jui,
15 to get across the bridge and to go to Freetown and join our
16 brothers.

12:10:14

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is Colonel Babay spelt correctly, or is
18 this a different person?

19 MR KOUMJIAN: Komba Gbundema?

12:10:36

20 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Colonel Babay.

21 MR KOUMJIAN: I will get the correct spelling, your Honour.

22 THE WITNESS: Colonel Babay, yes.

23 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: There is a person who was spelt B-A-B-A-Y
24 before.

12:10:48

25 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes, that is the correct spelling, B-A-B-A-Y:

26 Q. So, Mr Witness, just so we're clear, who were you with at
27 that time?

28 A. I was with RUF Rambo at that time to attack Hastings and
29 Jui.

1 Q. What other commanders were with RUF Rambo?

2 A. Rambo Red Goat, Crazy and others.

3 Q. Okay, and what happened with your group?

4 A. When we got to Hastings we attacked Hastings, we cleared up
12:11:45 5 Hastings and we advanced to Jui because Jui is just very close to
6 Freetown. The distance between Jui and Freetown is short. But
7 when we got to Jui we did not - we did not overrun Jui and so we
8 got stuck there, so we got orders from Issa Sesay and he told us
9 that when we got to Jui there was another road that was passing
12:12:12 10 through Kossoh Town to Freetown and so we should release some
11 men, up to a platoon or a battalion, to join our brothers in
12 Freetown whilst we should try and clear up the main road. The
13 order came from the back from Issa Sesay directly to Rambo, RUF
14 Rambo.

12:12:33 15 Q. And what happened after that order was received from Issa
16 Sesay?

17 A. Later Rambo sent and asked who was supposed to be the
18 commander to go and join the people and that Issa Sesay then
19 appointed - said Rambo Red Goat because he said he knew his
12:12:56 20 brothers in the city well and he was once an SLA soldier. He
21 said he should lead the troops to go and join the others in
22 Freetown and that was what they did.

23 Q. Okay. Where were you when this order came and Rambo Red
24 Goat was dispatched to Freetown?

12:13:18 25 A. I was --

26 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, that is not too clear.

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

28 The interpreter did not hear it clearly.

29 THE WITNESS: We were part of Jui. We divided Jui into two

1 zones. ECOMOG was on one side and we were on the other side.

2 MR KOUMJIAN:

3 Q. Thank you, that leads to my next question. In Jui were you
4 - why were you unable to go through Jui. As you had mentioned
12:13:57 5 earlier?

6 A. Jui was at that time one of the strong bases for ECOMOG,
7 because in '97 they were based at Jui and Jui was very strong and
8 it was one of the strongest bases. It was from Jui that they ran
9 the intervention into Freetown, so ECOMOG was very strong at Jui.

12:14:24 10 Q. What ECOMOG forces were at Jui?

11 A. The Nigerian contingent.

12 Q. Was there any battle between your forces and the ECOMOG
13 forces at Jui at that time before Rambo Red Goat was dispatched?

14 A. Yes.

12:14:49 15 Q. You talked about Rambo Red Goat going with a group. Can
16 you tell us approximately how many men were in that group?

17 A. Yes, it can be estimated at roughly 60 to 65.

18 Q. Who were these men that were under the command of Rambo Red
19 Goat?

12:15:21 20 A. Some RUF men, some SLA and some STF.

21 Q. How were they armed, if you know?

22 A. Everybody would be armed from his own commander. The STF
23 were armed from General Bropleh, the RUF Issa Sesay and Superman,
24 and the SLA Brigadier Mani and Colonel T at that time. So, they
12:15:51 25 were well armed.

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

27 A. They entered the city into Freetown.

28 Q. Now, earlier you had mentioned a bridge. Where was that
29 bridge?

1 A. Between Jui and Freetown.

2 Q. Was it possible for your forces to go across that bridge?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Why not?

12:16:34 5 A. Because the bridge was open and nobody could have
6 challenged the bridge at that time in attempting to cross that
7 bridge, so we did not get across.

8 Q. What do you mean "the bridge was open and nobody could have
9 challenged the bridge"?

12:16:53 10 A. The bridge was well protected by ECOMOG at that time.

11 Q. Thank you. So, do you know how Rambo Red Goat's group
12 entered the city?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Tell us what you know?

12:17:14 15 A. From Jui, the part we were occupying, there was an old road
16 at the back of the town where the train used to pass. Rambo used
17 that road to go to Kossoh Town, that was at the back of Jui, and
18 to cross the river from the upper side to cross over and when you
19 cross you go to Freetown directly.

12:17:43 20 Q. After Rambo Red Goat's group left your group, where did
21 your group go?

22 A. We went back to Yams Farm.

23 Q. What happened when you got to Yams Farm?

24 A. We manned checkpoints and we did some destruction there to
12:18:10 25 make the area fearful. We burnt some houses, we opened fire on
26 civilians for them to get out of the place and we killed some
27 civilians at Yams Farm.

28 Q. Did anything else occur at Yams Farm that you remember?

29 A. I can't recall again.

1 Q. Thank you. How long were you at Yams Farm?

2 A. We were there I think for a week and we retreated.

3 Q. Now, you talked about these forces led by Bazzy and Gullit
4 being in Freetown. Did you receive information about what was

12:18:55 5 going on while they were in Freetown in any way?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. How did you learn about what was going on in Freetown?

8 A. At first they called and said that they had taken over the
9 State House and, secondly, they called that they have got to

12:19:20 10 Pademba Road where the RUF and the AFRC were in jail that were

11 captured by ECOMOG. The next time they called they said they had

12 freed some of the men, including Gibril Massaquoi, and they

13 reported that they had been attacked by different contingents,

14 like the Guinean contingent, the Nigerian contingent and

12:19:48 15 different troops. That was the time that Sam Bockarie called. I

16 heard Sam Bockarie talking over the BBC that any contingent that

17 attacked his forces in Freetown he will command his forces to

18 burn all the embassies down.

19 Q. Okay. Mr Witness, you began your answer by talking about,

12:20:09 20 "At first they called and they said they had taken over the State

21 House." Just so we're clear, who was it that was calling and

22 saying that?

23 A. Alfred Brown was the radio man and Gullit will always be in
24 the radio room calling directly to Superman, calling Sam

12:20:29 25 Bockarie, and I was monitoring those calls directly. Alfred

26 Brown, Gullit, Bazzy, sometimes Major CY.

27 Q. Do you recall these persons inside Freetown, aside from

28 telling about their situation did they say anything else during

29 these communications?

1 A. Yes, they were talking about burning down houses, putting
2 motor tyres on the street and burning it and killing people.
3 Those were all in the communication because they wanted to take
4 over the Wilberforce barracks, but they said there was no way for
12:21:22 5 them to do that so they were trying their best.

6 Q. How long did these forces stay in Freetown approximately,
7 as far as you can recall?

8 A. I can remember two weeks.

9 Q. And what happened at the end of the time that they were in
12:21:47 10 Freetown, do you know?

11 A. When they were retreating they started burning down houses,
12 they abducted girls, so many girls who retreated with them, and
13 they killed people whilst retreating. At that time ECOMOG was
14 chasing them.

12:22:11 15 Q. Mr Witness, do you know why they had to retreat?

16 A. Yes, they said they went out of ammunition.

17 Q. Who did they say - to who did they say that they were out
18 or running out of ammunition?

19 MR MUNYARD: I wonder if we could have a definition of who
12:22:36 20 "they" are.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Koumjian, who is the "they" in
22 question?

23 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you:

24 Q. Mr Witness, you said that, "They said they went out of
12:22:48 25 ammunition." Who was it that said that?

26 A. Sam Bockarie called Superman to protect Benguema barracks,
27 Gberi Junction and Waterloo, because Gullit called him and said
28 that they were running out of ammunition. He, Gullit and his
29 forces, were running out of ammunition and that they would need

1 protection whilst they were retreating.

2 Q. So what did Sam Bockarie do, if you know, after receiving
3 this information?

4 A. He instructed Superman and Issa Sesay - Issa Sesay to
12:23:34 5 defend Gberi Junction, Benguema barracks and Waterloo so as to
6 give free passage to the forces that were in Freetown, that is
7 Gullit and others, whilst they were retreating.

8 Q. What was your assignment at that time?

9 A. I was in Waterloo. We retreated to Waterloo from Yams Farm
12:24:01 10 to protect the area.

11 Q. Sir, you said that the forces in Freetown were trying to
12 withdraw. Was there any threat to their withdrawal?

13 A. Yes. One of the things, like I said earlier, was that they
14 were now running out of ammunition and the pressure on them was
12:24:34 15 not easy, so they decided to retreat. The pressure from the
16 ECOMOG troops was not easy on them, so they were calling all over
17 for us to go and join them. But at that time we did not have
18 passage, so we told them we couldn't make it, so we told them to
19 retreat.

12:24:53 20 Q. When the forces inside Freetown retreated, how did they
21 retreat? What was the route, if you know?

22 A. They took the road going towards Grafton and the peninsula.
23 They went round to Waterloo. There is a peninsula route there
24 around the mountains. They went up the mountain and got down to
12:25:20 25 Waterloo. Some people amongst them knew the road. That was the
26 time a bomb blast on Steve Bio and he died whilst they were
27 taking that route.

28 Q. Was there any attempt that you're aware of, by ECOMOG, to
29 effect these plans?

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, you're asking whether ECOMOG
2 would effect these plans. Do you mean put them into effect, or
3 do you mean interrupt them?

4 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes, I meant with an "E", but let me rephrase
12:25:56 5 it:

6 Q. Sir, your forces, did they have any role in the retreat of
7 the forces from Freetown?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Can you explain what the role of the forces you were with
12:26:13 10 was in the retreat of the forces that had entered Freetown?

11 A. Yes, we defended Waterloo because they were attacking us
12 from Jui, Klay to Waterloo. We defended that road, we defended
13 Benguema barracks and Gberi Junction, because the Guinean
14 contingent that was based in Port Loko was trying to take over
12:26:46 15 Gberi Junction, but we did not give them chance. We did not give
16 them chance at that time.

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: What was the location after Jui and
18 before Waterloo? Did the witness say "clear", or "Klay"?

19 THE WITNESS: Klay, from Yams Farm.

12:27:06 20 MR KOUMJIAN:

21 Q. What is Klay?

22 A. It was one of the famous checkpoints that they had on the
23 road, but there was a small village there that they called Klay,
24 but they had a small checkpoint there.

12:27:19 25 Q. Who had the checkpoint?

26 A. When RUF was in the bush, when we got to town they told us
27 that the SSD had a checkpoint there. It was almost the last
28 checkpoint entering into the city.

29 Q. Mr Witness, sorry, but who is the SSD that had the

1 checkpoint? What does SSD mean?

2 A. I don't know the meaning, but they were a close protection
3 unit of the President. At the time they said it was Siaka
4 Stevens that formed that division. They were serving as security
12:28:01 5 to any president that would come to Sierra Leone. At present
6 they are called OSD.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, earlier he said, "We
8 defended the road and they were attacking us." That's line 10 of
9 page 71. Who is the "they" there?

12:28:28 10 MR KOUMJIAN:

11 Q. Mr Witness, who was attacking you when you were defending
12 the road?

13 A. The Nigerian contingent from Jui were attacking Klay. The
14 Nigerian ECOMOG contingent that were based in Jui were attacking
12:28:41 15 Klay and those of us, the RUF, including Rambo and Superman, were
16 defending Waterloo at that time, but Klay too was under us - was
17 a combat camp for us. Gberi Junction also was trying to be
18 attacked by the ECOMOG contingent, the Guinean contingent from
19 Port Loko.

12:29:03 20 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness slow down
21 his pace a little and repeat.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are going too fast again.
23 Repeat from where, Mr Interpreter?

24 THE INTERPRETER: From where my interpretation stopped,
12:29:16 25 your Honours.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter hasn't heard
27 everything. Please repeat your answer starting from the point
28 when you said, "The Guinean contingent from Port Loko." Continue
29 from there, please.

1 THE WITNESS: The Guinean contingent from Port Loko were
2 attacking Gberi Junction. Komba Gbundema, the RUF and SLAs and
3 the STF, they went and repelled the attack on Gberi Junction.

4 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay, thank you very much. Unless there are
12:29:55 5 further questions or clarifications I'm going to move ahead in
6 time quite a bit:

7 Q. Mr Witness, you've told us about various events in Sierra
8 Leone and you've just discussed events in late 1998 and first let
9 me ask you: Do you know when it was that these forces were
12:30:21 10 inside Freetown that you said were led by Bazzy and Gullit, what
11 month it was?

12 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, can I learned counsel please
13 repeat the last name after Bazzy.

14 MR KOUMJIAN:

12:30:32 15 Q. Mr Witness, do you know what month it was that the forces
16 that you said were led by Bazzy and Gullit were inside Freetown?

17 A. Yes, 6 January.

18 Q. Of what year?

19 A. 1999. Early 1999.

12:31:07 20 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, you've told us about various events in
21 Sierra Leone up to January 1999. Did you ever leave Sierra Leone
22 after January 1999?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And what was the first time after January 1999 that you
12:31:29 25 left Sierra Leone?

26 A. The starting of the rainy season, I can't remember the
27 month, I left Sierra Leone.

28 Q. Why did you leave Sierra Leone at that time?

29 A. I was told by Superman to go to Buedu to meet Sam Bockarie

1 and he will give us instructions to cross over to Liberia,
2 because at the time they were having some problems in Liberia, to
3 go and help our brothers that were there.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Two things, Mr Koumjian: You said the
12:32:17 5 starting of the rainy season, which year; and who is the "we"
6 that is crossing over to Liberia?

7 MR KOUMJIAN:

8 Q. When you talk about this time leaving Sierra Leone and
9 receiving the order to go to Buedu, first what year are you
12:32:35 10 speaking of?

11 A. I'm talking about '99.

12 Q. Did you go to Buedu alone, or did you go with others?

13 A. I went to Buedu with other people.

14 Q. Who were the other people that went to Buedu with you?

12:33:00 15 A. Some RUF and AFRC fighters.

16 Q. At that time, when you received the order, where were you
17 based before you went to Buedu?

18 A. Makeni.

19 Q. About how many people, fighters, did you travel with to
12:33:22 20 Buedu?

21 A. I can't give an estimate because we went with different
22 cars and at different times, but all of us met in Buedu.

23 Q. When you met in Buedu who did you meet with?

24 A. Sam Bockarie.

12:33:44 25 Q. And what happened when you met with Sam Bockarie in Buedu?

26 A. They called a muster parade and he went and addressed us.

27 Q. About how many people were at the muster parade? Can you
28 give us any estimate?

29 A. Up to 4 or 500 people that he addressed.

1 Q. What did Sam Bockarie say at the muster parade?

2 A. Sam Bockarie told us to cross over to Foya because they had
3 a group that had attacked the Liberian government at the time.
4 They called themselves Mosquito Spray. So we should go and help
12:34:38 5 to fight along AFL to push them back into Guinea and he gave us
6 some command structure at the time.

7 Q. Thank you. Now, earlier you said Superman had told you to
8 go on this mission to "help our brothers who are there". Who did
9 you understand him to mean when he said "our brothers"?

