



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

MONDAY, 26 APRIL 2010
9.33 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Ms Doreen Kiggundu

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura
Ms Zainab Fofanah

For the Prosecution:

Mr Nicholas Koumjian
Mr Mohamed A Bangura
Ms Kathryn Howarth
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay Taylor: Mr Morris Anyah

1 Monday, 26 April 2010

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.33 a.m.]

09:30:09 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. We'll take appearances
6 first, please.

7 MR BANGURA: Good morning, Madam President. Good morning,
8 your Honours and counsel opposite. For the Prosecution this
9 morning, Nicolas Koumjian, myself Mohamed A Bangura, Kathryn
09:33:15 10 Howarth and Maja Dimitrova. Thank you.

11 MR ANYAH: Good morning, Madam President. Good morning,
12 your Honours. Good morning, counsel opposite. Appearing for the
13 Defence this morning are myself, Morris Anyah, and I am joined by
14 Mr Michael Herz. Thank you.

09:33:33 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Now, Mr George, good morning.

16 THE WITNESS: Morning, Madam President.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: You continue with your testimony and I
18 remind you, as I always do, that you took an oath to tell the
19 truth and that oath is binding on you today.

09:33:48 20 Mr Anyah, please continue with your questions.

21 MR ANYAH: Thank you, Madam President

22 WITNESS: DCT-062 [On former oath]

23 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR ANYAH: [Continued]

24 Q. Good morning, Mr George.

09:34:05 25 A. Good morning.

26 Q. Friday afternoon before the Court adjourned we were
27 considering the evidence of another witness in this case, and I
28 read you portions of that witness's evidence and I asked for a
29 response from you. I will read your last response by way of

1 reminding you of where we stopped on Friday. This is from the
2 transcript of 23 April 2010, which is Friday, the last page of
3 that transcript, page 39876. I'll wait for Madam Court Manager
4 to pull up the transcript. Yes, Mr George, this is what I said
09:35:10 5 to you on Friday:

6 "Q. The question to you, Mr George, the SLAs that were
7 with you in Kono, was there a reason for them to fear for
8 their lives?

9 A. I think there was no reason for them to be afraid for
09:35:29 10 their lives because I think I named most of SLA officers
11 that were serving under me. We all used to sit in common,
12 think in common. I had no problem with any SLA officers
13 who were under me in Kono."

14 Mr George, do you remember giving that response to the last
09:35:51 15 question from Friday?

16 A. Yes, that was my answer.

17 Q. Now, this particular witness whose evidence we were
18 considering, it occurs to me that I did not put the witness's TF1
19 number on the record. That witness is TF1-539 and it pertains to
09:36:20 20 excerpts from the transcripts of 11 June 2008 that we considered
21 on Friday. There's one more question I have for you, Mr George,
22 regarding that witness. You remember the portion of the
23 witness's evidence I read, the witness indicated that - and this
24 is at page 11544 from the transcript of 11 June 2008. That
09:36:54 25 witness said in response to a question when did he leave Kono,
26 the witness said:

27 "That was the time Issa Sesay had come from Buedu, as I am
28 saying. He came from Buedu and said that now the SLA who are in
29 Makeni do not listen to Papay Sankoh's order because he said -

1 because they said Foday Sankoh had told them that they should
2 send former President Momoh to Buedu at Mosquito's place, but
3 Brigadier Mani and the other SLAs who were there had refused to
4 do that, so we should organise ourselves and so we would go and
09:37:37 5 dislodge them from Makeni."

6 Now, on the next page the witness continued by saying:

7 "So he ended up organising men and they went and hit Makeni
8 and they dislodged the SLAs in Makeni."

9 Mr George, was there a time when you were a brigade
09:38:03 10 commander in Kono that Issa Sesay organised men who went to
11 Makeni and dislodged the SLAs from Makeni?

12 A. I can remember that when I was serving as brigade
13 commander, Superman was based in Makeni. They had a
14 misunderstanding there, but I was not there. I was in Kono.

09:38:32 15 Superman against the SLAs who were in Makeni and that led to an
16 infighting.

17 Q. Yes, I appreciate your response that there was a
18 misunderstanding in Makeni and that there was some infighting.
19 My question related to Issa Sesay. Do you recall a time period
09:38:49 20 when Issa Sesay organised men who went and dislodged SLAs in
21 Makeni?

22 A. Yes, it happened. He took men there. He took men to
23 Makeni to fight against the SLA.

24 Q. Now, this witness who testified said that these events
09:39:09 25 occurred - and this at line 12 of page 1154 - at the end of 1999.
26 Does that match with your recollection, Mr George, that Issa
27 Sesay took men and dislodged SLAs from Makeni at the end of 1999?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Thank you, Mr George. Another witness's evidence I would

1 I like to have your assessment of - Madam Court Manager, this is
2 from the transcript of 16 September 2008, the relevant page being
3 16382.

09:40:26 4 Mr George, this witness testified openly before the Court,
5 so I can mention his name. Do you know somebody whose alias is
6 Tourist?

7 A. Maybe I know him, but the name.

8 Q. The witness's name was Mohamed Bereteh Kabbah. Do you know
9 Mohamed Kabbah?

09:40:57 10 A. Yes. I remember one Kabbah who was serving as signal
11 commander for me in Kailahun.

12 Q. Exactly. That's the person who testified before this
13 Court. That was in September 2008. Mr Kabbah was asked a few
14 questions about particular issues and I will read to you some of
09:41:18 15 the responses he gave and the questions that were asked. I
16 believe I've indicated the page, 16382. I will start at line 16
17 on that page. There was a question posed:

18 "Q. But in the same way that Jungle effectively became a
19 member of the RUF there were other Liberians who fell into
09:41:41 20 the same category, wasn't there, who effectively came over
21 and became RUF members? That's right, isn't it?

22 A. Yes, some Liberians became RUF members. All of us were
23 within Sierra Leone now. But about Jungle, when we
24 retreated he and Sam Bockarie used to make the Liberian
09:42:05 25 trips mostly.

26 Q. Because let's just examine it in a little more detail.
27 Another prominent Liberian who became an RUF member was
28 Superman, isn't that right?

29 A. It's correct. About Superman, they told us that he was

1 an RUF vanguard. They said he was trained at the RUF base.
2 So for him from the beginning he was with us up to the end,
3 up to the time he died.

4 Q. But he was a Liberian, wasn't he?

09:42:50 5 A. Yes, he was a Liberian."

6 Now, Mr George, do you know the nationality of Dennis
7 Mingo, also known as Superman?

8 A. Yes. Dennis Mingo, known as Superman, is from Liberia.

9 Q. Thank you, Mr George. Line 3, a question posed to

09:43:15 10 Mr Kabbah:

11 "Q. Let's look at another example. CO Nya was originally
12 an NPFL radio operator because - but he became a member of
13 the RUF, didn't he?

14 A. Yes.

09:43:32 15 Q. Can you tell us of a few more instances of Liberians,
16 former NPFL officers and soldiers, who became RUF members?

17 A. Yes."

18 Mr George, I want you to listen to this and you remember
19 the question that was posed to Mr Kabbah. It was a request to
09:43:56 20 Mr Kabbah to give this Court names of Liberians who were former
21 NPFL officers and soldiers who became members of the RUF. Here
22 is the next question Mr Kabbah was asked:

23 "Q. Just give us a few names.

24 A. CO Rambo, who was called Flomo. CO Isaac. We had CO
09:44:21 25 Martin George, CO Kolo Moriba. I think I will stop there
26 for now.

27 Q. Well, I'm most grateful for your assistance."

28 Then there is a question asked by the Presiding Judge and
29 then Mr Kabbah says it is Kolo Moriba. That was his nickname,

1 Kolo Moriba. Let's stop there. Mr George, CO Rambo, do you know
2 that person?

3 A. I know CO Rambo by the name of Boston Flomo who was trained
4 at the RUF base.

09:45:09 5 Q. You also gave us another nickname for him last week?

6 A. Yes, Van Damme.

7 Q. To your knowledge was Boston Flomo, also known as Rambo,
8 also known as Van Damme, a former member of the NPFL?

9 A. No, when I met Boston Flomo at the base, he was a recruit
09:45:36 10 just as myself. We all went through the training and from there
11 we went to Sierra Leone. I never knew him to be an NPFL fighter.