12:35:08 10 A. I understood that it was from the Liberian government.
11 When they said their brothers it was from the Liberian
12 government, because Superman was once NPFL. When he said the
13 brothers, he used to tell us that from the Liberian government.

14 Q. After the muster parade and Sam Bockarie speaking to you,
12:35:29 15 what happened?

16 A. Sam Bockarie dispatched us and we crossed over to Foya. He
17 gave us cars to take us to Foya. Some people went in cars to go
18 to Foya.

19 Q. Was anyone in charge of the group that you were with?

12:35:56 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who was that?

22 A. CO Eagle.

23 Q. Who was CO Eagle?

24 A. He was one of the senior officers from the RUF.

12:36:11 25 Q. Do you recall his real name?

26 A. No.

27 Q. Was your group armed?

28 A. Well-armed, yes.

29 Q. Can you describe the arms that you went with?

1 A. AK-47s, RPG, GMG and some - we took along 60 millimetre
2 mortar and other weapons. These are the ones I can name at
3 present.

12:36:53 4 Q. You said you were dispatched by Bockarie and crossed over
5 to Foya. What happened when you got to Foya?

6 A. When we got to Foya, people started jubilating. The other
7 AFL soldiers that we met there under the command of Mosquito,
8 Christopher Varmoh, Liberian Mosquito, they started jubilating,
9 some people were shooting in the air. They said we were welcome.
12:37:20 10 "You are welcome." From there, the next day we slept. The next
11 day we saw a helicopter that came. I did not know where the
12 location of the helicopter had come from, but Benjamin Yeaten was
13 inside, Dopee Menkarzon and some other Special Forces including
14 Jack the Rebel, deceased. Jack the Rebel. Jack the Rebel.

12:37:50 15 Q. Okay, one question. Do you know the nationality of the
16 person you mentioned called Jack the Rebel?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. What was his nationality?

19 A. Liberian man.

12:38:05 20 Q. Now, you have mentioned several times the AFL. Just so
21 that the record is clear, what do you mean by the AFL?

22 A. Armed Forces of Liberia.

23 Q. What happened after your arrival in Foya?

24 A. When we got there, after the arrival of Benjamin Yeaten,
12:38:37 25 Dopee Menkarzon, Jack the Rebel, they called a muster parade at
26 the airfield.

27 Q. Did anyone speak at that parade?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Who was speaking at the parade?

1 A. The first person that spoke was Christopher Varmoh,
2 Liberian Mosquito.

3 Q. Did anyone else speak?

4 A. Yes, Benjamin Yeaten.

12:39:07 5 Q. What did - first of all, what did Benjamin Yeaten say at
6 this parade?

7 A. He welcomed us and said that we should fight to push the
8 Mosquito Spray group back because we were all fighting for the
9 same goal.

12:39:36 10 Q. Aside from Eagle, do you recall the names of any other
11 commanders that came with you from Sierra Leone for this
12 operation?

13 A. Yes, I can remember Colonel Sheriff. I can remember the
14 name Colonel Sheriff, yes.

12:39:55 15 Q. Who was Colonel Sheriff?

16 A. He was from the army, the AFRC.

17 Q. Just so we're clear, what is his nationality?

18 A. Sierra Leonean.

19 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, I'm just curious. Did
12:40:17 20 Benjamin Yeaten state the common goal that these people were
21 fighting for?

22 MR KOUMJIAN: I will ask that. Your Honour, I believe the
23 spelling of Sheriff in Sierra Leone is two "F"s. It is one "R"
24 and two "F"s, I believe:

12:40:40 25 Q. Sir, when Benjamin Yeaten spoke and said, you told us, that
26 you were all fighting for the same goal, did he explain what the
27 goal was?

28 A. He did not explain that, no.

29 Q. What was the command structure for that operation?

1 A. When we got there, at the time that we were moving Eagle
2 was the overall boss for us, we the RUFs and AFRC combined. When
3 we got there the command structure was Christopher Varmoh was the
4 overall commander for the entire mission. Christopher Varmoh,
12:41:21 5 Liberian Mosquito, was the overall commander for the mission,
6 because at the time he was the battalion commander there. At the
7 time he was the battalion commander for AFL.

8 Q. Do you know who if anyone Christopher Varmoh, Liberian
9 Mosquito, reported to?

12:41:43 10 A. Liberian Mosquito? At any mission sometimes he reported to
11 Sam Bockarie about what was going on and he also reported to the
12 army headquarters at the time, but at the time we were not used
13 to them much.

14 Q. So is the answer that you're not sure who, if anyone, he
12:42:04 15 was reporting to within the Liberian structure?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Okay, thank you. What happened after the parade?

18 A. They planned the war, how to attack the Mosquito Spray
19 fighters, and from there we started moving towards them in
12:42:34 20 Koliahun.

21 Q. What happened after you started --

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Who is "they" who planned the war?

23 MR KOUJIAN:

24 Q. Mr Witness?

12:42:47 25 A. Christopher Varmoh, CO Eagle, including Benjamin Yeaten who
26 himself was there, Dopoe Menkarzon, Sheriff, Colonel Sheriff from
27 Sierra Leone, and the other senior commanders that I can't recall
28 now.

29 Q. And what happened when you moved towards Kailahun?

1 A. Kolahun. The word is not Kailahun. It's Kolahun.

2 Q. I appreciate that and I'll try to pronounce it correctly,
3 but please what happened when you moved to Kolahun?

4 A. We attacked Kolahun and pushed the rebels from there.

12:43:39 5 Q. After attacking Kolahun and pushing the rebels from there,
6 what - did you have any other operation?

7 A. Yes, we went to Visalah and based there. Visalah is in
8 Liberia, Lofa County, and we based there. We attacked Visalah
9 and we pushed them out of there to Voinjama.

12:44:03 10 Q. Then what happened?

11 A. In Voinjama they wanted to put up a resistance. We fought
12 for some hours and we dislodged them from there to the Guinea
13 border.

14 Q. Now, you've talked about various operations against them
12:44:19 15 and that they put up resistance. What is this force that you're
16 talking about that you were fighting against?

17 A. At the time they used to call themselves Mosquito Spray.

18 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay, thank you. Your Honours, Visalah
19 is V-I-S-A-L-A-H and I earlier had promised a spelling for
12:44:45 20 Kapras. Kapras is K-A-P-R-A-S:

21 Q. After dislodging them to the Guinean border, the Guinea
22 border, what happened?

23 A. We attacked them on the border and pushed them into Guinea.

24 Q. Then what did your force do?

12:45:25 25 A. The AFL deployed at the border. We retreated to Voinjama
26 and were based there.

27 Q. How long were you in Voinjama?

28 A. I can't exactly remember, but we were there for some time.

29 Q. During this operation did your forces acquire anything in

1 Liberia?

2 A. Yes, we looted all over the NGO: cars, food, medicines and
3 other items.

12:46:10

4 Q. What did you do with the cars, for example, that were
5 looted?

6 A. We crossed with them into Sierra Leone. The commanders
7 were using them.

8 Q. Did these cars have any markings on them?

9 A. Yes.

12:46:27

10 Q. What kinds of markings?

11 A. They had UNDP logos, some had UNICEF, different NGOs. I
12 think they had different NGOs in Kolahun. We took cars from
13 them.

12:46:54

14 Q. Did you stay in Voinjama, or did you go somewhere else
15 eventually?

16 A. From Voinjama they told us to come to Foya.

17 Q. And then what happened?

12:47:18

18 A. When we got to Foya, they told us that they were bringing
19 some items for us in Foya. When we got there we saw a
20 helicopter. I don't know if it was from Monrovia, or Gbarnga.
21 It came to Foya and it brought some items. When they brought the
22 items I did not know what happened, or what did not happen.

12:47:39

23 Eagle called Sam Bockarie and told him about the items and Sam
24 Bockarie said we should wait for him and that he himself was
25 coming there. Sam Bockarie crossed over that same evening into
26 Foya. I saw him there.

27 Q. What happened after Sam Bockarie crossed over?

28 A. Sam Bockarie said the items that were brought for us were
29 not enough for the fighters.

1 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he name the first item.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just pause, Mr Witness. The interpreter
3 needs you to name the items that you started naming, the first
4 one. You have said, "There was not enough for the fighters."

12:48:17 5 Pick up from there and name the items.

6 THE WITNESS: Sanda - footwear, sandals.

7 MR KOUMJIAN:

8 Q. Okay, thank you. What happened after Bockarie had come to
9 Foya?

12:48:41 10 A. The next day we saw the same helicopter for him.

11 Q. And what happened when the helicopter came again the next
12 day?

13 A. Sam Bockarie boarded the helicopter and they left. We saw
14 them as they flew.

12:49:02 15 Q. Where did you go after Sam Bockarie flew out of Foya on the
16 helicopter?

17 A. We went to Buedu.

18 Q. And just to be clear, when you arrived in Buedu was Sam
19 Bockarie there in Buedu?

12:49:23 20 A. No, at the time he was not there.

21 Q. So, how long in total during this operation do you think it
22 was that you were in Liberia?

23 A. For me I think I spent up to two weeks in Liberia.

24 Q. After you got back to Buedu, what happened to you?

12:49:53 25 A. When we got to Buedu Sam Bockarie, after 72 hours, three
26 days, he returned and he brought some items with him, some jeans
27 trousers, shirts to wear and other different things, foodstuffs.
28 When he got there, he said he had arranged the problem that he
29 was having with the items. The Liberian government requested

1 that we were to send some men to be based in Voinjama in case of
2 any emergency and so they selected people from different units,
3 including me. We were up to 60. They took us to Voinjama at the
4 time.

12:50:42 5 Q. How long were you in Buedu, after you returned from Sierra
6 Leone, before you - excuse me, after you returned from Liberia,
7 before you were sent back to Liberia?

8 A. I did not stay long. It was just within that same week
9 period, then we returned to Buedu.

12:51:01 10 Q. I'm sorry, I'm asking how long you stayed in Buedu before
11 you returned to Liberia and I didn't quite understand your
12 answer.

13 A. Six days. Six days.

14 Q. When you - where did you go when you left Buedu?

12:51:26 15 A. From Buedu we went to Foya and from Foya we met Zigzag
16 Marzah there. I along with some other guys, one Mustapha, flew
17 with Zigzag Marzah in a helicopter to Voinjama and others went in
18 a truck to Voinjama.

19 Q. You had mentioned earlier that there were up to 60 were
12:51:54 20 supposed to be sent to Voinjama. Do you know in fact about how
21 many people went to Voinjama on this operation?

22 A. We went to be based there. We did not go on an operation.
23 It was up to 60 of us that went to Voinjama at the time.

24 Q. Okay, thank you. Was there a commander of your group?

12:52:22 25 A. CO Eagle was still the commander for the group. CO Eagle.

26 Q. After going on the helicopter to Voinjama, when you arrived
27 what happened?

28 A. When we were based there Zigzag Marzah too was having one
29 of the looted cars from an NGO. He told us that he was going to

1 Zorzor, but I was with him at the time, I and one Mustapha. I
2 and Mustapha --

3 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat.

12:53:07

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause, Mr Witness, please. Repeat what,
5 Mr Interpreter?

6 THE INTERPRETER: Mustapha. I don't know if it's an alias,
7 or what he's saying about Mustapha.

12:53:21

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Two points, Mr Witness: Mustapha, is
9 that the person's name, Mustapha, or is it a nickname; and you
10 have to repeat the answer from the point where you said, "I and
11 Mustapha." Continue from there, but explain first the name.

12 THE WITNESS: Mustapha is a person's name. I myself,
13 together with Mustapha, were taken to Benjamin Yeaten's compound
14 by Zigzag Marzah.

12:53:53

15 MR KOUMJIAN:

16 Q. First of all, where was Benjamin Yeaten's compound?

17 A. Voinjama, Zorzor Highway, in a school campus. He was based
18 at a school campus, a secondary school.

12:54:25

19 MR KOUMJIAN: Excuse me, may I just have a moment to confer
20 with my colleagues about one issue about security:

21 Q. When you arrived at the compound, what happened?

12:55:08

22 A. We met a lot of securities, senior officials, some Special
23 Forces were there. We entered the compound. Zigzag Marzah said
24 to Benjamin Yeaten that these were the boys who came from Buedu
25 to be based in Voinjama, "But these two boys are personally with
26 me, but I want them to stay here because I can't take them to
27 Zorzor. I want them to stay here until I get back, chief,
28 please." So we stayed there with Benjamin Yeaten and, like me,
29 he told me to be with his younger brother.

1 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat the name of
2 the younger brother.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter asks that you
4 repeat the name of the younger brother.

12:55:40 5 THE WITNESS: His nickname was Busy Boy, Calvin Yeaten.

6 MR KOUMJIAN:

7 Q. Mr Witness, did you learn at that time what Benjamin
8 Yeaten's position was?

9 A. Yes.

12:56:04 10 Q. Explain to us what Benjamin Yeaten's position was?

11 A. SSS director, Unit 50.

12 Q. What were his responsibilities?

13 A. To protect the President.

14 Q. Sir, you've talked about Sam Bockarie. First of all, what
12:56:50 15 was Sam Bockarie's position during the times you've talked about
16 in Sierra Leone?

17 A. He was the acting rebel leader for the RUF at the time.

18 Q. Did that ever change?

19 A. Yes.

12:57:17 20 Q. And what happened when it changed?

21 A. I did not understand that question, please.

22 Q. Did Sam Bockarie remain the acting rebel leader for the RUF
23 throughout the time that you were in Liberia?

24 A. No.

12:57:44 25 Q. What happened to Sam Bockarie while you were in Liberia?

26 A. I was in Liberia when we start hearing some noise in Sierra
27 Leone. At the time I was with Benjamin Yeaten. We heard some
28 noise. I was briefed by Benjamin Yeaten that, "Some of your
29 brothers will be coming to be based in Liberia, including the

1 rebel leader, the acting rebel leader, Sam Bockarie, because we
2 do not want any problem among these forces for them to have any
3 misunderstanding, so we've called him to come and seek asylum in
4 Liberia." So a week from that we saw Sam Bockarie with his
12:58:28 5 group, crossing over to Liberia.

6 Q. Okay. Mr Witness, prior to Sam Bockarie crossing, did you
7 see any preparations being done in Liberia for his arrival?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Can you explain what you saw?

12:58:56 10 A. We went to Monrovia: I, Benjamin Yeaten and the late Busy
11 Boy. When we got to Monrovia, in the evening we saw a woman
12 called Kadiatu. I later got to know her as a special assistant
13 to the President at the time. We got to Benjamin Yeaten. When
14 we were in Benjamin Yeaten's sitting room she was telling
12:59:20 15 Benjamin Yeaten that they've already located a compound where Sam
16 Bockarie will stay when he got to Monrovia.

17 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honours, Kadiatu is spelt K-A-D-I-A-T-U:

18 Q. You mentioned that a week after your conversation with
19 Yeaten, "We saw Sam Bockarie with his group, crossing over to
12:59:50 20 Liberia." Who did Sam Bockarie cross over with?

21 A. He crossed with up to a thousand men in Liberia. He
22 crossed with the bodyguard, some RUF loyal officers to him,
23 including some AFRC boys that were loyal to him.

24 Q. Were these all men that came with Sam Bockarie, or not?

13:00:22 25 A. Both men and females.

26 Q. Were there any children or old people in the group?

27 A. Yes. The man himself had his children. Sam Bockarie
28 himself had his children and other children, other fighters'
29 children and their parents, other old people. They crossed over

1 with them.

2 Q. Do you know where Sam Bockarie went after he crossed into
3 Liberia on this occasion?

4 A. Yes.

13:01:02 5 Q. Where did he go?

6 A. When Sam Bockarie crossed over, the next day I saw Sam
7 Bockarie, Varmuyan Sherif, the Late Jungle, I was in the car with
8 Benjamin Yeaten and it was going to --

9 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
10 repeat and slowly.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you have speeded up again and
12 the interpreter cannot keep up with you. Go back to your answer
13 where you said, "I was in the car with Benjamin Yeaten", and
14 continue from there and speak slowly.

13:01:37 15 THE WITNESS: When Sam Bockarie crossed over, the next
16 morning, when Benjamin Yeaten was going to work at the Executive
17 Mansion, I was with him in his car when I saw a Nissan Patrol
18 jeep going to the Executive Mansion behind our own car. Varmuyan
19 Sherif, the Late Jungle, Sam Bockarie and one senior officer whom
13:02:04 20 I can't remember, they were at the back. All of us drove into
21 the mansion. We were outside. Benjamin Yeaten, Sam Bockarie and
22 the senior officer went up in the elevator.

23 MR KOUMJIAN:

24 Q. What was the Executive Mansion?

13:02:31 25 A. The Executive Mansion was where the President's office and
26 other people were. We called it State House, the State House.

27 Q. Mr Witness, can you give us any idea of when this happened
28 that Sam Bockarie crossed into Liberia?

29 A. I can only remember the year, '99, but I can't remember the

1 month.

2 Q. You mentioned Sherif. Who was he that was in the car with
3 Bockarie?

4 A. Varmuyan Sherif was one of the deputy directors under
13:03:16 5 Benjamin Yeaten, but he was directly under Joseph Montgomery, 56
6 at the time.

7 Q. What happened to the fighting men that crossed over with
8 Sam Bockarie?

9 A. They put them in a group. At the time the infantry
13:03:47 10 training was going on, they put them into a group and sent a
11 majority of them to the ATU base at Gbatata, majority. Few were
12 in the SSS. Just one or two person were doing their private
13 life.

14 Q. Mr Witness, you've mentioned the ATU. What is the ATU, or
13:04:14 15 what was the ATU at that time in Liberia?

16 A. They used to call them Anti-Terrorist Unit and they were
17 bodyguards to the President, external bodyguards to the
18 President.

19 Q. Sir, you've also talked to us about SSS. Do you know what
13:04:35 20 that stands for?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. What is SSS?

23 A. Special Security Service.

24 Q. Can you explain to us the relationship between SSS and ATU,
13:04:51 25 if any?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Please explain.

28 A. The ATU, they used the long range AK-47 and other artillery
29 weapons. The SSS only used sized weapons like pistols, MP3, like

1 pocket weapons and they were very close to the President, the
2 SSS. The ATU were always outside to guard. The SSS, most of
3 them were in the mansion with the President.

13:05:40

4 Q. After Sam Bockarie arrived in Liberia, do you know what he
5 did?

6 A. He was based - I do not understand that question really,
7 please.

8 Q. Did Sam Bockarie remain in Liberia after you saw him arrive
9 that day and go to the Executive Mansion?

13:06:04

10 A. He was there. He was in Liberia.

11 Q. Do you know if he had any job or responsibilities while he
12 was in Liberia?

13 A. Yes, I used to see him at Benjamin Yeaten's house and
14 Benjamin Yeaten said he would be part of the SSS as an advisor to
15 him, he Benjamin Yeaten.

13:06:26

16 Q. Did Sam Bockarie stay in Liberia, or do you know if he went
17 anywhere else?

18 A. He later went on exile.

19 Q. When you say he went "on exile", what do you mean?

13:06:55

20 A. He moved from Liberia and went to a different country and
21 stayed there.

22 Q. What happened with Sam Bockarie's family that you had
23 mentioned he came with?

24 A. They were in Monrovia.

13:07:28

25 Q. Do you know where Sam Bockarie lived when he was in
26 Liberia?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. Can you tell us where that was?

29 A. Paynesville, very close to ELWA Junction. Paynesville,

1 ELWA Junction. They called the house Four Houses. The nickname
2 for the area was Sierra Leone Embassy.

3 Q. Do you know why that area was nicknamed Sierra Leone
4 Embassy?

13:08:11 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Please tell us.

7 A. Because when Sam Bockarie was at Four Houses, all the other
8 good houses that were around the community he rented all of those
9 houses for his bodyguards and the area was dominated by Sierra

13:08:27 10 Leoneans. That was why they used to call it Sierra Leonean
11 Embassy.

12 Q. Now, Mr Witness, I know I asked you what time Sam Bockarie
13 came to Liberia and you said it was '99, but you did not know the
14 year [sic]. Do you know whether or not Sam Bockarie arrived in

13:08:49 15 Liberia before or after the Lome Accord was signed? If you're
16 not sure, you can say so.

17 A. I'm not sure. I don't know the answer.

18 Q. Okay, thank you. When Sam Bockarie was in Liberia, do you
19 know if the people in Liberia were aware in any way of his
20 presence?

13:09:25 21 A. Yes, some people were aware about his presence in Liberia.
22 Yes.

23 Q. Did anything happen that you know about regarding the
24 public knowledge of Sam Bockarie being in Liberia?

13:09:48 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. Okay, can you tell us what it is that you found out about?

27 A. Yes, they had a fighter, deputy chief of army staff, Samuel
28 Varney. He was one of the Special Forces. He fought along
29 Prince Johnson as deputy, INPFL. He had a daughter and Sam

1 Bockarie was having an affair with his daughter at the time. The
2 man got annoyed and went over the radio, the local radio station,
3 I think it was Radio Veritas, and he said that, "You came into
4 our country and we are keeping you here. We are having an
13:10:47 5 operation from United Nations for your sake. We have sanctions
6 and embargoes and you have not stopped there and you are trying
7 to spoil my daughter, so I will publish your name over the radio
8 and newspapers." That was how people got to know that Sam
9 Bockarie was in Liberia, because all the time when they called a
13:11:03 10 press conference and asked about Sam Bockarie being in Liberia,
11 even down to the President he used to deny it and Benjamin
12 Yeaten. That was when they called a press conference. It was
13 the time that people were convinced that Sam Bockarie was in
14 Liberia, because one of the senior officers had gone over the
13:11:18 15 radio and said that.

16 Q. Did you actually hear Vandi [sic] on the radio talk about
17 Bockarie being in Monrovia, or did you learn that in another way?

18 A. I heard the replay. I myself heard it in the evening,
19 because the thing happened around 10 in the morning. I did not
13:11:43 20 hear that. Busy Boy told me that, "My man, something serious is
21 happening. Listen to the radio", and so I myself went closer to
22 the radio station and listened to the radio and I heard it when
23 he was saying it, the replay.

24 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I think the witness used the phrase that
13:12:06 25 "We are having an oppression from the United Nations". Not
26 operation, but oppression as in they were oppressing them.

27 MR KOUMJIAN: I heard something else, but I will ask the
28 witness. I heard another word.

29 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: The transcript says "operation", but I

1 think I heard "oppression".

2 MR KOUMJIAN: I heard "oppression" from the interpreter,
3 but I also heard the witness say --

4 THE WITNESS: Say it again?

13:12:31

5 MR KOUMJIAN:

6 Q. Mr Witness, what was Liberia receiving from the United
7 Nations that you talked about because of the presence of
8 Bockarie?

9 A. One, they had sanctions.

13:12:49

10 Q. Anything else? You mentioned another word?

11 A. Arms embargo. Arms embargo.

12 Q. And what did you call this? That the United Nations was
13 what?

14 A. I do not understand that question.

13:13:07

15 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Witness, did you say "oppression" or
16 "operation" from the United Nations?

17 THE WITNESS: Pressure. Pressure on them.

18 Q. After Vandi [sic] got on the radio and spoke about Sam
19 Bockarie, did you receive any order?

13:13:33

20 JUDGE LUSSICK: Just to clear this up, Mr Koumjian, was his
21 name Vandi or Varney?

22 THE WITNESS: Samuel Varney.

23 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you, your Honour. My mistake:

24 Q. After Varney spoke on the radio, did you receive any order?

13:14:02

25 A. At the time I did not receive an order that present moment,
26 but later I received an order from Benjamin Yeaten.

27 Q. About how long was it after Varney spoke on the radio that
28 you received the order?

29 A. I think two years later.

1 Q. Two or three years later?

2 A. Two years.

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17 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you. Your Honours, a spelling -
18 actually, I'd rather wait on that and double check it on
19 Sacl epea.

13:19:58 20 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: And the spelling of the various people.
21 There were a number of individuals.

22 MR KOUMJIAN: This is the name, yes. We'll double check
23 and come back this afternoon:

24 Q. Mr Witness, when you were in Liberia did you have any means
13:20:10 25 of communication yourself?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. What kinds of means of communication did you have?

28 A. I had a satellite phone, cell phone.

29 Q. When you - are those two different kinds of phone, a

1 satellite phone and a cell phone?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Let's talk about the satellite phone. Can you tell us
4 where did you obtain the satellite phone?

13:20:45 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Tell us, please.

7 A. Benjamin Yeaten gave me the satellite phone.

8 Q. What did you use the satellite phone for?

9 A. To communicate to the various front lines.

13:21:16 10 Q. From the satellite phone could you call other satellite
11 phones?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Could you call other cell phones and regular land numbers?

14 A. Yes.

13:21:34 15 Q. Do you know anyone else - well, what other people with
16 satellite phones did you call with your satellite phone?

17 A. Benjamin Yeaten; Senegalese Sea Breeze, who was a bodyguard
18 commander for President Taylor; Roland Duoh --

19 THE INTERPRETER: Can he repeat that name, it's not very
13:22:10 20 clear.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat the last name.
22 The one after Roland Duoh.

23 THE WITNESS: Eric Wongbah.

24 MR KOU MJIAN:

13:22:24 25 Q. Just to clarify one thing, Mr Witness, you said Senegalese
26 Sea Breeze. Is this one person, or two people?

27 A. One person.

28 Q. Is this the same Senegalese that you talked about having
29 come to join SAJ Musa's forces?

1 A. No, I'm talking about Senegalese Sea Breeze who was the
2 bodyguard commander for President Taylor under the SSS. He was a
3 direct bodyguard to President Taylor under the SSS, Sea Breeze.

13:23:08

4 Q. Do you recall anyone else who had a satellite phone in
5 Liberia?

6 A. President Taylor had his own satellite phone.

7 Q. Do you recall, aside from Yeaten, if any other members of
8 the SSS had satellite phones?

13:23:40

9 A. Yes. Jungle, Daniel Tamba, had a satellite phone. Even we
10 the Sierra Leoneans, Rashid Foday, had a satellite phone. One
11 Mohamed Koroma, we used to call him Mohamed Bajehjeh, had a
12 satellite phone. A lot of people had a satellite phone.

13 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: How does this witness know that President
14 Taylor had a satellite phone? What is the foundation?

13:24:07

15 MR KOU MJIAN: I will come to that later, your Honour. He
16 has a good foundation:

17 Q. Sir, can you tell us what this satellite phone looked like?

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Which one? He's mentioned several people
19 with phones.

13:24:30

20 MR KOU MJIAN:

21 Q. What did your satellite phone look like, Mr Witness?

22 A. They call it --

23 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat the name of
24 the phone slowly.

13:24:44

25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Repeat the name of the phone slowly.

26 THE WITNESS: Thuraya satellite phone.

27 MR KOU MJIAN: Your Honour, I believe I've spelt it before,
28 although I think I made an error in the earlier time in this
29 trial that I spelt it. I believe the correct spelling is

1 T-H-U-R-A-Y-A:

2 Q. Can you describe what it looked like?

3 A. Yes, it looked like a cell phone, but it's bigger than some
4 cell phones. It had an antenna that goes up to search for
13:25:26 5 signals and you can shorten it down. It had a long antenna on
6 it.

7 Q. Mr Witness, before you came to Liberia, while you were in
8 Sierra Leone did you see anyone in Sierra Leone with satellite
9 telephones?

13:25:44 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Who did you see with satellite telephones in Sierra Leone?

12 A. Issa Sesay.

13 Q. Anyone else?

14 A. At the time Sam Bockarie was having a satellite phone in
13:26:06 15 Sierra Leone.

16 Q. Thank you. Do you recall anyone else in Sierra Leone that
17 you saw with a satellite phone?

18 A. I can't remember any more.

19 Q. Thank you. The satellite phone that you saw Sam Bockarie
13:26:18 20 with, did it look like the phone you just described?

21 A. No.

22 Q. How was it different?

23 A. Sam Bockarie's satellite phone was just like this computer,
24 but it was in a briefcase. When you are ready to look for signal
13:26:38 25 you can take out the antenna. The antenna is different. It's
26 like a plate. You can look for signal with it. It has a long
27 rope on it, but it was in a briefcase.

28 Q. Mr Witness, how would you pay for the use of the satellite
29 phone?

1 A. Like me, they used to give me a control number. Sometimes
2 when I was in Monrovia I would buy a card for myself, but they
3 used to give us direct numbers, control numbers, which would just
4 be inserted into the phone.

13:27:17 5 Q. How would you insert the number in the phone?

6 A. The card. The top-up for the satellite phone, the Thuraya
7 phone I was using, when you put the top-up twice, the third time
8 they would blank it. They would say you would go and pay a heavy
9 money before they open it for you. If you put the top-up for the
10 first time, if you miss it they will give you a second chance.

13:27:41

11 You meet it the second time. By the third chance they would
12 blank it, the satellite phone. So, so many people had theirs
13 blanked.

14 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat that last

13:27:55

15 bit.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter needs you to
17 repeat the last bit starting, "So many people had theirs
18 blanked." Continue from there, or repeat that part and continue.

19 THE WITNESS: So many people had theirs blocked, including
20 Benjamin Yeaten himself. When you're ready to put the top-up in
21 it, it got blocked, except you sent it to Monrovia for it to be
22 opened.

13:28:14

23 MR KOUMJIAN:

24 Q. Mr Witness, I'm going to ask you a question and I want you
25 to give me a very short answer because I'm going to ask you
26 details later in a different session. You mentioned that
27 President Taylor had a satellite phone. Just tell us how did you
28 know that President Taylor had a satellite phone?

13:28:34

29 A. Because I had his number at the time, direct number from

1 him, and I had his satellite - the direct number for his
2 satellite phone and the cell phone, but presently I can only
3 remember the cell phone because it's very short, but I can't
4 remember that for the satellite phone.

13:29:14 5 Q. Can you tell us President Taylor's cell phone number, at
6 the time you were in Liberia, now from memory?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What was his cell phone number?

9 A. 06510547.

13:29:36 10 MR KOUJIAN: Thank you. This is an appropriate time.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Koumjian. Mr Witness, we
12 are now going to take the lunchtime adjournment. We break for
13 one hour and we will start court again at 2.30. Please adjourn
14 court until 2.30.