12 Q. How about this fellow Kolo Moriba? Do you know a Kolo
13 Moriba?

14 A. Yes, I know Kolo Moriba. I think I have spoken about him.
09:45:59 15 He went as vanguard. We were all trained on the same base at
16 Naama.

17 Q. Yes, indeed you spoke of him last week. To your knowledge,
18 was Kolo Moriba a member of the NPFL before he joined the RUF?

19 A. No. I don't know whether he carried arm or whether he
09:46:21 20 fought for the NPFL.

21 Q. Did you ever hear of him from anyone having fought with the
22 NPFL before he joined the RUF?

23 A. No, I knew Kolo Moriba when he was fixing tyres.

24 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
09:46:45 25 to repeat that last bit and slow down.

26 MR ANYAH:

27 Q. Mr George, the interpreter wants you to slow down and also
28 to repeat the last bit of your response. Let me see if I can
29 assist you. You said, "I knew Kolo Moriba when he was fixing

1 tyres," and then you went on to say something and we did not hear
2 you clearly.

3 A. I said I knew Kolo Moriba. He used to fix tyres. From
4 there he went to the base and I met him there. We all trained
09:47:17 5 together to go and fight for Foday Sankoh. But I never saw him
6 carrying arms for Charles Taylor.

7 Q. When you say you knew him when he was fixing tyres or you
8 knew him when he used to fix tyres, was that before you met him
9 at Crab Hole?

09:47:36 10 A. Before going to Crab Hole I knew Kolo Moriba. I knew Kolo
11 Mori ba before going to Crab Hole.

12 Q. And you recall my question that you just responded to, the
13 question was also to the effect of whether you heard anybody say
14 that this fellow Kolo Moriba served with the NPFL. Did you ever
09:47:57 15 hear anyone whether when you were in Liberia or in the ten or
16 more years you spent in Sierra Leone say that Kolo Moriba was a
17 former NPFL fighter or member?

18 A. When we were on the base I did not hear that from he
19 himself Kolo Moriba, nor did I hear it from any of the recruits
09:48:18 20 with whom we were trained together. Up to the time we left for
21 Sierra Leone I never heard from anybody that he held arms for
22 NPFL.

23 Q. How about yourself? Mr Kabbah suggests that you were a
24 member of the NPFL, you were either an officer or soldier, before
09:48:36 25 joining the RUF. What do you have to say to that, Mr George?

26 A. As for me, I was not a member of the NPFL. I never carried
27 arms for the NPFL. I said Foday Sankoh met me right in Gbarnga
28 at my house where Samuel Lansana was residing. I was selling
29 wine. I never carried arms for the NPFL. I never knew about

1 arms. It was Foday Sankoh who taught me about arms. I can - I
2 am under oath here and I'm sitting here under oath.

3 Q. Let's consider a little more of Mr Kabbah's evidence. This
4 is at the next page, 16462. Actually it's not the next page.

09:49:26 5 It's page 16462 I wish to go to. That is from 17 September,
6 Madam Court Manager. Starting at line 9. Mr George, Mr Kabbah
7 continued on the following day to say this. A question was posed
8 to him at line 9:

9 "Q. Mr Witness, yesterday when you testified about
09:50:19 10 Liberians who were RUF members, you mentioned one
11 individual called CO Martin George. Who was he?

12 A. He was a Liberian.

13 Q. Do you know what his role was?

14 A. Yes, CO George was a commander in Kailahun during the
09:50:42 15 time when they arrested the peacekeepers. He was the
16 commander there."

17 Then at line 19 he elaborates and Mr Kabbah says: "For the
18 RUF who were in Kailahun he was the commander during that time."

19 Then we go over to the next page, 16463, at the top of the
09:51:12 20 page, line 1, a question was posed to Mr Kabbah:

21 "Q. When you say, 'During the time when they arrested the
22 peacekeepers,' what are you referring to?

23 A. The peacekeepers' arrest did not only take place in
24 Makeni, or Lunsar. It also took place in Kailahun and
09:51:33 25 during that time he was the commander in charge in
26 Kailahun. That was what I meant.

27 Q. Do you know how he came to be with the RUF?

28 A. All of them came at the time when the border was opened
29 up to the time when the NPFL soldiers had had to go, but

1 they stayed and that was how he came to be with the RUF.

2 Q. Do you know when he came?

3 A. He came in 1991."

4 Mr George, do you agree that the parts of Mr Kabbah's
09:52:13 5 evidence that says you were the commander in Kailahun when
6 peacekeepers were arrested is consistent with what you told the
7 Court last week?

8 A. Exactly so. I was the commander in Kailahun and he was the
9 signal man to me. He, Kabbah. He received the message.

09:52:36 10 Q. How about this portion that he says that you and others
11 came at the time when the border was opened when the NPFL
12 soldiers had had to go. Do you understand what he was attempting
13 to tell the Court then?

14 A. You see, there he is lying. There he is lying. I left
09:52:58 15 Pujehun and entered Kailahun in 1993. Kabbah got to know me in
16 1993. He got to know me better when he served under me. So he
17 did not know anything about my movement in the RUF. At the time
18 I joined the RUF it was not every one of us who entered through
19 the same area. Some entered through Pujehun, some entered
09:53:27 20 through Kailahun. And it was later that I joined the Kailahun
21 group. That was the time Kabbah got to know me.

22 Q. So is it the case that when you crossed over from Liberia
23 into Sierra Leone as you told us last week, you did not know this
24 person Mohamed Kabbah?

09:53:51 25 A. No, I only knew him when he was serving under me. When I
26 was brigade commander in Kono, that was the time I knew Kabbah.
27 And then later I came to Kailahun I met him there also and as
28 signal commander he served under me. That is all I know about
29 Kabbah.

1 Q. You remember Mr Kabbah mentioned Isaac Mongor as one of the
2 Liberians who were former NPFL officers and/or soldiers who came
3 to join the RUF. You remember I just read that, Mr George?

4 A. Yes, I heard the statement.

09:54:37 5 Q. Now, let me ask you a few questions about Mongor just
6 quickly. At the time when you were in Crab Hole do you know
7 whether Isaac Mongor, after you met him at Crab Hole, left Crab
8 Hole at any time to go and consult with the NPFL?

9 A. From the time Isaac Mongor joined Crab Hole or that he went
09:55:08 10 to Crab Hole I never saw him move to NPFL territory or to even
11 transact business with them. No. We were all in Crab Hole. We
12 were trained at Crab Hole until the time we left Crab Hole.

13 Q. Did you ever hear when you were in Crab Hole of Isaac
14 Mongor having any meetings or contact with Charles Taylor?

09:55:36 15 A. No. I never heard that and I never saw that with my own
16 eyes.

17 Q. How about when you went to Sierra Leone. Starting from
18 1991 up until 2002 when you left the RUF, did you ever hear of
19 Isaac Mongor leaving Sierra Leone to go to Liberia to meet with
09:56:01 20 Charles Taylor for any reason?

21 A. No. Isaac Mongor, I used to joke with him. Sometimes we
22 used to pass the night in the same place and sometimes I go to
23 Makeni, we pass the night there. But there was no time that I
24 heard him say that Charles Taylor sent him to do this or that or
09:56:24 25 that he used to be a soldier for the NPFL before. Since the time
26 we all trained together, no, I did not hear that.

27 Q. Thank you, Mr George. Remember to slow down. How about
28 radio communication? You told us of your time in the Northern
29 Jungle with Isaac Mongor right before the junta took over in May

1 1997. During the period of time when you were an RUF member,
2 1991 through 2002, did you ever hear of Isaac Mongor having radio
3 communication contact with Charles Taylor?

09:57:12 4 A. No, never. Whilst we were in the jungle I never saw Isaac
5 talking to Charles Taylor on the radio or even giving him message
6 about any situation concerning the RUF war. Never. No.

7 Q. And what about besides Charles Taylor? Did he talk to
8 someone else in Charles Taylor's administration, Benjamin Yeaten,
9 for example? Did you hear of Isaac Mongor being in radio
10 communication contact with Benjamin Yeaten or anyone else
11 associated with Charles Taylor's government in Liberia?