13:29:50 15 [Lunch break taken at 1.30 p.m.]

16 [Upon resuming at 2.30 p.m.]

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, please proceed.

18 MR KOUJIAN: Thank you:

19 Q. Mr Witness, just before we broke I had asked you how you
14:30:54 20 knew President Taylor had a satellite phone and you had answered,
21 "Because I had his number at the time, direct number from him,
22 and I had his satellite - the direct number for his satellite
23 phone." Please answer this question only yes or no, if you can.
24 Did you ever speak to President Taylor on President Taylor's
14:31:19 25 satellite phone?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Okay, thank you. Mr Witness, do you know the mobile
28 number, the cell number, for Benjamin Yeaten?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Could you please tell us that number, if you remember it
2 now?

3 A. 06510244. 510244.

4 MR KOUMJIAN: Now, your Honour, I would ask that the
14:32:02 5 witness be given a blank piece of paper and I would like him to
6 write a number and I would like this paper to eventually become
7 confidential. Just for everyone's information, I am going to ask
8 the witness if he recalls his own mobile phone number:

9 Q. Mr Witness, just answer first yes or no. Do you recall
14:32:28 10 what your own mobile telephone number was in Liberia?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Would you please - don't say it, but write that number on
13 the piece of paper in front of you.

14 If that could be shown first to the judges then to Defence
14:33:13 15 counsel and then to myself.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, first to Defence counsel.

17 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay, thank you. Your Honour, may this piece
18 of paper be marked and have an MFI number confidential, please?

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: That will be a piece of white paper with
14:34:54 20 a number written on it and it is MFI-1.

21 MR MUNYARD: I think it ought to be dated and signed by the
22 witness.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Oh, indeed. Thank you for that reminder,
24 Mr Munyard. If the paper could be returned to the witness and he
14:35:11 25 puts his date and a signature on it. Once the witness has
26 completed that it will be marked as a confidential MFI.

27 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, I believe the witness is asking
28 what the date is. Perhaps the Court Officer could date the
29 document.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated].

2 MR MUNYARD: I am quite content for that to be done.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated].

4 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour's mic was not activated.

14:35:57 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I was just asking that it be dated
6 by Madam Court Officer and then be confidentially retained.

7 MS IRURA: Your Honour, the witness has dated the document.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Even better.

9 MR KOUMJIAN:

14:36:19 10 Q. Mr Witness, you mentioned Sam Bockarie going into exile.
11 Did you have any communication with Sam Bockarie after he left
12 Liberia?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Can you tell us the circumstances?

14:36:43 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Please do.

17 A. Sam Bockarie called on Benjamin Yeaten's satellite phone
18 and Benjamin Yeaten refused to answer the phone for the first
19 time. When Benjamin Yeaten saw the number and it was

14:37:10 20 Sam Bockarie, he told me to answer the call and to tell him that
21 he was not around. When Sam Bockarie started talking, when I
22 said it was me speaking, I the witness, he said, "Oh, you are now
23 a big man", and then I started laughing and then he said, "I am
24 really suffering here." He said, "The people with all the
14:37:34 25 agreements we had, before I left to go on exile, have been turned
26 down. I don't have money. Everything has finished. All the
27 things I brought with me here, so I am suffering. So I please
28 want you to tell Benjamin Yeaten", and then I said, "I will do
29 that, sir." That was what we communicated.

1 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Could we have some time frame, because
2 this is a period of two years I believe.

3 MR KOUMJIAN:

4 Q. Mr Witness, do you recall what year it was that you
14:38:07 5 received this phone call? If you are not sure say so, but tell
6 us your best estimate.

7 A. Yes, we firstly communicated in 2001.

8 Q. You said first communicated, did you talk to Sam Bockarie
9 when he was outside of Liberia after that phone call?

14:38:33 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. About how many times?

12 A. I think I spoke to him three times.

13 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, am I to understand this one
14 time was whilst Sam Bockarie was out of Liberia?

14:38:51 15 MR KOUMJIAN:

16 Q. Mr Witness, do you know where Sam Bockarie was calling from
17 on this first call?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Where was he?

14:39:05 20 A. Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou.

21 Q. How do you know that?

22 A. He himself told me that he was presently in Burkina Faso
23 and that he was suffering there, over the satellite phone.

24 Q. In the other conversations you had with Bockarie, can you
14:39:26 25 tell us what you remember about what Bockarie said?

26 A. Yes, I can remember some.

27 Q. Tell us what you do remember.

28 A. In early 2002 he had a machine that - an electronics
29 machine that prepares ID cards. Benjamin Yeaten asked for that

1 machine and Salami was the one who told Benjamin Yeaten about the
2 machine and he told him that Sam Bockarie had a machine that
3 printed ID cards, computer ID cards, and Benjamin Yeaten said
4 that he needed that machine. He wanted to prepare ID cards for
14:40:19 5 the ATU.

6 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness repeat
7 that area.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you have gone --

9 THE INTERPRETER: And please speak slowly.

14:40:29 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: You have gone too quickly for the
11 interpreter. You need to go more slowly and pick up your answer
12 where you have said, "He wanted to prepare ID cards for the ATU."
13 Continue from there, please.

14 THE WITNESS: Benjamin Yeaten wanted the computer ID card
14:40:50 15 for the ATU, because he said people were using false ID cards to
16 go and impersonate and so he wanted to print computer ID cards.
17 So Salami told Benjamin Yeaten that the time they were in Buedu -
18 the time they were in Buedu he used to see Benjamin Yeaten with a
19 similar machine like that and then Benjamin Yeaten told him, he
14:41:15 20 said, "Oh, how do you think we can get this machine?" Then

21 Salami told him to ask a man called Martin. Martin. After
22 Benjamin Yeaten asked Martin, Martin told Benjamin Yeaten that
23 Sam Bockarie's wife Hawa had the machine with her there and I
24 think when Benjamin Yeaten asked Hawa about the machine,
14:41:43 25 Sam Bockarie's wife, Hawa, called Sam Bockarie in Burkina Faso
26 and complained about it, that Benjamin Yeaten asked for the
27 machine, the ID card machine. That was the second time I spoke
28 to Sam Bockarie when he called. I was the one who picked up the
29 satellite phone call and he told me - he complained that the

1 people are not doing anything for him and the machine that was
2 there, nobody was supposed to sell it, or to do any other thing
3 with it and that Benjamin Yeaten was asking for the machine. He
4 wanted to - she wanted to confirm whether she was to pass on the
14:42:18 5 machine to him. So that was the time again I communicated with
6 him with regards the machine.

7 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, the name of the wife, the
8 spelling is H-A-W-A:

9 Q. You have told us now about two phone calls. Do you
14:42:41 10 remember anything else that you spoke to Sam Bockarie about when
11 he was outside of Liberia after leaving Liberia?

12 A. Yes, the third time I spoke to him was when he was in Ivory
13 Coast.

14 Q. What did Sam Bockarie tell you then?

14:43:10 15 A. At the time he was in Ivory Coast he called. When he
16 called, I think at that time we were on the President's farm and
17 he started talking about - he was talking - the conversation was
18 about a machine. He had a machine. He said at the time he was
19 in exile in Burkina Faso he was suffering, nobody cared about
14:43:34 20 him, and that when he crossed over to Ivory Coast and he looted
21 some machines, at that moment the Government of Liberia was
22 asking for that machine, for it to be crossed over to Liberia,
23 and he said he was not going to allow that and he said he was not
24 taking any orders from the Liberian government any more. He was
14:43:55 25 aggressively saying that over the satellite phone. He talked to
26 me and he talked to the late Salami.

27 MR MUNYARD: Please, this is very difficult to follow.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are talking much too
29 fast. You start slowly and then you speed up. You are like a

1 car engine getting into gear. Take it easy. Each time you
2 finish a sentence stop, take a deep breath, wait, start again.

3 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I have been desperately trying to signal
4 to you, Mr Witness. You probably think I am conducting a church
14:44:27 5 choir, but I am actually trying to slow you down.

6 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes, thank you:

7 Q. Mr Witness, it is very important what you are saying, so
8 when you see the judge give a signal just stop for a few seconds
9 and allow the interpreter and the court reporter to catch up. Do
14:44:46 10 you recall approximately when it was that this third phone call
11 took place?

12 A. 2000. The year 2002. 2002.

13 Q. Now, you have indicated that on a couple of occasions
14 Sam Bockarie told you that he was suffering and nobody cared
14:45:15 15 about him. Did he explain what he meant by that?

16 A. Yes, he even made mention about diamonds. He said the
17 amount of diamonds that he crossed with - he said he was told to
18 turn the diamonds over to President Taylor, by President Taylor
19 himself, and that President Taylor will support him, and later he
14:45:41 20 did not see the support. So at present they were now telling him
21 to cross over with the yellow machine. He said he was not going
22 to allow that.

23 Q. Okay, thank you. Mr Witness, when you were in Liberia did
24 you attend any meetings where the President of Liberia was there?

14:46:13 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. What kind of meetings were these?

27 A. We had preparation of front line meetings. I attended
28 meetings with him at his farm, about Sam Bockarie when
29 Sam Bockarie returned to Liberia.

1 Q. Okay, let me just stop you and talk to you about the front
2 line meetings and, Mr Witness, if you could just look at me
3 because you start to say something and I want you to stop. There
4 are some things I want to cover later, so if you see me give you
14:46:54 5 a signal, please stop. When you are talking about the front line
6 meetings, just explain what you mean by front line meetings?

7 A. When we talk about front line meetings we will go to the
8 meeting and he himself, as chief of the armed forces, can plan
9 the wars for the front line. He himself will be there with us in
14:47:18 10 the meeting.

11 Q. Okay, thank you. Where did these front line meetings take
12 place?

13 A. We meet at the Executive Mansion. We meet at his house,
14 his residence, Kongo Town, White Flower.

14:47:42 15 MR KOUMJIAN: I want to move to another topic.

16 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: No, before you do, this man was in
17 Liberia over a period of two years. Could you give us some
18 indication of when these meetings happened, these particular
19 meetings?

14:47:55 20 MR KOUMJIAN:

21 Q. Mr Witness, do you recall the year or years that you
22 attended these meetings, that you called front line meetings,
23 with the President?

24 A. 2002.

14:48:07 25 Q. Thank you.

26 A. 2002 and early 2003.

27 Q. Okay, thank you. Mr Witness, did you ever receive an
28 assignment, while you were in Liberia, to return to Sierra Leone?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Do you recall approximately when that was?

2 A. The first one was before the UN peacekeepers were taken
3 hostage in 2000. That was the first time I returned to Sierra
4 Leone, in the year 2000, before we captured the UN peacekeepers.

14:49:11 5 Q. Perhaps before we go on, let's just deal with what you just
6 mentioned: The capture of the UN peacekeepers. Do you recall
7 what year that occurred?

8 A. 2000. The year 2000.

9 Q. Do you recall if it was dry season, or rainy season?

14:49:37 10 A. At that time I was - I can't recall, but I think it was in
11 the dry season, but I can't actually recall.

12 Q. Okay. How did you first learn about this incident with the
13 UN peacekeepers?

14 A. I was in Kolahun with Benjamin Yeaten at that time, in
14:50:01 15 Kolahun.

16 Q. And how did you hear about the peacekeepers being captured?

17 A. We were in Kolahun. We had a radio operator by the time of
18 Mortiga, an RUF radio operator called Mortiga. I was there with
19 the late Martin, together with some RUF boys, when Mortiga came
14:50:29 20 to Benjamin Yeaten under the barri and said there was fighting
21 going on between the UN and RUF, so he said he just received a
22 call from Issa Sesay to inform Benjamin Yeaten to put on his
23 satellite phone, and I went into the radio room together with
24 Mortiga and we received the same message, and I passed the
14:51:02 25 message over to Benjamin Yeaten that he should put his satellite
26 phone on, that Issa Sesay wanted to talk to him on his satellite
27 phone. That was the time I got to know about the problem between
28 the RUF and the UN peacekeeping force in Sierra Leone.

29 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, a spelling, Mortiga,

1 M-O-R-T-I-G-A. I see barri was not spelled. I believe it has
2 been spelled previously in court. I believe it is B-E-R-I.

3 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: No, I think this is a barri as in a court
4 barri. That's B-A-R-R-I.

14:51:44 5 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you, your Honour:

6 Q. After I learning about the peacekeepers what happened to you?

7 A. I was so confused myself and I wished I were there, so I
8 met Benjamin Yeaten and I told him that I have some people in
9 Makeni and I wanted to visit them and Benjamin Yeaten told me
10 that, "I was planning that too, to give you bikes, motorbikes,
11 for you to go and see for yourself and come back and report
12 directly about what was going on". So that very day Benjamin
13 Yeaten gave us two bikes, AG Yamaha 200.

14 Q. Okay, thank you. Please continue. What happened after
14:52:35 15 Benjamin Yeaten gave - well, first you said, "Benjamin Yeaten
16 gave us two bikes". When you say "us" who do you mean?

17 A. I was one of the riders for the motorbike, myself and Small
18 Junior used one bike, Mohamed Foday the late and another person
19 used the other bike, but I have forgotten the name of the boy
14:53:00 20 that was at his back.

21 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Could you please repeat the name of
22 Mohamed somebody. Mohamed who?

23 THE WITNESS: Mohamed Foday.

24 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you.

14:53:17 25 Q. Now, after Benjamin Yeaten gave you the bikes, what
26 happened? Please tell us slowly, with pauses.

27 A. He told us to go to Sierra Leone and to see for ourselves
28 what was going on and on my return I should report to him about
29 exactly what was going on, because he himself wanted to know,

1 because he said he wouldn't just want to listen. He said he
2 wouldn't just want to listen to the radio or to hear it over the
3 satellite phone. He wanted somebody to go there himself to see
4 what was going on, to know what was going on.

14:54:00 5 Q. Then what happened after Benjamin Yeaten gave you these
6 instructions?

7 A. Then we left.

8 Q. Where did you go to?

9 A. We crossed the border and went to the Moa River and we
14:54:21 10 placed the motorbikes into the ferry. They had a ferry that - a
11 hand-drawn ferry. We crossed over with our bikes, we went from
12 Kono, from Kono we went to Makeni.

13 Q. When you arrived in Makeni, what did you see?

14 A. I saw so many UN peacekeepers naked at the MP headquarters
14:54:49 15 at that time. By then --

16 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the name he called was not
17 clear to the interpreter.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause, Mr Witness. You mentioned a name
19 which the interpreters cannot hear clearly. Please repeat the
14:55:00 20 name. Is it the name of the headquarters, the place?

21 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the name of the MP
22 commander.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: The name of the MP commander?

24 THE WITNESS: Kaisuku.

14:55:17 25 MR KOUMJIAN:

26 Q. Mr Witness, when you say "MP", what does that mean?

27 A. That was the military police for us.

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, you didn't fully
29 interpret what the witness said. One minute he is talking of

1 naked UN peacekeepers at the something headquarters and then we
2 have Kaisuku in isolation. What did he say?

3 THE INTERPRETER: He said at that time it was Kaisuku who
4 was the MP commander there.

14:55:54 5 MR KOUMJIAN:

6 Q. Did you learn what the nationality was of the peacekeepers
7 that you saw naked?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What was their nationality?

14:56:13 10 A. They were the Zambian contingent, Zambia.

11 Q. What happened after you got to Makeni and saw the
12 peacekeepers being held?

13 A. When they captured the peacekeepers they --

14 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness still
14:56:37 15 slow down.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are really going fast
17 again this afternoon. Easy, easy. Okay, start from the
18 beginning. "When they captured the peacekeepers", continue.

19 THE WITNESS: When they captured the peacekeepers I saw
14:57:00 20 them at the MP headquarters. When I got there, I saw Issa Sesay,
21 Augustine Gbao, Morris Kallon, they were all standing there.
22 Issa Sesay was addressing the peacekeepers. I heard him say
23 that, "You were planning to attack us" and that, "You are not
24 here for peace" and that, "We are also ready to repel any
14:57:45 25 attacks". From that point I was trying to look out for Komba
26 Gbundema at that time.

27 MR KOUMJIAN:

28 Q. Why were you looking for Komba Gbundema?

29 A. Because when Superman was not around Komba Gbundema was my

1 immediate commander that I would always work with.

2 Q. Did you find Komba Gbundema there in Makeni?

3 A. Yes, I saw him but I didn't see him in Makeni.

4 Q. First let's stick to Makeni. After you saw what you saw,
14:58:34 5 when was the next time - about the peacekeepers, when was the
6 next time you spoke to Benjamin Yeaten?

7 A. When we got there, after seeing Komba Gbundema I used his
8 radio to call Mortiga and I said, "It's true. They have captured
9 a lot of peacekeepers and they have taken a lot of weapons and
14:58:59 10 ammunition from them". So Benjamin Yeaten asked me whether it
11 was actually true and I said yes. He said okay. He said, "Now
12 we cannot discuss that on the radio" and he said he was going to
13 call Issa Sesay and talk with him on the satellite phone and that
14 I should try and get back to him.

14:59:18 15 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Koumjian, where are we now?

16 MR KOUMJIAN:

17 Q. Sir, you have indicated that it was after seeing Komba
18 Gbundema that you used his radio. Where was it that you saw
19 Komba Gbundema?

14:59:35 20 A. In a town called Makoth on the highway from Makeni to
21 Lunsar.

22 Q. How far is that from Makeni?

23 A. Not that far. I think it is about eight or ten miles,
24 roughly.

14:59:57 25 MR KOUMJIAN: I believe the spelling is M-A-K-O-T-H:

26 Q. What happened after you spoke to Benjamin Yeaten?

27 A. He told me that he would talk to Issa Sesay on the
28 satellite phone so that I should try and get back to him in
29 Liberia.

1 Q. What did you do then?

2 A. We got some gas, petrol, and we put it into a motorbike and
3 we got back to Liberia to meet him.

4 Q. Thank you. Mr Witness, the peacekeepers that you saw, do
15:00:54 5 you know whether they had had any weapons when they were
6 captured?

7 A. Yes, they were well equipped.

8 Q. How do you know that?

9 A. When they captured them they brought them to the MP
15:01:11 10 headquarters. They captured 52 --

11 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, your Honours, the word was
12 not clear to the interpreter. Cash or what, I don't know.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: The interpreter could not hear what you
14 were saying. They captured what? 52 what?

15:01:33 15 THE WITNESS: 52 cars.

16 MR KOU MJIAN:

17 Q. Mr Witness, what kind of cars were those 52?

18 A. Lands Rover 110.

19 Q. Did they capture anything else?

15:01:49 20 A. Yes, they captured armoured cars. Armoured cars.

21 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koum jian, who are these "they" that
22 captured the peacekeepers?

23 THE WITNESS: RUF.

24 MR KOU MJIAN:

15:02:07 25 Q. Do you know who was leading that operation to capture the
26 peacekeepers?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. Who was it?

29 A. Augustine Gbao was there at the time, Morris Kallon and

1 Komba Gbundema and even Issa Sesay was there, he was present.

2 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Did he say Komba Gbundema at Makeni?

3 MR KOUMJIAN:

4 Q. Mr Witness, you said Komba Gbundema was also there?

15:02:40 5 A. Komba Gbundema was at Makoth and Makoth was the place where
6 they arrested the peacekeepers and they brought them to Makeni.
7 He was there in the combat camp at that time at Makoth.

8 Q. Do you know who was there in charge of the RUF there in
9 Sierra Leone at that time?

15:03:08 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Who was that?

12 A. Issa Sesay.

13 Q. What happened to the vehicles and weapons that were
14 captured from these Zambian peacekeepers?

15:03:27 15 A. They distributed the vehicles to the various commanders and
16 most of the weapons that they got, like the armoured cars, they
17 were trying to take them to Magburaka. One of the armoured cars
18 even fell over the Magburaka Bridge and most of the armoured cars
19 were taken to Magburaka and some went to Kono.

15:03:54 20 Q. Do you know if all of the weapons stayed in Sierra Leone?

21 A. Yes, I knew about the weapons, but not all of the weapons
22 remained in Sierra Leone.

23 Q. Tell us what you know about any weapon that did not remain
24 in Sierra Leone?

15:04:21 25 A. After the release of the peacekeeping forces, after they
26 had been released, I saw a one barrel BZT that they crossed over
27 with to Liberia and it was used in the President's convoy called
28 Mobile 5, one barreled BZT. It was the ATU that were using it in
29 the President's convoy called Mobile 5 and some mortars and some

1 other heavy weapons.

2 Q. You have told us about the BZT gun that was used in the
3 convoy of the President called Mobile 5. Now you have also
4 mentioned some mortars. What do you know about mortars from the
15:05:04 5 peacekeepers coming to Liberia? What do you know, if anything?

6 A. I did not understand that question.

7 Q. You have also mentioned some mortars. Is that correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What happened to the mortars?

15:05:26 10 A. They crossed with the mortars from Mende Buima to Vahun and
11 they handed them over to Benjamin Yeaten for him to use it at the
12 front line. Benjamin Yeaten requested for the weapons from Issa
13 Sesay in my presence in Vahun. He said he needed some mortars to
14 use against LURD. So he said he should please help him with the
15:05:46 15 weapons and he did. I saw the weapons with my eyes.

16 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, you named two locations
17 one of which was Vahun. What was the other one? From where to
18 somewhere.

19 THE INTERPRETER: Mende Buima, your Honours.

15:06:04 20 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Just say the testimony again, from which
21 place to which place?

22 THE INTERPRETER: Mende Buima to Vahun. From Vahun on the
23 Liberian side, Mende Buima was on the Sierra Leone side. They
24 were very close to one another and we had a car road from Mende
15:06:27 25 Buima to Vahun and it was the car road that they used to take the
26 weapons from Mende Buima to Vahun. At that time we were based in
27 Vahun with Benjamin Yeaten.

28 MR KOU MJIAN: Your Honours, the spelling of Mende Buima,
29 Mende as we all know and Buima B-U-I-M-A:

1 Q. Mr Witness, do you know who brought the weapons from Sierra
2 Leone, from Mende Buima to Vahun?

3 A. Yes, it was at that time I saw Morris Kallon's bodyguard,
4 Nyaveh [phon], together with some of Issa Sesay's bodyguards,
15:07:10 5 Hindolo and others.

6 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you. Now I have finished discussing
7 the peacekeepers, unless there are other questions. I want to go
8 back to where I interrupted - well, first perhaps I will give
9 some spellings of the name - well, just phonetic we have for
15:07:40 10 Nyalla [phon], so I don't know if that helps the Court or not:

11 Q. Mr Witness, going on to where I interrupted you, you were
12 talking about the first time you left Liberia to go to Sierra
13 Leone. First, can you tell us what was the purpose of this
14 assignment the first time you left Liberia to go to Sierra Leone?

15:08:09 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What was the reason, if you know, that you were sent to
17 Sierra Leone?

18 A. Benjamin Yeaten instructed me to take ammunition from White
19 Flower, at the President Charles Taylor's residence, to take it
15:08:33 20 to Koindu.

21 Q. Mr Witness, during the time that you were in Liberia, how
22 many times did you carry arms or ammunition to Sierra Leone? Was
23 this the only time, or was there - how many times in total?

24 A. I think I remember four times.

15:09:00 25 Q. All right. If you can remember, let's take them one at a
26 time. When do you think it was, the first time that you were
27 asked to take arms and ammunition to Sierra Leone?

28 A. Early 2000 I took the first ammunition to --

29 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, could the witness repeat the

1 name of the town.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, what is the name of the town
3 again, please?

4 THE WITNESS: Koi ndu.

15:09:40 5 MR KOUMJIAN:

6 Q. And just so we are clear, when you say Koi ndu, what
7 district is that in?

8 A. Kailahun District.

9 Q. Where did you take this ammunition from?

15:09:59 10 A. Congo Town, White Flower. President Taylor's residence.

11 Q. Do you recall what kind of ammunition it was on this
12 occasion that you carried?

13 A. Yes, I can recall some.

14 Q. Tell us what you can remember now.

15:10:19 15 A. I carried AK rounds by boxes, RPG rockets, GMG rounds and
16 some others that I can't recall.

17 Q. How did you transport this ammunition?

18 A. We loaded the ammunition in the car, a Land Cruiser
19 pick-up.

15:10:52 20 Q. Where did you take the ammunition?

21 A. I said Koi ndu.

22 Q. When you got to Koi ndu, what did you do with the
23 ammunition?

24 A. I turned the ammunition over to Issa Sesay's bodyguard
15:11:20 25 called Bob George.

26 Q. Thank you. Do you recall approximately when was the second
27 time that you were involved in taking arms or ammunition to
28 Sierra Leone?

29 A. Yes. I can't recall the actual month.

1 Q. Tell us what you do remember about when it was.

2 A. In the same 2002 I took ammunition from White Flower to
3 Foya, Foya to Buedu.

4 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Koumjian, just an explanation. He said
15:12:13 5 in the same 2002, whereas the first trip was 2000, so what does
6 that mean?

7 MR KOUMJIAN: That is what I am going to try and clarify.
8 I think the witness said something I didn't quite understand:

9 Q. Mr Witness, did you have something to say?

15:12:31 10 A. Yes, I made a mistake. It was in 2000.

11 Q. Okay, thank you very much. So the second shipment was also
12 in the same 2000, is that what you are saying?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Where did you take that shipment of arms or ammunition,
15:12:53 15 whatever it was - where did you get it from?

16 A. From the same White Flower.

17 Q. What was it, if you recall, that you were taking on that
18 occasion?

19 A. I don't understand the question.

15:13:16 20 Q. What was it that you were carrying?

21 A. Ammunition.

22 Q. Can you remember anything about the type of ammunition, or
23 the quantity? Sorry, that is two questions. Let me first start
24 with the type. Do you remember the type of ammunition?

15:13:39 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. What was it, if you recall?

27 A. We carried AK rounds, GMG and RPG rockets. GMG rounds and
28 RPG rockets.

29 Q. What did you do with this ammunition?

1 A. When we crossed over and we got to Buedu, I turned the
2 ammunition over to a man called Fembeh, CO Fembeh.

3 Q. Where were you when you turned the ammunition over to
4 Fembeh?

15:14:30 5 A. Buedu.

6 Q. Tell us about the third time.

7 A. The third time we collected the ammunition from White
8 Flower together with some ATU officers, including Mike Francis.

9 He was the driver for the car, Liberian Mike Francis. It was a
10 Land Rover, an ATU Land Rover Defender. We loaded the
11 ammunition, Martin together with other people, I can't recall all
12 of them, the late Martin, and we took - they took it direct to
13 Issa Sesay in Kono.

14 Q. First, Mr Witness, can you say again the first name of
15 Francis?

16 A. I said Mike Francis. Mike Francis. That was how I used to
17 call him. I don't know.

18 Q. Okay, thank you. Do you recall when it was that you
19 participated in this shipment?

15:15:43 20 A. I think it was early 2001. Early 2001.

21 Q. Thank you.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Does the witness know where this third
23 shipment went, because apparently he wasn't part of the trip? He
24 says "they took it". How does he know that?

15:16:04 25 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you, I will clarify:

26 Q. Mr Witness, what was your role in this third shipment?

27 A. Benjamin Yeaten asked us to escort the ammunition and to
28 take it straight to Issa Sesay in Kono: Myself, including
29 Martin, who was the senior person at that time on the convoy.

1 From Benjamin Yeaten, he asked us to directly escort the
2 ammunition to Issa Sesay in Kono.

3 Q. Did you yourself go to Kono with the ammunition?

15:16:44

4 A. Yes, we went, we crossed over with the car on the ferry and
5 we went straight to Kono and we met Issa Sesay. I even went past
6 Kono and I went to Makeni.

7 Q. Thank you. Mr Witness, about how long after the third
8 shipment was the fourth? Do you recall about when that was?

9 A. Yes.

15:17:11

10 Q. Can you tell us what you remember?

11 A. Yes, at that time we were in Vahun. Benjamin Yeaten told
12 us to go to Monrovia and collect ammunition and when we got to
13 Monrovia we went to the armoury dump commander, at that time Kai
14 and G4 Moses. Kai told us that he did not have enough GMG rounds
15 at that time at White Flower and so we collected some AK rounds,
16 RPG rockets and we went to the Executive Mansion and collected
17 the remaining ammunition from there and then we proceeded to
18 Benjamin Yeaten at Vahun. When we got to Vahun, Benjamin Yeaten
19 told us to cross over with the ammunition to Mende Buima, so we
20 crossed over with the ammunition to Mende Buima.

15:18:11

21 MR MUNYARD: [Microphone not activated].

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think you are right, Mr Munyard. You
23 have done it again now, Mr Witness. I am not sure how many
24 warnings we have had today, but you must slow down. As I told
25 you, stop at the end of each sentence. Pick up again when you
26 said, "We crossed over with the ammunition."

15:18:24

27 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour's microphone is not on.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: I have it on now, thank you. Pick up
29 your answer where you said, "So we crossed over with the

1 ammunition to Mende Bui ma."

2 THE WITNESS: We got to Vahun, to Benjamin Yeaten. He told
3 us to cross over with the ammunition to Mende Bui ma. That we
4 did. We crossed the ammunitions over to Mende Bui ma.

15:19:09 5 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, the spelling for Mende Bui ma is
6 the same as I gave earlier.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

8 MR KOUMJIAN:

9 Q. Mr Witness, do you recall what year it was that this fourth
15:19:27 10 shipment occurred?

11 A. Yes, it was in the same 2001. 2001.

12 Q. Mr Witness, you have mentioned Superman in Sierra Leone.
13 Do you know --

14 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, what happened to the
15:19:59 15 ammunition that crossed over to Mende Bui ma? Mende Bui ma is a
16 place, not a person.

17 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you very much:

18 Q. Sir, when you got to Mende Bui ma with the ammunition, what
19 happened?

15:20:14 20 A. We turned the ammunition over to a bodyguard, Issa Sesay's
21 bodyguard called Boise.

22 Q. Thank you. You have mentioned, previously in your
23 testimony, Superman. Did you ever know if he was ever in Liberia
24 after you went to Liberia?

15:20:42 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. What was he doing in Liberia, if you know?

27 A. Superman crossed over to Liberia to help fight against the
28 LURD. At that time LURD was pressuring to take over Lofa County.