12 A. No, never. Isaac only had access to our controlled radio
13 mobile. We communicated from one point to another with our
14 friends, but that besides we never had communication with Charles
09:58:02 15 Taylor. Never. At the time we were in the Northern Jungle I
16 never saw him communicating with Charles Taylor or any of Charles
17 Taylor's commanders for that matter.

18 Q. Thank you, Mr George. May Mr George be shown what was
19 admitted as Prosecution exhibit 30D. Yes, could you first hand
09:58:50 20 the witness the exhibit to look at, then display it for the
21 public, please?

22 A. Yes, I know the three gentlemen in this photograph.

23 Q. Well, Mr George - Madam Court Manager, please remove the
24 document.

09:59:23 25 Madam President, I'm sure your Honours appreciate what has
26 just transpired. I do have clean copies of the exhibit. The
27 witness has been shown the exhibit. The exhibit by virtue of
28 another witness has somebody identified already and we wish to
29 get this witness's independent recollection of who is

1 photographed.

2 May I suggest a way of proceeding. I will give the exhibit
3 number and I will provide the Court Management with a clean copy
4 of each exhibit that has not been marked. And in this case your
10:00:01 5 Honours can decide what weight to attach to the one of the three
6 individuals who's already been identified, but the photograph
7 need not be displayed.

8 Can I ask Madam Court Manager to display this copy and you
9 may show it to the Court and counsel opposite. It's the same
10:00:18 10 identical photograph without the --

11 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, just from the point that the
12 photograph which was displayed, clearly, most have been seen by
13 everyone, including the witness, and I believe it would be a
14 matter of what weight to give to whatever identification this
10:00:38 15 witness may make of individuals in this photograph that's about
16 to be shown to him.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, I think that is the point
18 that counsel opposite did make. I think it's quite a pertinent
19 point. We've taken note.

10:00:56 20 Now, the photograph should be put before the witness. Put
21 the photograph on the overhead, please, and perhaps have the
22 witness move over if he is going to identify somebody.

23 MR ANYAH:

24 Q. Mr George, could you assist us by switching seats or chairs
10:01:27 25 to the chair in front of the overhead projector. Mr George, do
26 you see the photograph before you?

27 A. Yes, I've seen the photograph.

28 Q. Do you know which persons are pictured in that photograph?

29 A. Yes, the first person is Abu Keita.

1 Q. Can you describe something Mr Keita is wearing in that
2 photograph that is different from what others are wearing?

3 A. Abu Keita has on a camouflage trousers and the hat and he
4 has a boot on with a white T-shirt.

10:02:46 5 Q. Thank you, Mr George. And is he the person to the far
6 right of the photograph?

7 A. He is the first person on the right-hand side of the
8 photograph.

9 Q. What about the person in the middle with their hands in
10:03:04 10 their pocket?

11 A. The second person in the middle is Lawrence Womandia. He
12 is a vanguard too. He and I were trained together in Naama.

13 Q. The person you identified as Abu Keita, is that the same
14 person you said provided Sam Bockarie with ammunition in 1998?

10:03:33 15 A. Yes, this is the Abu Keita I was talking about.

16 Q. And who is the person to the far left, the person from your
17 vantage point to the left of Lawrence Womandia?

18 A. That's Issa Sesay.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: It's actually to the right. Well, to the
10:04:03 20 right of Lawrence --

21 THE WITNESS: He's on the left-hand side. The last man on
22 the left with the beret on, he is Issa Sesay.

23 MR ANYAH:

24 Q. Thank you, Mr George. Before I ask that the photograph be
10:04:22 25 taken away, Mr George, are you comfortable writing the names of
26 these persons, given what you said about your ability to read and
27 write, or do you just wish to leave it as it is?

28 A. Say that again. Say what you said.

29 Q. Yes. Do you wish - are you comfortable writing the names

1 of these persons on that document, or do you just wish to leave
2 it as it is? That is, can you write their names on the document?

3 A. I can't write their names, but I know them. I know them
4 physically, so there is no need for me writing their names.

10:05:08 5 Q. Exactly. Thank you, Mr George. Thank you, Madam Court
6 Officer. May Mr George be shown - Madam Court Officer, I will
7 hand you another photograph. Madam President, this is identical
8 to Prosecution exhibit P-68C. And I would ask you to also show
9 it to counsel opposite and to the Court before displaying it to
10 the witness. Madam Court Officer, could you show that to
11 Mr George first so he can look at it up close.

12 Mr George, do you recognise anyone in that photograph?

13 A. Yes, I recognise Issa.

14 Q. And who is Issa? Can you point to the person in the
10:07:10 15 photograph that's Issa?

16 A. Issa is on the right-hand side.

17 Q. That is Issa Sesay?

18 A. Yes, Issa Sesay.

19 Q. What of the person that's seated next to Issa, do you
10:07:26 20 recognise that person?

21 A. No, I don't recognise this person.

22 Q. Thank you, Mr George. Unless there are no questions, I
23 will move on to the next exhibit. May Mr George be shown this
24 version of Prosecution exhibit P-45A. And perhaps you could show
10:08:05 25 it to the Court and to counsel opposite. And if you could just
26 hand it to him first like before. Could we zoom out a little
27 bit, Madam Court Officer? Thank you.

28 Mr George, do you recognise anyone in that photograph?

29 A. No.

1 Q. Very well. Have you ever heard of someone named Zigzag
2 Marzah?

3 A. In Sierra Leone, you mean?

10:09:55

4 Q. At any time. Have you ever heard of somebody named Zigzag
5 Marzah?

6 A. No. We did not have Zigzag Marzah. I don't know him. I
7 never heard that name, Zigzag Marzah.

8 Q. When you say we never had Zigzag Marzah, who is the "we"
9 you are referring to?

10:10:13

10 A. I'm talking about the RUF. We never had Zigzag Marzah and
11 I've never heard about Zigzag Marzah.

12 Q. Thank you, Mr George. The photograph may be taken away.
13 And I move on to the next one. May Mr George be shown this
14 version of Prosecution exhibit P-153A. Thank you, Madam Court

10:11:42

15 Officer. Mr George, you've looked at this photograph. Do you
16 recognise anyone in this photograph?

17 A. No, I don't recognise anybody in this photograph.

18 Q. The fellow who is looking towards the camera right behind
19 the man with the red T-shirt, if we zoomed in, does that person
20 look like anyone to you that you know? And if you do not
21 recognise him, don't speculate. But do you recognise that
22 person?

10:12:10

23 A. No, I don't recognise him. If I have recognised him I
24 would have said yes. It doesn't mean anything. But I don't know
25 him.

10:12:30

26 Q. Thank you, Mr George. The next one, could Mr George be
27 shown this version of Prosecution exhibit P-153C. Mr George, the
28 person that is shown in that photograph, do you recognise that
29 person?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Have you ever heard of somebody called Ibrahim Bah,
3 Mr George?

4 A. No.

10:14:12 5 Q. Thank you, Mr George. Thank you, Madam Court Officer.
6 That completes the photographs.

7 Madam President, there are another set of photographs I
8 would like to show Mr George, but one of the two is confidential.

9 In fact I suspect both are confidential. This is Defence exhibit

10:14:35 10 399C and Defence exhibit 413. I also have evidence of another

11 witness I wish to go through with Mr George that could disclose

12 the identity of a protected witness, and so I would make an

13 application to move into a private session to deal with those two

14 matters.

10:14:57 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, do you have any objections to
16 that?

17 MR BANGURA: None, your Honour.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: We will go into a brief private session,

19 and this is for the purpose of securing the protection of another

10:15:15 20 protected witness other than this witness. Madam Court Manager,

21 please arrange a private session.

22 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of

23 the transcript, pages 39893 to 39905, was

24 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as

25 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

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

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed, Mr Bangura.

4 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR BANGURA:

10:48:24 5 Q. Good morning, Mr Witness.

6 A. Good morning, sir.

7 Q. You told this Court that you were born on 15 June 1970,
8 correct?

9 A. Correct.

10:48:42 10 Q. And that you attended school up to the 7th grade. Am I
11 right?

12 A. You are correct.

13 Q. And after leaving school, you were engaged in some small
14 business selling palm wine. Is that right?

10:49:16 15 A. Correct.

16 Q. And it was about this time that you became recruited to
17 join the RUF. Is that correct?

18 A. You are correct.

19 Q. If I'm right, at this time you were about 21 years of age.
10:49:45 20 Is that right?

21 A. You are right.

22 Q. Now, when exactly did you leave school?

23 A. I left school in 1987.

24 Q. And between 1987 to 1991, when you were recruited, apart
10:50:16 25 from selling palm wine, what else did you do?

26 A. I was selling used clothing. I was selling used clothing
27 when I left school in 1987. I was still selling used clothing in
28 Bong County.

29 Q. When did you stop selling used clothing before you started

1 selling palm wine?

2 A. I stopped selling used clothing when the NPFL rebel
3 movement entered my country.

4 Q. And when was this?

10:50:56 5 A. It was in 1990.

6 Q. And why did you stop selling used clothing at that time?

7 A. I stopped because there was no buyer any more. If I was
8 selling, nobody would be there to buy from me.

9 Q. And when you sold palm wine did you do a good business?

10:51:22 10 Was it a good business for you when you switched on to selling
11 palm wine?

12 A. It was not a good business, but I did it to sustain myself.
13 It was the only business that was flowing by then because by then
14 there was no food.

10:51:37 15 Q. And you sold palm wine from - what location were you
16 selling from? That is to say, where were you - where was your
17 selling point?

18 A. I was sell right at Lansana's house where my sister was
19 living on Jamaica Road.

10:52:03 20 Q. And so your customers would come there and have a drink, to
21 buy from you and have a drink at your place of business?

22 A. Yes, the place I'm talking about is an open community.
23 It's right on the main road. The house where I was selling, it
24 was - it is right on the main road.

10:52:24 25 Q. You obviously no doubt had a very good - a large number of
26 customers who came to patronise your business, correct?

27 A. It's not a matter of having many customers, but as long as
28 you were hungry and there was no food at that time you will just
29 have to buy palm wine and drink for it to sustain you for that

1 day.

2 Q. So many people came around to buy palm wine from you.

3 That's what I'm asking?

4 A. Oh, yes, people used to buy it. Because it was one of the
10:52:59 5 staple foods. There was no food in the town. So if you were
6 lucky - sometimes you see people fighting over it just to buy.

7 Q. What sort of money did you make a day from selling palm
8 wine? What would be your profits on a daily basis?

9 A. My profit was not that much but I liked it that way because
10:53:24 10 I did not want to sit down doing nothing. The little money I
11 had, I did not just want to eat it like that. So I was doing
12 that. I used to buy salt. I would take it to the villages for
13 people who did not have salt because there was difficulty getting
14 salt.

10:53:40 15 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
16 to slow down and continue from where I stopped.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are speaking too fast
18 again. The interpreter cannot keep up with you. You were
19 explaining that you would take some salt to the village for
10:53:57 20 people who did not have any salt. Now continue from there. You
21 said some things we didn't hear. Continue from there slowly.

22 THE WITNESS: I said I used to carry salt to the villages
23 to do barter system with local soap, sometimes fish and then I
24 would buy my wine and bring it to town. When I bring that I
10:54:30 25 would sell the soap to those who wanted - needed soap and I would
26 sell the fish, the dried fish, to those who wanted to eat fish.
27 That was what I was living on.

28 MR BANGURA:

29 Q. So in effect, Mr Witness, you were able to manage your life

1 reasonably well?

2 A. Oh, yes. It was keeping me up instead of me just roaming
3 about. At least I had something to be doing for that moment.

10:55:02

4 Q. And this was at a time when, as you have said already, war
5 had come to Liberia. Is that right?

6 A. Yes, war was in Liberia at that time because I remember
7 that when I joined the RUF in 1991 there was war in Liberia in
8 the 1990s.

10:55:26

9 Q. And not as many people were able to make a living like you
10 were doing at that time, correct?

11 A. Repeat your question.

12 Q. Not many people, young men like yourself, were able to make
13 a living like you were doing at that time. This was a wartime in
14 Liberia. Not too many people were able to make a living like you

10:55:48

15 were doing. Is that correct?

16 A. Oh, other people had other businesses they were doing but
17 that was what I felt like doing to upkeep me. I cannot talk
18 about any other person. I'm here talking about Martin.

10:56:11

19 Q. So what did you have as an aim as a young person growing up
20 you started off - you left school in 7th grade, you started off
21 doing business selling second-hand clothing. The war came, you
22 were not able to continue in that line of business. Now you are
23 selling palm wine and you are making - to make ends meet. As a
24 young man at the age of 21 did you have any ambitions in your
25 life at that time? What were you looking forward to doing in
26 your life?

10:56:35

27 A. I had plans for my life. I had great plans for my life. I
28 did not just drop out of school because I wanted to drop out of
29 school to sell palm wine. No, that was not my aim. But since I

1 did not have a chance and I did not have anyone to support me,
2 that was the reason why I dropped out of school.

3 Q. So what plans did you have about your life? What plans did
4 you have for yourself in life?

10:57:10 5 A. The plan I had was to become someone good in future, to
6 become someone. Even by doing business if I could live my own
7 way there was no problem, but I wanted to go back to school when
8 the war entered so there was no chance for me to enter any more.

9 Q. Obviously you would have loved to see your business grow
10:57:30 10 much bigger. Is that so?

11 A. Of course.

12 Q. You would have loved to make more profit and become a
13 wealthy man some day?

14 A. Exactly so.

10:57:43 15 Q. Mr Witness, this was the time that Foday Sankoh came and
16 recruited you into the RUF, isn't that so? This was just about
17 the time in your life when you had such big ambitions, despite
18 the war, of becoming a prosperous and successful businessman.
19 This was the time that Foday Sankoh came and recruited you to
10:58:13 20 join the RUF. Isn't that so?

21 A. Exactly so, because my father is a businessman and up to
22 this moment he is a businessman, so I wanted to become a
23 businessman in my life. That was what I chose to be.

24 Q. And, according to your testimony, when Foday Sankoh invited
10:58:29 25 you or asked you to join the RUF, you did not give a second
26 thought to it. You said, yes, you were going to join the RUF.
27 Isn't that so?

28 A. My second thought was - I had a second thought. If I
29 hadn't, I wouldn't have joined Foday Sankoh. I had a second

1 thought. But my second thought was, yes, I should join
2 Foday Sankoh.

3 Q. Now, the only thing Foday Sankoh told you about this
4 mission for which he was recruiting you was that - I just read
10:59:05 5 from your testimony. Your Honours, testimony of 21 April, page
6 39595. He asked - sorry. I take it from the day - the page
7 before that, 39594:

8 "So after two days he came back, he met me in the yard and
9 I was selling my wine. He asked me for my name and I told him my
10:59:31 10 name. I said my name is Martin. And he told me that he is
11 looking for men to go and do something. He said he has a
12 mission. He said he needed people to go and fight and I asked
13 him what mission is that? He said armed mission. He said
14 struggle. Armed mission. And I asked him where to go? He said
11:00:05 15 Sierra Leone. And I joined him."

16 So, basically, Mr Witness, from what you told this Court,
17 you didn't even think much about the - this whole idea of joining
18 Foday Sankoh. You just simply agreed and joined him. Isn't that
19 so?

11:00:23 20 A. I think - I thought before joining him, because if I was
21 not led by my mind, I wouldn't have joined him, and I knew it was
22 better for me to join him. I thought about it.

23 Q. Now, let me take you further to your testimony about
24 whether or not Foday Sankoh held any promises to you when he
11:00:46 25 asked you to join the RUF. Your Honours, I read from page 39597.
26 It will be about line 14 of that page. I don't know whether
27 that's been loaded up or not:

28 "A. He told me that he wanted to take an armed struggle
29 into Sierra Leone, so he said he was trying to recruit

1 people to go on the operation. So he said he wanted me to
2 join him.

3 Q. What was your response to his request?

4 A. The answer I gave him, I said yes. Because I knew
11:01:33 5 already that Fatou Gbembo was gone, Musa Gbembo was gone,
6 and we were all in the same yard. So I was going to be
7 almost the only young person remaining in the yard.