29 Q. Who did Superman fight with?

1 A. I don't understand that question.

2 Q. Was Superman working in any particular army or any force
3 when he was fighting - you said when he came to fight because the
4 LURD was pressuring.

15:21:28 5 A. Superman was fighting with all the groups. He was fighting
6 alongside Benjamin Yeaten. He was taking direct instructions
7 from Benjamin Yeaten at that time.

8 Q. Thank you. Do you recall what year this was?

9 A. 2001.

15:21:54 10 Q. Did you ever learn what happened to Superman?

11 MR MUNYARD: I wonder, your Honours, if before we move on
12 to Superman's fate we could find out what all the groups are,
13 because it's a complete mystery to me. He hasn't explained what
14 he means by that.

15:22:10 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is true, Mr Koumjian. There has
16 been a reference to one group, but not in the plural.

17 MR KOUMJIAN: If your Honours would like me to clarify that
18 I will.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, please.

15:22:25 20 MR KOUMJIAN:

21 Q. Sir, who were the groups that Superman was fighting along
22 with?

23 A. We had different groups. We had ATU, we had some SSS who
24 used to take part in combat, we had the militia forces and in the
15:22:45 25 militia, the militia was divided into different divisions. We
26 had Navy division, Marine division, Army division and we had the
27 Jungle Fire. That was not a division actually, but later we were
28 formed into a division, the Strike Force division, and Superman
29 will fight with any one of those divisions and they were all well

1 armed at that time.

2 Q. Were all of these divisions part of any particular army?

3 A. Yes, most of the fighters that fell in the divisions were
4 from the AFL, but when the war was going on somehow they gave
15:23:35 5 instruction that everybody should go back under their various
6 commanders that existed during the NPFL times. So those who fell
7 under the Marine division during the NPFL should go the marine
8 and those who fell under the navy during the NPFL should go under
9 the navy. That was what happened at the time.

15:23:58 10 Q. Who was commanding all of these forces?

11 A. Before all the divisions had their individual chief of
12 staff. Benjamin Yeaten was the joint chief of staff and there
13 was a deputy joint chief of staff Gbengba Y Kona [phon], but he
14 was acting. So Benjamin Yeaten was the joint chief of staff.

15:24:27 15 Q. I'm sorry, we didn't get the name. You said there was a
16 deputy joint chief of staff under - can you say that name again
17 slowly, please?

18 A. He was the deputy joint chief of staff under Gbengba Y
19 Kona. Myself I don't know. That is a Liberian name, but we call
15:24:49 20 it Gbengba Y Kona. He was the deputy joint chief of staff, a
21 four star general under Gbengba Y Kona.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: So this is a three barreled name, or
23 what? Mr Koumjian, you just have to help us here. We don't
24 understand.

15:25:11 25 MR KOUMJIAN:

26 Q. Okay, sir, you gave that name. Do you know if that is a
27 first and last name, or did you give three separate names?

28 A. I said Gbengba Y Kona. The middle name is Y. Gbengba Y
29 Kona. Gbengba Y Kona. I don't know what the Y stands for.

1 MR KOUMJIAN: I am wondering if perhaps the interpreter
2 might be able to help us with the spelling of the last name.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, do you know how to spell
4 Kona, the last name given by the witness?

15:25:52 5 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, phonetically it's K-O-N-A.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: And the Gbengba.

7 THE INTERPRETER: G-B-E-N-G-B-A.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

9 MR KOUMJIAN:

15:26:07 10 Q. Now, sir, back to Superman, did you learn what happened to
11 Superman while he was in Liberia?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. What did you learn?

14 A. They killed him.

15:26:29 15 Q. How did you find out about that?

16 A. I found it out myself.

17 Q. Who told you, if anyone, about that?

18 A. Yes, I was first told by one of Superman's bodyguard.

19 Later I was told by Benjamin Yeaten himself that, "Your boss fell
15:26:59 20 into an ambush and he was killed", but I was already briefed

21 before he told me. Superman's bodyguard had already told me that

22 they had killed his boss when they were travelling to Monrovia

23 the previous night. But by then I had problem in my stomach.

24 Bullet had pierced through my stomach. I was at Bomi Hills

15:27:26 25 hospital. But when they discharged me I went to Monrovia. When

26 Junior got to me - or after they had got to Monrovia I went to my

27 house where we were based, myself and Busy Boy. He told me that,

28 "Do you know that they have killed our boss man?" I said,

29 "Whom?" He said, "Superman". He said, "How comes it happened?"

1 He explained that when they were travelling in the car Benjamin
2 Yeaten told them that --

3 MR MUNYARD: I'm sorry, it's speeding up, it's getting
4 completely out of hand again.

15:27:55 5 MR KOUMJIAN: I will ask the witness to go slower, but the
6 transcript and the interpreter are keeping up. It's in the
7 transcript.

8 MR MUNYARD: The interpreter and the transcriber do not
9 have to think about the content of what is being said, with great
10 respect. They simply have to get the words accurately.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am sure you don't mean to insult the
12 interpreter or the transcriber.

13 MR MUNYARD: Not at all. They are trying to be accurate.
14 I have to both be accurate and then digest the significance of it
15 for the case. They are fortunately relieved of that particular
16 burden.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, back to the same problem.
18 Now what are we going to do about this. You are going to have to
19 be slow. I have told you already. End of each sentence, stop.
15:28:46 20 Pick up again where you said, "They were travelling in a car.
21 Benjamin Yeaten told them that" and continue from there, please.

22 THE WITNESS: Superman's bodyguard told me. Superman's
23 bodyguard told me that they were travelling from Vahun to
24 Monrovia. They were using two cars, a Land Cruiser pick-up that
15:29:17 25 had a 50 calibre inside and another car that was used by
26 Superman's bodyguards which one 109 Land Rover Defender that
27 Benjamin Yeaten, Superman and others were using.

28 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, that name is not clear.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just pause, Mr Witness.

1 THE INTERPRETER: When they got to where?

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, it is a place or a
3 person's name that is not clear?

4 THE INTERPRETER: It is the place name, your Honours.

15:29:53 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: The place they got to, Mr Witness, please
6 pronounce the name again.

7 THE WITNESS: Kunbong [phon], Kunbong.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Spelling, Mr Koumjian?

9 MR KOUMJIAN: Not right now, but we can try to get it from
15:30:09 10 the internet. If we can't we will ask the interpreters for their
11 assistance.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well.

13 MR KOUMJIAN:

14 Q. Please proceed, Mr Witness.

15:30:15 15 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Yes, but, Mr Interpreter, what did the
16 witness say about this location Kunbong?

17 THE INTERPRETER: He said when they got to Kunbong.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Continue, Mr Witness.

19 THE WITNESS: When they got to Kunbong, Benjamin Yeaten
15:30:31 20 told them to stop the other car. He told them to stop and for
21 them to service the car and that they would later - they would
22 join them later. So they stopped there, Benjamin Yeaten,
23 Superman and others, and they started moving towards Bomi Hills.

24 When they got on the highway the boys started driving slowly
15:31:08 25 behind them with their car after they had repaired the car. And
26 according to Superman's bodyguard, what he explained to me, he
27 said they heard firing on the way and when they heard the heavy
28 firing they started - they decided to stop with the 50 calibre
29 car.

1 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, his pace is still too fast.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Stop and start again. Pronounce every
3 word.

15:31:42

4 MR KOUMJIAN: Perhaps I can clarify a few things before the
5 witness goes on.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes.

7 MR KOUMJIAN:

15:31:55

8 Q. Sir, you said that at one point they stopped and Benjamin
9 Yeaten told them to service the car. Who did Benjamin Yeaten
10 tell to service the car?

11 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: The witness disagrees with you,
12 Mr Koumjian. He is shaking his head in disagreement.

13 MR KOUMJIAN:

15:32:15

14 Q. Perhaps you can explain, because, Mr Witness, what we
15 understood from the transcript of the interpretation is that you
16 said, "Benjamin Yeaten told them to stop the other car. He told
17 them to stop and for them to service the other car"?

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, "the car". "To service the car".

19 MR KOUMJIAN: The car, thank you:

15:32:35

20 Q. Did you say that, Mr Witness?

21 A. Benjamin Yeaten told them to stop the car that they were
22 in, the 50 calibre car that they were in, to service the car that
23 they were in. The escort car behind him, they should stop behind
24 and service the car in Kunbong. They were travelling in two
25 cars, one official car and an escort car.

15:32:56

26 Q. So, was it the official car or the escort car that Benjamin
27 Yeaten asked to stop?

28 A. The escort car.

29 Q. Who was in the escort car?

1 A. Superman's bodyguards.

2 Q. Which car was Superman in?

3 A. In the Defender, Land Rover, 109.

4 Q. Was that the official car or the escort car?

15:33:31 5 A. The official car, where Benjamin Yeaten was.

6 Q. Then you indicated that they heard some shooting. Who
7 heard the shooting?

8 A. The bodyguards. Superman's bodyguards. When they were
9 coming - after they had finished fixing the car they were coming
10 behind them.

11 Q. And what happened then as far as what you learned?

12 A. They said they immediately stopped the car and the shooting
13 still continued. So they decided to start walking, because they
14 had a heavy weapon in the car. They started walking on the road

15:34:19 15 to know where the firing was coming from. While walking they met
16 a spot and they started smelling the scent of gunpowder, the
17 powder from the gun. When they checked they saw Superman's body
18 lying down at the side of the road and they started crying and
19 they said, "Oh, they've killed Superman. They've killed

15:34:50 20 Superman". From that they did not see Benjamin Yeaten, they did
21 not see Benjamin Yeaten's car, they did not see anybody except
22 Superman and his doctor. He had one man with him, his doctor.

23 So they too went into the car and they started proceeding.

24 When they got to Bomi Hills they entered Monrovia. That was the

15:35:09 25 time Small Junior went and explained to me. Superman's bodyguard
26 Small Junior, he explained this to me. So immediately at
27 daybreak --

28 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat that.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Repeat the last part of your answer,

1 Mr Witness. "He explained this to me. So immediately at
2 daybreak". Continue from there.

3 THE WITNESS: After that, at daybreak I moved from my house
4 to come to Benjamin Yeaten's house.

15:35:48 5 MR KOUMJIAN:

6 Q. What happened when you got to Benjamin Yeaten's house?

7 A. When I got to Benjamin Yeaten's house I met him sitting
8 down with some other senior officers whose names I can't recall,
9 some SS men, including Joe Tuah and others. When he saw me I saw
10 him in a way. He started suddenly, "Oh, my son", Benjamin
11 Yeaten, he said, "Oh, my son, come, come. How is your body? I
12 understand that you have been discharged from the hospital", and
13 I said, "Yes, sir." He said, "Hey, something happened yesterday,
14 but I don't want you to discuss it with anybody yet. Yesterday
15 when we were coming we fell in an ambush and it looks like we
16 lost your boss, but we are not really sure yet, but I don't want
17 you to hear anything about that for you to be panicky, or think
18 any other way. We will find out about it." But before that I
19 had been well-informed and then I said, "Okay, sir. Okay, sir."
15:36:34 20 So I went and sat down in the bannister at his house and I
21 started laughing. It was not long and he called me again. He
22 said, "Come and take \$50. Go and find food to eat." He was just
23 telling me things. He will tell me one thing and later another
24 and he said, "I am coming to send you to Superman's wife." I
15:37:04 25 said, "Okay, sir. Okay, sir." From then on I started doing some
26 research on that ground.

27 Q. Mr Witness, you have told us what you were told about what
28 happened from someone who was in the escort car. Did you ever
29 talk and learn, from those who were in the official car, what

1 happened to Superman?

2 A. Yes, I was told, majority, down from Benjamin Yeaten. He
3 himself told me officially what exactly happened and I was told
4 even before Benjamin Yeaten told me. I was told by most of the
15:38:09 5 fighters that were in the car with them. I was told by most of
6 them, the main people who were in the car with them.

7 Q. Who was it that told you about what happened before
8 Benjamin Yeaten did?

9 A. The first person that started confessing to me was the
15:38:33 10 radio man for Benjamin Yeaten, Reflection, Duo, Reflection. That
11 was the first man.

12 Q. What did you learn from Reflection and the others about
13 what happened?

14 A. Reflection told me that - he called my name, my nickname,
15:39:03 15 and said, "You should really take courage because when we were
16 coming yesterday - I am telling you this is a secret. It is not
17 me, I did not tell you." I said, "Okay." "We were coming, your
18 boss was killed. We did not fall in any ambush. They killed
19 your boss." I said, "Ah." I pretended not to have known

15:39:24 20 anything about it. I just said, "He killed Superman." "When we
21 got close to Bomi Hills, Benjamin Yeaten and his brothers,
22 including Zigzag Marzah, they spoke Gio and Benjamin Yeaten
23 entered into the bush and shot in the air, Benjamin Yeaten, and
24 called and started shouting, 'You call the general. You call
15:39:49 25 General Superman to come and see this type of animal. I have
26 killed one animal, but I do not know what type of animal it is'."
27 When Superman took the road to enter into the bush, Sharp
28 Shooter, Zigzag Marzah, Dr Magona and one Philip Duo - who was a
29 rebel leader in Ivory Coast, Philip Duo, one of the rebel leaders

1 in Ivory Coast - shot Superman and they started fighting.

2 Q. Thank you. First you said Sharp Shooter. Is that a name,
3 or what is that?

4 A. It is a nickname. Sharp Shooter.

15:40:38 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, is this a narration of the
6 person telling the story, or are these words by the witness?
7 When you read that text, is it clear to you?

8 MR KOUMJIAN:

9 Q. Sir, are you telling us what Reflection told you? You
15:40:55 10 started saying, "Reflection told me that".

11 A. What Reflection told me exactly, that is what I am saying.
12 It was not only Reflection who told me that. I was told by other
13 people who were in the car, who were present with them.

14 Q. Did Benjamin Yeaten ever tell you what really happened to
15:41:11 15 Superman?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. What did he tell you?

18 A. In 2002 when the war intensified in Liberia, 2002 to 2003,
19 when I used to go and fight and come back and sit down with him,
15:41:31 20 he used to tell me, "Son, you are really trying for us, but we
21 regret the death of your boss. People misled us to kill

22 Superman." He told me that people told them that they used to
23 see Superman at the American embassy. That was why they killed
24 him, but he regretted. I had nothing to say. I just sat down
15:42:00 25 and smiled. Yes, Benjamin Yeaten himself told me that he
26 regretted why he killed Superman.

27 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Koumjian, maybe it is just me, but in
28 the account the witness has given of Superman's death - excuse me
29 a minute. He names a number of people: Zigzag Marzah,

1 Dr Magona, Philip Duo and then it says Sharp Shooter.

2 THE WITNESS: Sharp Shooter.

3 JUDGE LUSSICK: And then "shot Superman". Do I take it
4 they all shot Superman, or was it just Philip Duo, or was it none
15:42:48 5 of them?

6 MR KOUMJIAN:

7 Q. Mr Witness, what did Reflection tell you about who shot
8 Superman?

9 A. Sharp Shooter, Zigzag Marzah, opened fire on Superman, but
15:43:04 10 the bullet did not enter him, but Philip Duo, they said he was
11 very trained and he used to do Taekwondo. He was the one that
12 beat him down at that time.