8 Q. Did he make any promises to you in order to have you
9 join him?

11:01:50 10 A. No, he did not make any promises to say whether if we
11 went through the mission he would give me so and so amount
12 of money. No, he only told me about the struggle."

13 So, Mr Witness, you at that moment gave up everything you
14 wanted to do in life to join a struggle which you knew nothing
11:02:14 15 about, correct, other than the fact that it was a struggle to go
16 and fight in Sierra Leone?

17 A. He told me that it was a struggle, an armed struggle to go
18 to Sierra Leone and I joined him on his armed struggle. It was a
19 revolution. I joined him.

11:02:35 20 Q. Did you have any interest in fighting a revolution in
21 Sierra Leone at this age, 21? You were born in Liberia, lived
22 your life in Liberia, gone to school in Liberia. Sierra Leone is
23 a neighbouring country; you've never been there before; you
24 probably didn't know the politics; you didn't know the people.

11:02:51 25 Did you have any interest in going to fight a revolution in
26 Sierra Leone at this time?

27 A. The interest I had was that I was not alone who was going.
28 There were some Sierra Leoneans also going, so I knew if I went
29 there I wouldn't get any problem with anyone. I was going on an

1 armed struggle. If I died there, no problem. That was what God
2 wanted to happen. So it was not a matter that I had any interest
3 in Sierra Leone so I was going to fight there. Most people did
4 not know those places or other places, but they went there to
11:03:25 5 fight.

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

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr George, I'm going to ask you again,
9 not too many times, to slow down, please. Slow down when you are
11:03:43 10 testifying for the interpreter to keep up with you and for the
11 people recording what you are saying to keep up with you, please.
12 Is that clear?

13 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

14 MR BANGURA:

11:03:54 15 Q. Mr Witness, what did you personally hope to achieve by
16 joining this revolution that was going to take place in Sierra
17 Leone? As an individual, as a person, what did you hope that you
18 would gain from being involved in this revolution?

19 A. When you join a revolution, you think about what you are
11:04:27 20 supposed to gain and that is your victory and your victory is
21 your hope. So when I joined the revolution, what I thought about
22 was my hope to gain victory.

23 Q. To gain victory for what or for whom?

24 A. To gain victory in the revolution. The revolution had an
11:04:50 25 aim. Foday Sankoh said he was taking the revolution for a
26 change. If we had gone and got victory and be able to change the
27 things we entered there for, then I will be able to get victory.
28 By then I will not gain any other thing, maybe, but my name would
29 have been in the archives relating to victory.

1 Q. Did you have a reason to support Foday Sankoh, a man whom
2 you only met the second time? You were meeting him for the
3 second time and your first meeting was very brief. This was the
4 second time again for a very brief period. Did you have a reason
11:05:31 5 to support him on a revolution which he was taken to another
6 country?

7 A. The reason I had was to join him and accomplish the
8 mission. That was the reason I had to join him. It was an armed
9 struggle. It doesn't mean that you were going to be given a
11:05:56 10 bundle of money before you make up your mind. No. As long as
11 your mind suggested to you, then it was okay. It was what I
12 believed.

13 Q. Mr Witness, at this time in Liberia, as we have - as you've
14 already said, there was fighting going on. Isn't that so?

11:06:20 15 A. Yes.

16 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, that was not very clear to
17 the interpreter.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, repeat. We didn't get your
19 answer.

11:06:34 20 THE WITNESS: I said fighting was going on in Liberia but
21 not in Bong County itself where I was born or where I was
22 trained. There was no fighting going on there, but fighting was
23 going on in Liberia.

24 MR BANGURA:

11:06:45 25 Q. Had there been any fighting in your area in Bong County
26 where you grew up? Had there been fighting there before this
27 time?

28 A. Repeat your question.

29 Q. Had there been - was there any fighting there - you said

1 fighting was not going there at this particular time, but was
2 there fighting before this time at all?

3 A. I told you that there was no fighting in Bong County but
4 fighting was going on in Monrovia and that is Liberia. That was
11:07:16 5 what I said.

6 Q. Let me take the question again. Before this time, before
7 you joined - Foday Sankoh asked you to join the RUF, had there
8 ever been fighting - since the start of the war in Liberia, had
9 there been fighting in Bong County in Gbarnga area where you
11:07:36 10 lived?

11 A. Yes, fighting went on in Bong County where I lived.

12 Q. And who were the forces that fought in Bong County?

13 A. NPFL fought in Bong County.

14 Q. [Microphone not activated] fighting against?

11:07:57 15 A. They were fighting against the soldiers, the Doe soldiers.

16 Q. And during this period that they fought against the Doe
17 soldiers, did civilians get involved in the fighting? Civilians
18 like yourself.

19 A. You mean NPFL fighting?

11:08:20 20 Q. Correct, yes.

21 A. Oh, yes. Those who wanted to join the NPFL to fight they
22 joined. Civilians joined them to fight.

23 Q. There were, in fact, many young men like yourself who were
24 with the NPFL. Isn't that so?

11:08:36 25 A. Exactly so.

26 Q. And during this time, Mr Witness, this was a war in your
27 country in Liberia. Did you not have the urge to join the NPFL
28 to fight and liberate Liberia where you lived? This was also a
29 revolution. Isn't that so?

1 A. Oh, yes, there was a revolution in Liberia, but I did not
2 want to join that particular revolution.

3 Q. Why did you not want to join a revolution which was taking
4 place in your country and which was intended to liberate your own
11:09:17 5 people? Why did you not join them?

6 A. Because I never heard someone who enlightened me about the
7 revolution that was taking place in Liberia.

8 Q. How much enlightenment did you get about the revolution in
9 Sierra Leone before you decided to join Foday Sankoh?

11:09:36 10 A. When I got to the base, I was told that we were going to
11 change the system.

12 Q. Witness, this was after you had made the decision to join
13 Foday Sankoh was when you got this information about changing the
14 system. Isn't that so?

11:09:56 15 A. Yes, when I got to the base. When I got to the base, that
16 was the time he told me that we were going to fight a
17 revolutionary war and I was brave before moving. I did not have
18 anybody in the NPFL who would come and tell me, say, "My friend,
19 the war that we brought here is about so and so." I did not have
11:10:18 20 anyone to tell me anything, so I did not have time to join them.

21 Q. Mr Witness, you have told this Court that a number of
22 Liberians from Bong County and some of them even from Gbarnga
23 where you grew up, became recruited by Foday Sankoh and were at
24 the base at Naama. Isn't that so?

11:10:42 25 A. Exactly so.

26 Q. Now, just for some names. You were there. You had Joseph
27 Brown there. Isn't that so?

28 A. Exactly so.

29 Q. You had Monica Pearson, correct?

- 1 A. Every one of us were on the base.
- 2 Q. You had John Vincent?
- 3 A. We had John Vincent on the base.
- 4 Q. You had Base Marine, Jonathan Parker?
- 11:11:17 5 A. Base Marine, yes.
- 6 Q. You had Kolo Moriba?
- 7 A. Kolo Moriba, yes.
- 8 Q. [Microphone not activated] Koll eh?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 11:11:28 10 Q. [Microphone not activated] Decker?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. [Microphone not activated] Decker?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, you are going - from Kolo
- 11:11:37 15 Moriba, you are going to have to repeat the names of the people
- 16 that you have put to the witness because you are speaking too
- 17 quickly for the microphone has changed and it's not recorded, as
- 18 you can see.
- 19 MR BANGURA:
- 11:11:54 20 Q. Sam Koll eh was there, not so?
- 21 A. I said yes.
- 22 Q. Alfred Decker?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Anthony Decker?
- 11:12:05 25 A. Yes.
- 26 Q. Nyepan Weawea?
- 27 A. Nyepan Weawea, yes.
- 28 Q. Thank you for the correction. Now, these are all people
- 29 who were recruited from Bong County. Isn't that so?

1 A. Yes, they were people who were recruited from Bong County.

2 Q. If I'm not mistaken, they were in fact recruited from
3 Gbarnga, all of them. Isn't that so?

4 A. All of us were recruited in Gbarnga.

11:12:42 5 Q. Now, apart from these, were there other Liberians in Naama
6 where you trained who were recruited from other parts of the
7 country? These were all from Gbarnga, from Bong County. Did you
8 have Liberians at Naama who were recruited from other parts of
9 Liberia?

11:13:11 10 A. You mean among the group that was in Crab Hole?

11 Q. That's correct, yes.

12 A. Oh, yes. We had other people from different counties. It
13 was not just Bong County. We had people from different counties.

14 Q. And who would you recall that was from a different county
11:13:31 15 that was in Naama? Do you have any names?

16 A. I do not remember, but there were different people.
17 Different tribes. It was not just Kpelle that was in Naama. We
18 had Bassa, we had Loma, we had Gbandi. We had different tribes.
19 And not all of those tribes live in Bong County. They were from
11:13:56 20 different counties. It was only the Kpelle who were recruited
21 from Bong County.

22 Q. Mr Witness, the NPFL were in control of Gbarnga at this
23 time that you were recruited, correct?

24 A. Yes.

11:14:13 25 Q. They had an administration set up in Gbarnga at this time.
26 Is that right?

27 A. Well, I can't tell about the administrative set-up.

28 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness was not clear
29 again in his last --

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Would you repeat what you said. Nobody
2 understood what you said.

3 THE WITNESS: I said I can't tell whether there was an
4 administrative set-up because I was not with them.

11:14:38 5 MR BANGURA:

6 Q. Was there any senior person of the NPFL who was in Gbarnga
7 at the time you were recruited?

8 A. If I told you I knew any senior NPFL officers in Gbarnga I
9 would be lying to you. I was not used to them. No, I don't know
11:15:01 10 any senior NPFL officer that was assigned in Gbarnga.

11 Q. You knew that Charles Taylor was the leader of the NPFL,
12 didn't you?

13 A. Yes, we used to hear it. But I never set eyes on him, but
14 they used to say he was there.

11:15:22 15 Q. And you knew that Gbarnga was the headquarters of the NPFL,
16 didn't you?

17 A. I never knew that Gbarnga was the headquarters for the
18 NPFL. I never knew. Had Gbarnga been the headquarters for the
19 in NPFL, that might have been during the late hours. But it was
11:15:47 20 not the particular moment when they captured Gbarnga that Gbarnga
21 became the headquarters. No, I never knew that.

22 Q. So at the time that you became recruited where did you
23 know, if at all, was Charles Taylor based?

24 A. Say that again.

11:16:05 25 Q. At the time that you were recruited in 1991, did you - if
26 you know at all, where was Charles Taylor based as leader of the
27 NPFL?

28 A. No. No, I never asked any questions about that. When I
29 got to the base at Sokoto where I was training I only

1 concentrated on my training. I was not concerned to know where
2 Charles Taylor was based, this or that, no.

3 Q. It's a little difficult to understand your answer,
4 Mr Witness. Did you know or did you not know?

11:16:45 5 A. I said no, I did not know where he was based, no.

6 Q. And can you explain why, if you can - why so many of your
7 colleague Liberians who were at Naama were recruited from
8 Gbarnga? Can you explain that, if you can?

9 A. I only knew about myself. I've not explained about any
11:17:14 10 person. I was recruited in - from Gbarnga but I cannot tell you
11 about other people. I cannot tell you how Joseph Brown was
12 recruited from Gbarnga. I only know about Martin. How Martin
13 was recruited and how he found himself on the base. That's all.

14 Q. Thank you. How long did you stay at Camp Naama?

11:17:38 15 A. I told you I undertook basic training for two months.
16 Basic training.

17 Q. So you went in on 1 January, if I'm right, and you left on
18 1 March. Is that correct?

19 A. You got it. It is documented.

11:18:00 20 Q. And you were based in a part of Naama barracks where the
21 staff - in the staff area of Naama barracks. Is that correct?

22 A. You got it correct.

23 Q. And you have told this Court that during the course of the
24 period you were at Naama your activities were restricted. Isn't
11:18:31 25 that so?

26 A. You got it correct.

27 Q. You only would be able to leave the camp if you had a pass
28 which were given by the MPs, the Military Police. Isn't that so?

29 A. Yes, it's so.

1 Q. Let me ask you when you got to the camp, do you know how -
2 you met other people there already, isn't that so?

3 A. Yes, I met people in Crab Hole. I met people there.

4 Q. And do you know how long the camp had been in existence
11:19:11 5 when you got there?

6 A. When I got there, I told you that I spent two months and
7 during that two months the camp was still in existence.

8 Q. The question is whether you knew - whether you had any idea
9 or knowledge of how long the others had been there before you got
11:19:34 10 there?

11 A. Oh, some people were there a month before I went to the
12 base, some people were there two weeks before I got there.

13 Q. And do you know how long before you got there that they had
14 started training at the base - that Foday Sankoh had started
11:19:55 15 training the RUF at the base?

16 A. I cannot tell you how long they had started training them.
17 I can't tell you how long they had trained them, because when I
18 met them there we - he did not recruit all of us at the same time
19 taking us to the base. I met some people there. I don't know
11:20:16 20 how many months they had spent there but some people spent a
21 month, some spent a week, some two weeks, one week before I got
22 there. Like Musa Gbembo, Fatou Gbembo, they spent a week before
23 I got to the base. So I know the date I got there, not how many
24 months other people had spent.

11:20:37 25 Q. Your testimony is that the reason why your movement was
26 restricted was so that you could not be exposed to other persons
27 in the base. Isn't that so?

28 A. Exactly so.

29 Q. And when you talk about other persons, who were you

1 referring to, other persons on the base?

2 A. I think if you went through my statement you will see that
3 I told you that they had the NPFL artillery base unit at Naama
4 and those were the other people that we did not want to mix
11:21:18 5 ourselves with, it's there.

6 Q. Mr Witness, the area where you stayed at Naama you called
7 the staff area, this was an area where normally people would be
8 quartered, would be resident. Isn't that so?

9 A. Repeat your question.

11:21:41 10 Q. The area where you stayed at Naama base which is the staff
11 area, this was an area where normally people would be resident -
12 staff who would normally work at Naama, this was an area where
13 they were quartered, where they stayed. Isn't that so?

14 A. Yes, it is the staff headquarters for them. That was where
11:22:02 15 they were lodged. That was where they used to sleep. That was
16 their place of living. That was where we were training.

17 Q. And they were supposed to be quartered there with their
18 families. Isn't that so?

19 A. I wonder you got me right. I told you that it was an old
11:22:25 20 military barracks and there were no army personnel beside the
21 NPFL artillery unit that was based at the other part of Naama.
22 Where we are talking about here now, there were no soldiers
23 there. They were not engaged there. I told you that.

24 Q. You lived in Gbarnga all your life. You grew up in
11:22:49 25 Gbarnga, correct?

26 A. That's correct. That's where I was born.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, are you satisfied that the
28 witness answered your previous question about family members?

29 MR BANGURA: Not quite.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Or you've abandoned it?

2 MR BANGURA: No, your Honour, I was going to go around it
3 but I take the point, your Honour:

11:23:21

4 Q. Let me pursue that question again, Mr Witness. The
5 question is the part of Naama where you lived was normally where
6 civilians were quartered - sorry, where the staff of Naama
7 barracks were quartered with their families. That's the
8 question. Isn't that so? Normally?

11:23:46

9 A. The staff you are talking about, is it military? I'm
10 talking about military staff. That was where they were based.
11 They were not civilians, but during the war most of them fled to
12 Guinea and there were none of them there. They all abandoned the
13 place and that was why we used that place.

14 Q. So this was an abandoned part of the barracks, correct?

11:24:09

15 A. Yes, you got it right.

16 Q. So on a daily basis at Naama you went through various forms
17 of various kinds of training. Isn't that so?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You did weapons training?

11:24:34

20 A. We were trained how to dismantle AK. In case you were on
21 the front line, if the empty shell got stuck in it, how to take
22 it out and then refill it again. Yes, we were trained on that.

23 Q. You did PT drills, not so? PT exercises, if you like?

24 A. Yes, I did PT.

11:24:58

25 Q. You did a road mile, correct?

26 A. I did all of those.

27 Q. And you say that the road mile was a long walk, a long
28 journey on a car road. Isn't that so?

29 A. It was a long journey not just on a car road. You can take

1 the bush road to avoid your enemy.