13 Q. That is what Reflection told you?

14 A. Yes, yes. Before they even killed him, Reflection took
15:43:23 15 something from him. They said they should take the ring from his
16 toe, a silver ring from his toe, and the ring - Reflection was
17 having that ring with him. Later, according to Reflection, he
18 said Benjamin Yeaten told him to give me the ring that Superman
19 had on his toe, but Benjamin Yeaten did not tell me that
15:43:43 20 directly, but Reflection told me that Benjamin Yeaten told him to
21 give me the ring that Superman was using. After he had taken the
22 ring from his toe, that was the time that they were able to kill
23 him and I knew about the ring before the death of Superman. I
24 myself was using the ring.

15:43:59 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: I don't get that at all.

26 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ring on the toe? Mr Interpreter, was
27 that the ring on the toe?

28 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am confused. Was the ring taken off

1 the toe and given to the witness before or after the death of
2 Superman, or at the time of death of Superman?

3 THE WITNESS: After the death of Superman, two days later.

4 JUDGE LUSSICK: So Philip Duo was the one that beat

15:44:36 5 Superman down?

6 THE WITNESS: Yes.

7 JUDGE LUSSICK: He didn't shoot him, he beat him down, is
8 that right?

9 THE WITNESS: Yes, he was the one that was able to knock

15:44:45 10 him down and take the ring from his toe before they shot him.

11 MR KOUMJIAN:

12 Q. Again, Mr Witness, this is what Reflection told you?

13 A. Yes, Reflection.

14 Q. I just want to be clear about Benjamin Yeaten. Eventually

15:45:01 15 you said Benjamin Yeaten told you some years later about the

16 killing of Superman. Did Benjamin Yeaten indicate whose idea it

17 was to kill Superman?

18 A. Yes, it was not --

19 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat slowly.

15:45:30 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Start again from the beginning,

21 Mr Witness, and take it slowly.

22 MR KOUMJIAN:

23 Q. I believe you started by correcting me.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that is correct. It was not 2002.

15:45:43 25 Repeat your answer.

26 THE WITNESS: After the death of Superman, 2001, early
27 2002, Benjamin Yeaten, when the war was getting intensified in
28 Liberia, he told me that he regretted the death of Superman
29 because when Superman was alive the rebels never used to overrun

1 us like that and they misled them into killing Superman. Then I
2 asked him, "Chief, when you say 'them', who are you calling
3 'them'?" He said, "People, the ATU that were assigned in front
4 of the American embassy at Mamba Point in Liberia, Monrovia.

15:46:25 5 They said they used to see Superman going every day in the
6 American embassy." So they gave the information to the President
7 and they discussed that, that the only way they can stop that was
8 by killing him and Issa Sesay was aware of that too. So all of
9 them agreed to kill him.

15:46:49 10 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he also repeat that
11 last sentence.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just the very last part of your reply,
13 Mr Witness. What did you say, that was the only way they could
14 stop, was by killing him, Issa Sesay was aware of that too? You
15 are shaking your head. You don't agree with the interpretation?

15:47:07 16 THE WITNESS: No.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Repeat what you said and we will have it
18 interpreted correctly.

19 THE WITNESS: Okay. The only way they can stop Superman
15:47:22 20 not to go to the American embassy, or not to connive with the
21 Americans, was to kill him. That was the only way they can stop
22 that and Issa Sesay was aware of that. Benjamin Yeaten told me
23 that he was instructed by the President to do that and I believed
24 that, because the President said something that made me know
15:47:48 25 about Benjamin Yeaten.

26 MR KOU MJIAN:

27 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, what was it that the President said that
28 made you know about Benjamin Yeaten?

29 A. On various occasions President Taylor called a muster

1 parade at the Executive Mansion, in front of the ATU, SSS and
2 some senior officers, or senior members of his government and
3 said, "Benjamin Yeaten, whatever he sees, whatever he says, I,
4 President Taylor, said it. When he sees something I, President
15:48:32 5 Taylor, sees that. When he hears anything I, President Taylor,
6 would hear that." That was in everybody's mind, that whatever
7 Benjamin Yeaten said, it was from the President. That was the
8 thing that made Benjamin Yeaten very powerful in Liberia. He
9 said that twice at his farm and at the Executive Mansion.

15:48:59 10 Q. Mr Witness, you said Benjamin Yeaten was very powerful in
11 Liberia. How would you describe his power in Liberia?

12 A. Benjamin Yeaten was powerful, just like he was the second
13 man to the President, because I think in Liberia, on what I saw,
14 what I used to see there from Charles Taylor, nobody was powerful
15:49:27 15 equal to Benjamin Yeaten at the time in Liberia, at the time that
16 I was there. I do not know before, but the time that I was in
17 Liberia, up to the departure of President Taylor, nobody was
18 powerful to equal him.

19 Q. When you say equal to him, no-one was powerful equal to
15:49:47 20 who?

21 A. Benjamin Yeaten.

22 Q. A small question about Benjamin Yeaten, Mr Witness: Did
23 Benjamin Yeaten have any parking spaces reserved for him?

24 A. Yes.

15:50:15 25 Q. Where were these parking spaces? Space, or spaces.

26 A. The man had a special parking space at White Flower in
27 front of the President's residence. He had a special parking
28 space at the Executive Mansion and no other person can park there
29 except him.

1 Q. Do you know did other senior officials have reserved
2 parking spaces at White Flower, or at the Executive Mansion?

3 A. Yes, they had different parking spaces for different
4 people, categories of people, but Benjamin Yeaten parked directly
15:51:02 5 in front of the President's gates and no other person was allowed
6 to park there except him. The ministers, they parked across the
7 road. They parked their cars across the road and came to the
8 President's house.

9 Q. What about the Vice-President of Liberia at that time?

10 A. The Vice-President at the time, I understood that even when
11 he wanted to come to the President's house he had to go through
12 Benjamin Yeaten at the time. He did not just come to White
13 Flower. I was there on so many occasions when he parked his car
14 in front of the President's house, the SS boys will tell him -
15:51:54 15 the close bodyguards to President Taylor will tell him, "Oh,
16 Mr President, this place is for Unit 50. Please move your car"
17 and he will move his car, Moses Blah at the time. I know him.
18 He will move his car. They will take permission from him. They
19 will tell him this space was for Unit 50 and he will move his
15:52:15 20 car, he won't park there.

21 Q. Mr Witness, you have mentioned in your testimony Zigzag
22 Marzah. Can you tell us what his duties were that you know of in
23 Liberia?

24 A. I do not understand that. I don't understand that.

15:52:35 25 Q. Thank you. What was Zigzag Marzah's responsibility -
26 excuse me, let me rephrase that. What did Zigzag Marzah do in
27 Liberia for his work?

28 A. Zigzag Marzah was part of the SSS at the same time the
29 Armed Forces of Liberia, but I knew him as the Death Squad

1 commander or Death Squad group for Charles Taylor at the time.

2 Q. Zigzag Marzah you said "at the same time he was Armed
3 Forces of Liberia". Did he ever command troops, to your
4 knowledge?

15:53:23 5 A. Yes, he commanded a troop.

6 Q. Do you recall any particular operation where Zigzag Marzah
7 was commanding troops?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did that operation have a name?

15:53:42 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What was the name of the operation?

12 A. They said Operation No Monkey.

13 Q. When did this operation take place, to the best of your
14 recollection?

15:54:02 15 A. I think in late 2002.

16 Q. What was this Operation No Monkey?

17 A. I was there when Benjamin Yeaten instructed Zigzag Marzah
18 and other fighters to go to Belle Forest and destabilise all the
19 civilians that were in the forest and anybody who refused should
20 be killed and no monkey should even stand in front of them. That
21 was why they named the operation Operation No Monkey. No monkey
22 can stay in that forest. Everybody should move from that forest
23 to come to the safer area, because the LURD fighters were trying
24 to get into Belle Forest to come to Bomi Hills and attack

15:54:33 25 Monrovia and indeed they used the route. Zigzag Marzah went
26 there and did the operation in Belle Forest.

27 Q. Can you say again the name of the forest?

28 A. Belle Forest.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Belle, or Gberi?

1 MR KOUMJIAN: That is my question, your Honour:

2 Q. Mr Witness, as the Presiding Judge has asked you, are you
3 saying Belle Forest, or Gberi forest, or another name?

15:55:43

4 A. Belle Forest. I pronounce it as Belle Forest. I don't
5 know for the Liberians.

6 Q. Do you know which county that is in?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Where was it?

15:55:58

9 A. Before it was Lofa County, but later President Taylor
10 changed and divided the county and turned it into Gbarpolu
11 County. It was Gbarpolu County at the time. Gbarpolu, the
12 capital city is Bopolu.

13 Q. Thank you. Now, Mr Witness, did you ever receive any
14 orders relevant to Zigzag Marzah?

15:56:27

15 A. I did not understand that question, please.

16 Q. Did you ever receive any orders regarding Zigzag Marzah?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Who gave you the order?

19 A. Benjamin Yeaten gave us the order in 2002, early 2002.

15:56:51

20 Q. When you say "us", who did he give the order to?

21 A. Sampson Weah, I myself and other fighters, Busy Boy,
22 Mohamed Foday and others.

23 Q. What is the order you received?

15:57:18

24 A. Benjamin Yeaten told us to go and arrest Zigzag Marzah at
25 his residence, YWCA area, close to the First Lady, Jewel
26 Howard-Taylor.

27 Q. Do you know why Benjamin Yeaten wanted you to arrest Zigzag
28 Marzah?

29 A. He did not brief me personally, but within myself I knew

1 that they were having problems for a woman. It was for a woman's
2 business. Zigzag Marzah at the time monitored some communication
3 where Zigzag Marzah was blasting over the radio, our local radio,
4 that he will never respect Benjamin Yeaten because Benjamin
15:57:58 5 Yeaten was loving his wife. So they had that problem under
6 cover, so Benjamin Yeaten told us to go to Monrovia. So we got
7 to Monrovia at 12 to 1 in the night and he told us that same
8 night to go and arrest civil, if he puts up any resistance we
9 should get rid of him.

15:58:17 10 Q. What happened when you went - after you got the order?

11 A. When we went we met Zigzag Marzah. He had a small shop.
12 His wife was packing the shop that night, that same night, around
13 1. So we did not ask - we did not talk to the wife. We did not
14 talk to Zigzag Marzah's wife, we just entered the room. Like for
15:58:46 15 me, I had a personal grudge against Zigzag Marzah for the death
16 of Superman. So we just entered the room to Zigzag Marzah. When
17 he saw Sampson he took a gun --

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just pause, Mr Witness. Repeat from the
15:59:09 20 point where you say, "We just entered the room to Zigzag Marzah.
21 When he saw Sampson he took a gun".

22 THE WITNESS: Yes, he took a gun and asked Sampson what his
23 mission was there at that time. So Sampson told him that the
24 director had told us to come and arrest him, then they started
15:59:32 25 arguing. We heard them arguing inside. He said nobody was able
26 to arrest him, but at the time he did not know that some of us,
27 like me in particular, was outside in the sitting room. At the
28 time Zigzag Marzah did not know that I was outside the sitting
29 room with Busy Boy and other fighters.

1 So when they were arguing Sampson came outside. So Zigzag
2 Marzah was trying to come outside. When I saw him he had a
3 monkey in the sitting room. He was training - he was rearing a
4 Monday and I took a penknife and stabbed the monkey. I killed
16:00:07 5 the monkey with a penknife on the ground. So he said, "Oh, you
6 bring this group, you've brought this type of group to come and
7 arrest me. I know you have come to kill me, because when I saw
8 this man and this man, they are not afraid of anything", so he
9 gave up and put down his gun. So we arrested him and we started
16:00:33 10 beating him up mercilessly. We rased his whole house, brought
11 all the things outside and took them to our different houses.

12 Q. What did you do then with Zigzag Marzah?

13 A. When we went and reported to Benjamin Yeaten that we have
14 arrested Zigzag Marzah we called him, but before that some
16:00:58 15 bodyguards of the First Lady Jewel Howard-Taylor, when they heard
16 the noise - like one Lukie [phon] David he came and said, "The
17 First Lady is here. You are causing this type of noise at this
18 time" and we said, "Oh, man, just wait. We are talking about
19 arresting somebody and you are telling us First Lady is sleeping.
16:01:17 20 The woman is in the fence. She is not hearing anything. The
21 woman is in the fence and she is not hearing anything about this,
22 so please get back to your post."

23 So we called Benjamin Yeaten and said we have arrested
24 Zigzag Marzah and Benjamin Yeaten told us that Sampson should
16:01:34 25 take Zigzag Marzah to MP headquarters and at the time one Special
26 Forces called T Zimmi [phon] was at the MP headquarters. So they
27 took Zigzag Marzah there and we went to our various houses at the
28 time.

29 Q. How long was Zigzag Marzah held after you arrested him, if

1 you know?

2 A. I did not remember how long it took, but it took some time.

3 Q. Was he ever released?

4 A. Yes, they released him.

16:02:13 5 Q. Do you know why he was released?

6 A. Yes, I understood that the President was aware that Zigzag
7 Marzah was in prison and from the noise that night some of the
8 bodyguards for the First Lady told the First Lady and the First
9 Lady told the President that they have arrested Zigzag Marzah

16:02:34 10 overnight and he had been taken to prison. From Zigzag Marzah
11 himself, he told me that it was the President, President Charles
12 Taylor, who ordered his release. And he further told me that,
13 "Oh, my man, all the things that you took from my house, the
14 money that the President gave to me, I have bought everything. I

16:02:54 15 was even in one room, but now I am in a whole house by myself."
16 Zigzag Marzah told me that, that he was released by the
17 President.

18 Q. I am not quite sure what you meant when you said that
19 Zigzag Marzah told you, "All the things you took from my house,
16:03:12 20 the money that the President gave to me, I have bought
21 everything". What did you mean by that?

22 A. He said the amount of money that the President gave to him,
23 he was able to retrieve all the things that were looted from him
24 that night.

16:03:30 25 Q. When did the President give him this money that he was able
26 to retrieve the things that were looted?

27 A. After the President ordered his release.

28 Q. Did this arrest occur before or after Operation No Monkey?

29 A. Before Operation No Monkey.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, just since you mentioned
2 Operation No Monkey, there was an expression used in the course
3 of the answer "destabilise the civilians". I didn't want to
4 interrupt the flow, but I would like clarification of what that
16:04:22 5 means.

6 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, could you give us a page
7 reference so that we can all see what this is?

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am working from my memory, Mr Munyard,
9 but I will certainly get that.

16:04:40 10 MR KOUMJIAN: My colleague says page 147.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, it's line 7/8 of page 147.

12 MR KOUMJIAN:

13 Q. Mr Witness, I am going to read to you the answer you gave
14 and ask you to clarify something. When we were talking about
16:05:18 15 Operation No Monkey I asked you what that was and you said:

16 "I was there when Benjamin Yeaten instructed Zigzag Marzah
17 and other fighters to go to Belle Forest and destabilise all the
18 civilians that were in the forest."

19 What did you mean or what did you understand by
16:05:41 20 "destabilise"?

21 A. To drive all the civilians from the forest, to move them
22 from there. Whoever puts up resistance should be put to death.