2 Q. And normally what distances would you cover during the road
3 mile?

4 A. When we talk about the road mile, it's not just a day
11:25:35 5 business. Sometimes we will go for about three days, we sleep in
6 the bush, we don't come to town. So it's not just a day's
7 business, so we travelled far distances.

8 Q. And there were about 500 of you initially and that number,
9 as you said, dropped down to finally 381. Isn't that so?

11:25:55 10 A. You got it right.

11 Q. You were all engaged in these activities; road mile,
12 weapons training, PT exercises on the base. Correct?

13 A. We were all engaged on the exercises, the PT. Beside Base
14 Marine and the other small boys who were amongst us, they did not
11:26:21 15 do physical trainings.

16 Q. Mr Witness, and you say that the people who were on the
17 other side of the base would not know that you were on that side
18 of the base where you were? Did I state your evidence correctly?
19 They did not know that you were on that side of the base?

11:26:45 20 A. Repeat your question.

21 Q. You said previously that the reason why you were restricted
22 was so that you could not be exposed. And you would not be
23 exposed to people who were on the other side of the base.
24 Meaning that - my understanding is that they did not know or they
11:27:12 25 had no knowledge that you were on that side of the base. Did
26 they? Would you say that they had any knowledge that you were on
27 one side of the base?

28 A. Well, I can't say they knew or they never knew, but our
29 movement was restricted. We did not mix with them.

1 Q. You mentioned the name of the artillery commander on the
2 other side of the base who you say was called Rambo. Correct?

3 A. Exactly so.

4 Q. How did you know his name?

11:27:49 5 A. I knew his name by hearing people call his name: Rambo.

6 Q. Which people called his name?

7 A. Mike Lamin called his name.

8 Q. How did Mike Lamin know his name? Do you know?

9 A. Well, I can't tell. Because Mike Lamin was a senior
11:28:19 10 officer at the base, he had access. He was not as restricted as
11 we were. Before going out we used to obtain pass. But I did not
12 know how he knew him, but he was the one who called the name to
13 me, he said Rambo.

14 Q. So in fact, the restriction on movement was only - only
11:28:41 15 applied to the men - the recruits who were at the lower cadre,
16 isn't that so?

17 A. We, the recruits, were under restriction. Before leaving
18 the base you would have to obtain a pass.

19 Q. And who would you say, if you recall, that were not
11:29:08 20 affected by those restrictions? You've mentioned Mike Lamin.
21 Were there any others who would not necessarily need a pass and
22 who would move in and out of base as they wanted?

23 A. I only knew about Mike Lamin. When I talk about going out
24 and coming out, that doesn't mean that he used to go and sit with
11:29:30 25 Rambo and come back. But he was not restricted like the way we,
26 the recruits, were restricted.

27 Q. If we go by your testimony about who the commanders were,
28 would you agree with me that other commanders apart from Mike
29 Lamin equally would not have been affected by the restriction on

1 movement? I'm talking of CO Mohamed; I'm talking of Rashid
2 Mansaray. These ones who were the commanders, isn't it the case
3 that they too were above the restriction on the movement?

11:30:17 4 A. Every one of us who were based in Crab Hole, I'm talking
5 about we, the recruits, that we had restriction. CO Mohamed was
6 a training instructor. Rashid was a training instructor. I did
7 not have orders to put on Rashid nor did I have orders to put on
8 Mohamed. They had orders over me, not me having orders over
9 them.

11:30:54 10 Q. So in effect, a few people were able to leave the base and
11 interact with other people outside of the base, isn't that so?

12 A. Don't put words in my mouth. I did not say few people used
13 to leave the base. Don't put words in my mouth. That is not
14 what I told you.

11:31:15 15 Q. Mr Witness, I merely was saying that a few people were able
16 to, not that they did actually. They were able to, if you
17 understand that. Because there were no restrictions applying to
18 those persons who were more senior, they were able to leave the
19 base and could interact with other people outside, isn't that so?

11:31:46 20 A. I don't know. I don't know. I only know about myself. I
21 don't know about anybody else.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Bangura. Mr George, we
23 will now take the morning break and reconvene at 12 o'clock.

24 [Break taken at 11.30 a.m.]

11:57:40 25 [Upon resuming at 12.03 p.m.]

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, before you continue, I am
27 given to understand that there are interpreters waiting in the
28 wings to be sworn. Is that correct, Madam Court Manager?

29 MS IRURA: Your Honour, that is correct. They are ready to

1 be sworn in.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: We will swear in the interpreters now
3 before we continue.

4 [Interpreters sworn]

12:05:26 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Mr Bangura, I think you may
6 continue now with your questions, please.

7 MR BANGURA: Thank you, Madam President:

8 Q. Mr Witness, we are going to continue with your testimony.
9 Now, before the break I believe we were on the subject of

12:06:17 10 movement - restriction on movement in and out of the base. Do
11 you recall that?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. May I ask that the transcript of 12 March 2010, DCT-025,
14 that is, page 37251, be put up on the screen, please.

12:07:06 15 Mr Witness, what I am about to read to you it is testimony of a
16 witness who was before this Court just a few weeks ago, and he
17 talked about restrictions on movement.

18 Your Honours, reading from line 11 of that page:

19 "Q. Can you tell us how long you were at Naama for?

12:07:39 20 A. As for me, I went to Naama on 28 August.

21 Q. And when did you leave Naama, if you remember?

22 A. I left Naama on 28 March 1991.

23 Q. And when you left Naama, where were you going?

24 A. When I left Naama, we went to Koiindu.

12:08:05 25 Q. Between the time you at Naama and the time that you
26 left Naama for Koiindu, did you at any point leave Naama to
27 go anywhere else?

28 A. No.

29 Q. Were you allowed to go outside Naama?

1 A. No. We were highly restricted not to go anywhere.

2 Q. Do you know why you were restricted?

3 A. I don't know. They only told us not to go anywhere.

12:08:48

4 Q. And all that time that you were at Naama, did you know
5 why you were training, or did you get to know eventually
6 why you were training?"

7 I leave it at that. Now, Mr Witness, this is testimony of
8 another witness who was before this Court, and he talks about
9 restriction on movement. As you can see, he says that there was
10 absolutely no permission for anyone to leave Naama, and so he did
11 not leave at all. You in your testimony have told this Court
12 that in fact there was a system whereby you could be given a
13 pass, and you would leave and you could go out of the camp based
14 on the permission that you got from that pass. Is that correct?

12:09:07

15 A. Yes, that was what I said and that used to happen.

12:09:39

16 Q. So, in fact, what this witness said was not quite correct,
17 is that so?

18 A. Well, maybe he or she was not issued a pass to go anywhere,
19 but that used to happen.

12:09:56

20 Q. This witness, as you can see, was in the camp from August
21 of the year before and he stayed there until March 1991, which
22 spanned well over six months; do you realise that?

23 A. Yes, that is what the person is saying on the statement.

12:10:27

24 Q. Mr Witness, it is your testimony that there was a person
25 called Theophilus Pearson, do you recall that, who was at the
26 camp?

27 A. Yes, I gave that name and I do remember that particular
28 name.

29 Q. And this was a person - in fact, this was brother of

1 Monica Pearson, correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. In your testimony you told the Court that this person died
4 during the course of your training or during the period that you
12:11:02 5 were at Naama; isn't that correct?

6 A. I did not say that the person died on Naama base. I said
7 the person was sick and he was taken to Phebe. The person did
8 not die at the Camp Naama base. So should you talk about someone
9 dying, then you have to clarify how the death came about.

12:11:23 10 Q. My fault, Mr Witness, I was not quite clear. But yes, you
11 are correct. This person, according to your testimony, fell ill,
12 was taken to hospital at Phebe in Gbarnga, where he died;
13 correct?

14 A. Exactly so. That was what I said.

12:11:43 15 Q. And you did not know what this person died of. The cause
16 of the death you did not know, did you?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Now, this was not the only case of somebody who was sick
19 that was taken to Phebe Hospital, was it?

12:12:04 20 A. Yes. It was only Theophilus that I remember who was sick
21 and was taken to Phebe. That is the only person I know about.
22 That besides, no.