23 Q. Did you ever learn if any people - any civilians - were
24 killed in that operation?

16:06:06 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. What do you know about that?

27 A. Zigzag Marzah told us that he believed there was nobody in
28 the forest when they returned, because more people said they
29 can't leave their farms to come to the safer side. He put all of

1 them to death and I trusted him and I believed that Zigzag
2 Marzah, wherever he went, one or two persons must be killed.
3 When he said that, I did not doubt him. I believed what he said,
4 that people were killed and some houses were burnt by them: The
16:06:49 5 fighters of Charles Taylor, the Jungle Fire boys and other
6 fighters.

7 Q. Mr Witness, moving to another topic, unless - did you ever
8 see any RUF commanders, other than Superman and Bockarie, in
9 Liberia while you were there?

16:07:15 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Can you tell us who you saw?

12 A. I saw Gibril Massaquoi, Issa Sesay, Morris Kallon, Mike
13 Lamin and others.

14 Q. Where did you see the people that you named? In what part
16:07:41 15 of Liberia?

16 A. I saw Gibril Massaquoi at White Flower, Issa Sesay at White
17 Flower, I saw Issa Sesay at the time they used to call the hotel
18 Hotel Boulevard. Later it was changed to Royal Hotel, Sinkor. I
19 saw him there. And I saw Morris Kallon, Mike Lamin, in Vahun,
16:08:09 20 Lofa County.

21 Q. How many times did you see Issa Sesay in Monrovia?

22 A. I can't recall that, but I saw him several times. I saw
23 him there several times. I can't recall exactly.

24 Q. Did you ever receive any assignment relevant to Issa Sesay?

16:08:41 25 A. I do not understand that question.

26 Q. Did you ever receive any orders that had anything to do
27 with Issa Sesay's visits to Liberia?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Can you please tell us about that?

1 A. When Issa Sesay was at the Royal Hotel, Royal Hotel now,
2 Benjamin Yeaten called us, Busy Boy and I, the younger brother --

3 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat that.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause, Mr Witness. The interpreter needs
16:09:31 5 you to repeat. You said he called you and Busy Boy, the younger
6 brother - continue from there.

7 THE WITNESS: Of Benjamin Yeaten.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is Busy Boy the younger brother of
9 Benjamin Yeaten?

16:09:54 10 THE WITNESS: Yes, the same person, Calvin Yeaten.

11 MR KOUMJIAN:

12 Q. And what happened after Benjamin Yeaten called you?

13 A. Benjamin Yeaten told us to get his car and go to White
14 Flower at the President's house. When we got to White Flower he
16:10:24 15 told us to wait for him. He entered in the President's compound.
16 After 10 to 15 minutes he came outside. He called us in the car
17 and gave us a parcel.

18 Q. What did the parcel look like?

19 A. It was a big something. We just called it parcel, because
16:10:58 20 we used to call it at the time "parcel". It was like a big
21 envelope. Money was inside, but we put them in a bag. We put
22 the envelope in a bag, but the envelope was very big.

23 Q. And what happened after you received the envelope and put
24 it in the bag?

16:11:19 25 A. He told us to go to Royal Hotel and give it to Issa Sesay
26 and we left for Royal Hotel. We got to Royal Hotel. They showed
27 us the room number - room - they showed us the room number. I
28 think room 102.

29 Q. What happened?

1 A. We got to reception, they rang the room and Issa Sesay sent
2 his bodyguard, FOC at the time, FOC. FOC came and collected us
3 and took us to room 102. We met with Issa Sesay and he said he
4 was expecting something, whether we brought the thing, and he
16:12:14 5 started laughing. We said they have given us something, but we
6 do not know what was inside, so he said we should hand over
7 everything to him. He called FOC, Eddie Kanneh and others - I
8 think one of Foday Sankoh's bodyguard, Black Guard, but I do not
9 recall his name - and they started counting the money. They
16:12:33 10 opened the envelope and they started counting the money. When
11 they counted the money, the figure - the money, the figure was
12 \$85,000 USD. \$85,000 USD. Straightaway Issa Sesay changed in
13 the room. He started yelling on himself. That was not the money
14 he was expecting. He was not expecting that type of money. He
16:13:05 15 was expecting half of a million, \$500,000, to get cars and other
16 things for the campaign, for the campaign of the RUF in Sierra
17 Leone. In fact, he would not take the money. He would prefer
18 going back, but the diamonds that he brought was not the money
19 that had been given to him.

16:13:26 20 Then Busy Boy - because Busy Boy told him that, "Chief, we
21 have brought this money, but we need \$100 to go and eat." He
22 said he was not responsible for us, we should take the money
23 back. Then FOC told him that, "But, chief, you can't leave
24 certainty for uncertainty. When you have got \$85,000 you can
16:13:51 25 easily call Benjamin Yeaten and tell him about the money, that
26 this was not the money that you were expecting from the
27 President, but don't return the money. The people would get
28 annoyed with you." So he was convinced and he received the
29 money. He told us he was not going to give us anything. So we

1 too went and got some food from the hotel and we said the chief
2 will pay, Issa Sesay. I and Busy Boy, we left the hotel and
3 went. We went to Benjamin Yeaten and told him that Issa Sesay
4 was protesting, but he did not look at us. He just forgot about
16:14:27 5 us. He did not listen to us.

6 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, there are a number of errors
7 that I think might escape the correction because of the
8 pronunciation of the interpreter. I think this advice that they
9 were giving Issa Sesay was, in line 23 of page 156, I heard the
16:14:49 10 witness say, "But don't return the money", "don't return the
11 money". The transcript says, "But then return the money".

12 MR KOUMJIAN:

13 Q. Witness, did you say that Issa Sesay received the advice
14 not to return the money?

16:15:11 15 A. Yes, not to return the money, "Don't return the money. You
16 can't leave certainty for uncertainty."

17 Q. And, Mr Witness, you said that Issa Sesay said, "In fact,
18 he would not take the money. He would prefer going back, but the
19 diamonds that he brought was not the money that had been given to
16:16:12 20 him." Who was saying that about diamonds?

21 A. Issa Sesay said that the diamonds he had brought and gave
22 to the President, he was expecting half a million, half of a
23 million for those types of diamonds, \$500,000 USD. He called the
24 money straight and then Busy Boy said, "Hey, these people are
16:16:35 25 playing with big money", and I said, "My man, you have not seen
26 money yet." He said, "Well, chief, we want to eat", Issa Sesay.
27 Issa Sesay said that the diamonds that he brought and gave the
28 President was worth \$500,000, so that was when Busy Boy started
29 saying that the people were playing with plenty money.

1 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I am sorry, do we have a time frame for
2 this episode?

3 MR KOUMJIAN:

16:17:10

4 Q. Mr Witness, do you recall when it was that this incident
5 occurred where you took the parcel to Issa Sesay at the hotel?

6 A. I can't remember the exact time, but I can remember the
7 event. It was at the time that disarmament was going on and they
8 were talking about political parties. RUF was to register as a
9 political party in Sierra Leone. That was the time, but I can't
10 remember the actual date and he stated that they wanted to buy
11 cars to go and run the RUF campaign with the money.

16:17:38

12 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: So that is disarmament in Sierra Leone.

13 MR KOUMJIAN:

14 Q. Is that correct, Mr Witness?

16:17:59

15 A. Yes, yes, after the disarmament in Sierra Leone.

16 Q. And, Mr Witness, when you say the campaign, what do you
17 mean by campaign?

18 A. Campaign to run political parties, democracy.

19 Q. Do you know if there were any elections at that time?

16:18:25

20 A. Yes, it was a time that they were getting prepared for the
21 2002 elections. I think they even took part, early 2002. They
22 were getting ready for the elections.

23 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you just mentioned disarmament in Sierra
24 Leone. Did you ever hear Benjamin Yeaten mention disarmament in
25 Sierra Leone?

16:18:50

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Who was Benjamin Yeaten talking to?

28 A. Early 2002, before the disarmament, Issa Sesay crossed over
29 to Liberia, Vahun at the time. Benjamin Yeaten and I and others

1 were based in Vahun. When Issa Sesay crossed to Vahun, Benjamin
2 Yeaten called him personally. I heard Benjamin Yeaten telling
3 Issa Sesay, "So you are turning your guns over to the UN
4 peacekeeping force?" Issa Sesay, "But we don't have any" --

16:19:38 5 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness has used a word
6 that is ambiguous.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Which word is it?

8 THE INTERPRETER: He has used "objective" that does not
9 come out clearly to the interpreter.

16:19:49 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you used a word that the
11 interpreter does not understand. He said ambiguous. Pick up
12 where you said, "Issa Sesay, 'But we don't have any'" - and
13 continue from there.

14 THE WITNESS: He said they have no objective except to
16:20:08 15 disarm and Benjamin Yeaten told him that, "Hey, you think the
16 people are not fooling you to disarm because they, the Liberian
17 government" - then, Benjamin Yeaten was saying that, "We think we
18 have a war and the people are fighting against us. If you disarm
19 over there we will have more pressure, so we do not want - the
16:20:40 20 old man told me" - when Benjamin Yeaten says the old man I know

21 that he was referring straight to President Taylor. "The old man
22 told me to advise you strongly that you should not turn over your
23 weapons yet to the UN peacekeeping force." Benjamin Yeaten told
24 Issa Sesay that, that the old man told him that they should not
16:21:02 25 disarm, because if they disarm it would not be good for them in
26 Liberia.

27 MR KOUMJIAN:

28 Q. Do you recall if Issa Sesay had any reaction to that and
29 please speak slowly?

1 A. Issa Sesay only said when he gets back to Sierra Leone he
2 will discuss that with his senior officers.

3 Q. Now, Mr Witness, after first do you recall approximately
4 when this was that this conversation took place between Benjamin
16:21:39 5 Yeaten and Issa Sesay? I believe you began your answer -
6 actually I see it is already in the answer two questions up, so I
7 will strike that. Mr Witness, did you yourself ever discuss
8 disarmament with Benjamin Yeaten?

9 A. Yes.

16:22:02 10 Q. Was your conversation with Yeaten, if you recall, before or
11 after this conversation between Issa Sesay and Benjamin Yeaten
12 that you just told us about?

13 A. After Issa Sesay's conversation with Yeaten.

14 Q. Where were you when you had this conversation with Yeaten?

16:22:30 15 A. We were in the same Vahun district, Lofa County, when
16 Benjamin Yeaten got from his compound walking and smoking
17 marijuana. We sat down, I, Jungle and him. It was at the time
18 that they disarmed in Makeni, disarmament was going on in Makeni.
19 We heard it over the BBC. He said, but I advised this little boy
16:22:58 20 not to disarm. The old man told me to advise him strongly not to
21 disarm. And when he left, now that they are disarming in the
22 stronghold of the RUF, so he did not listen to my advice. He
23 will see one day what will happen to him. Benjamin Yeaten told
24 us that, I and Jungle now deceased.

16:23:24 25 Q. Do you recall approximately when this was that you had this
26 conversation with Benjamin Yeaten?

27 A. It was at the time - I can only remember the time that
28 disarmament was going on, because at the time the very day we
29 heard over the BBC that disarmament was going on in Makeni, they

1 have started disarmament in Makeni.

2 Q. Mr Witness, you have mentioned several times Zigzag Marzah.

3 Do you know if Zigzag Marzah carried any means of communication?

16:24:13

4 A. I do not understand the question. Put it again. Means of
5 communication?

6 Q. Did Zigzag Marzah have any way to communicate for example
7 to you? Did you ever speak to him when you were not in the same
8 place?

9 A. Yes, yes.

16:24:27

10 Q. How did you do that?

11 A. Sometimes Zigzag Marzah, they gave him Thuraya phone and
12 sometimes they would take it from him, but he had his personal
13 cell phones and he had access to Benjamin Yeaten's radios.

16:24:56

14 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, perhaps I can deal with one more
15 area:

16 Q. You have mentioned Jungle who you earlier told us - why
17 don't you say again what is Jungle's real name?

18 A. Daniel Tamba.

19 Q. Do you know what happened to Jungle?

16:25:22

20 A. Yes, before I talk I want to say something. Even before I
21 was thinking about something, I said something before we went for
22 lunch, it was open, about the launching on Samuel Varney.

23 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat that area
24 very slowly.

16:25:50

25 MR KOUMJIAN:

26 Q. Mr Witness, let me just ask you first are you going to ask
27 about some protective measure?

28 A. Yes.

29 MR KOUMJIAN: I don't know whether your Honours want to do

1 this open or closed?

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated] I am not at
3 all clear what is happening.

4 MR KOU MJIAN: Apparently redacted.

16:26:17 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: We had better do it. We don't have much
6 time. The time has all expired.

7 MR KOU MJIAN: Okay.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: We have two minutes left on the tape.
9 Can we go into a private session?

16:26:26 10 MR KOU MJIAN: I believe the witness - okay.

11 MR MUNYARD: I must say I am completely mystified. I don't
12 know if Mr Koumjian is about to tell us something that the
13 witness has passed to the Prosecution since lunchtime.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: The witness seems to have just brought it
16:26:50 15 up himself. Well, Mr Witness, what is it you want to say?

16 MR MUNYARD: Mr Koumjian can interpret it rather more
17 cleverly than I can. I can't see what --

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: What is it, Mr Witness, that you want to
19 tell us?

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24 [Redacted]

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29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Okay, stop there. First of all, if the

1 witness --

2 MR KOUJIAN: Your Honour, I would make a motion, I realise
3 it's too late for the tape. First of all, as far as the area of
4 Jungle - I believe we are in private session now?

16:27:56 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: No, we are not.

6 MR KOUJIAN: I thought we were.

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: But also, Mr Koumjian, we can put in
8 another tape if necessary so that we can complete this properly,
9 I believe.

16:28:05 10 MR KOUJIAN: I would ask for a private session.

11 MS IRURA: Your Honour, we are at the end of the tape, but
12 the tape can be changed in five minutes and we can go into a
13 private session.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Put in a new tape.

16:28:21 15 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
16 the transcript, pages 12696 to 12702, was
17 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
18 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

2 MS IRURA: Your Honour, were in open session.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is for purposes of monitors
4 listening to the Court and for any members of the public that are
16:51:15 5 still within the Court and may have heard matters stated by the
6 witness in the course of his evidence prior to lunchtime today.

7 Anything heard by monitors or members of the public
8 concerning an incident with a launcher on a private vehicle are
9 not to be repeated and are not to be made public. If monitors
16:51:43 10 are not clear as to which parts I am referring to, information
11 can be given through the legal officer.

12 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: In any event, Mr Koumjian, we are
13 informed that this is already on the internet.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think there are no further matters. We
16:52:16 15 will adjourn the Court until tomorrow morning at 9.30. Please
16 adjourn court.

17 Just before I do, excuse me, I have omitted to remind the
18 witness of his oath. Mr Witness, I again remind you as I did
19 yesterday that since you are under oath you must not discuss your
16:52:39 20 evidence with any other person until all your evidence is
21 finished. You understand?

22 THE WITNESS: Yes.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Please adjourn.

24 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.55 p.m.
16:52:54 25 to be reconvened on Wednesday, 25 June 2008 at
26 9.30 a.m.]

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I N D E X

WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:

| | |
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| TF1-375 | 12555 |
| EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR KOUMJIAN | 12555 |