23 Q. When other members were sick at the base and needed
24 treatment, where were they taken to?

12:12:24 25 A. In the first place, we had a doctor there by the name of
26 Dr Fabai at the base. Dr Fabai. He was on the base with us. If
27 you had a headache, he will give you tablets and he will look
28 after you.

29 Q. In the case of Theophilus Pearson, Dr Fabai - was he seen

1 by Dr Fabai ?

2 A. Yes, he was seen by Dr Fabai but Dr Fabai could not make it
3 for him. So that was why he was sent to Phebe. If it were
4 common sickness then Dr Fabai could have been able to take care
12:13:12 5 of the situation.

6 Q. So cases that Dr Fabai was not able to handle he would
7 refer to a big hospital in Phebe, that Phebe Hospital. Is that
8 correct?

9 A. The only case I know about is Theophilus's case. That was
12:13:30 10 the only case I know about. One case, Theophilus.

11 Q. And there was no difficulty in getting Theophilus Pearson
12 hospitalised at Phebe, was there?

13 A. Please repeat that question.

14 Q. Theophilus Pearson got hospitalised at Phebe and there was
12:13:54 15 no difficulty in getting him hospitalised at Phebe? Was there
16 any difficulty?

17 A. I was not there. I know he was taken to Phebe, but I can't
18 tell you that there was hard times. But all I can tell you is
19 that he was taken to Phebe Hospital.

12:14:15 20 Q. The fact is that, Mr Witness, if other persons were sick
21 and Dr Fabai could not handle their case, he would refer them to
22 Phebe Hospital which was a general hospital in Gbarnga, correct?

23 A. I said when Theophilus Pearson was sick and he was unable
24 to take care of him he was transferred to Phebe. And besides
12:14:46 25 Theophilus there was no other person that he transferred to
26 Phebe. That is what I am saying.

27 Q. Thank you. You mentioned somebody called Mammy Iye. Do
28 you recall the name?

29 A. Yes, I remember that. She used to cook for us, we eat, so

1 I cannot forget that name.

2 Q. And was Mammy Iye based in the camp at Naama?

3 A. Yes, I said the person used to cook for us. She was based
4 there.

12:15:19 5 Q. You said that Mammy Iye was also a business leader. What
6 did you mean by that?

7 A. What I mean, when you talk about business, she was someone
8 who traded around. Someone who trades around. I said she was a
9 business person, someone who used to sell foodstuff, rice and
10 what have you. That is what we call business.

11 Q. Well, you said a business leader. That's why I ask. Is it
12 different from somebody who does business ordinarily?

13 A. I did not tell you about business leader. I told you that
14 she had a business in Harbel. I did not tell you about business
15 leader. People here can attest to that. I never told you that
16 Mammy Iye was a business leader. No.

17 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, may I ask that the transcript
18 for 22 April 2010 be put up. That is, page 39630:

19 Q. Mr Witness, this is your testimony before the Court given
12:17:51 20 on 22 April, a day last week, I think it must be Thursday. This
21 is what you said. I read from line 23:

22 "Q. Mr George, what functions if any did this Mammy Iye or
23 Iye Kallon perform at Crab Hole?

24 A. Mammy Iye's work was to cook for us, provide soup. She
12:18:18 25 was taken from Harbel and she was a business leader,
26 according to Foday Sankoh, when he brought her to the base,
27 so she had a lot of contribution to make towards the
28 movement."

29 Did you hear that?

1 A. I heard it, but I never told you that she was a business
2 leader. I said she was in Harbel and she was a businesswoman
3 whom Foday Sankoh brought from Harbel to the base. And she was
4 supporting us on the base. I did not talk about leader.

12:18:54 5 Businesswoman that was based in Harbel. That is my statement.

6 Q. [Microphone not activated]?

7 A. I can't deny what I said.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, it is quite possible that the
9 witness said business lady and something was lost in translation.

12:19:13 10 It is quite possible.

11 MR BANGURA: That is a possibility. Your Honour, I do not
12 want to take it beyond this point, but when the witness goes on
13 to say that this person made a contribution, some contribution --

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: She still could make a contribution if
12:19:27 15 she was a business lady.

16 THE WITNESS: Yes. She was not a leader.

17 MR BANGURA: I am not taking it beyond this point.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: In any event, the witness has given his
19 evidence.

12:19:40 20 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour, I will give him the benefit
21 of the doubt on this point:

22 Q. So, Mr Witness, who provided the food that Mammy Iye cooked
23 at the base?

24 A. I told you Mammy Iye provided food, Maggi and et cetera at
12:20:08 25 the base.

26 Q. So was it just Mammy Iye who provided all the food that you
27 ate?

28 A. Oh, beside Mammy Iye I did not know any other person to say
29 someone was bringing rice in containers or something else. It

1 was only Mammy Iye that I knew about and she is the one I am
2 referring to.

3 Q. So there were - the number of you at the base at one point
4 you said your number was up to 500 and that number dropped down
12:20:41 5 to 381. Let us take it at the lowest, at the lower figure. For
6 381 people, who provided food for you to eat on a daily basis?
7 You were there for two months.

8 A. In the first place, you should ask what type of food we
9 were eating. It was not just rice that we were eating. We ate
12:21:12 10 cassava in the morning. We ate rice in the evening. It was not
11 just rice that we were eating. We ate cassava in the morning.

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

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, I think the interpreter lost
12:21:31 15 you. You were you were explaining that you were not eating rice
16 alone. Please continue from there.

17 THE WITNESS: I am saying that we were not just eating
18 rice. We were eating cassava, eddos.

19 MR BANGURA:

12:21:47 20 Q. Cassava costs money, doesn't it?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And to feed 381 persons on cassava would be quite a
23 substantial amount of money just for one meal, wouldn't it?

24 A. Yes, but they used to provide it for us because they took
12:22:08 25 us to the base, so it was duty-bound for them to provide food for
26 us to eat.

27 Q. So did you not wonder at any point where Mammy Iye was
28 getting the food that she brought you from?

29 A. It was not my responsibility as to where they were bringing

1 it from. What I was concerned about was for me to eat to my
2 satisfaction.

3 Q. How was the food supplied to the base?

4 A. We used to stand in a queue to collect our food. After
12:22:46 5 they finished cooking, they will call us by our numbers. You
6 don't just go there and take up your food. They call your
7 number, you go, you show your dish, they put your food in and
8 then you move out and then the next person will walk up. Just
9 like that.

12:23:01 10 Q. Mr Witness, I am talking about how food was brought to the
11 base, not how it was served after it had been prepared.

12 A. Foday Sankoh had a pick-up, an open back pick-up. When
13 there was shortage of food, Mammy Iye and Foday Sankoh will go to
14 Harbel and then they will bring food for us in the pick-up. I
12:23:29 15 see Pusa White in pick-up, they brought it.

16 Q. Mr Witness, it has been your testimony before this Court
17 that the RUF was fighting a self-reliant struggle. It was a
18 movement that relied on its own resources. Isn't that so?

19 A. Yes. It was a self-reliant struggle.

12:23:52 20 Q. And Foday Sankoh has been known to say that he did not have
21 money to sustain the RUF. He has said that. Have you ever heard
22 him say that before?

23 A. Foday Sankoh said he never had support from any outside
24 country. That was what he said. He did not say by supporting
12:24:17 25 us, feeding us, giving us food. No, that is not. But he said he
26 did not have support from outside. He said it was a self-reliant
27 struggle. We lived on our enemies. That meant we captured arms,
28 ammunition, communication, medicine, foodstuff.

29 Q. Did you not wonder at that early stage where Foday Sankoh

1 would get so much money to provide food for all of you at the
2 base for such a long period?

3 A. That was not my concern. That was his responsibility
4 because he kept us on the base. So I was not up to knowing where
12:25:00 5 he got the food from.

6 Q. Now, you mentioned Gbembo, Fatou Gbembo. She was your
7 sister-in-law. Is that correct?

8 A. Exactly so.

9 Q. Was she also at the base?

12:25:20 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And did she take part in the training at the base?

12 A. Yes, she took part in the training.

13 Q. Did she eventually come to Sierra Leone when the training
14 was completed when all the troops came over? Did she?

12:25:49 15 A. After the training, she crossed over to Sierra Leone with
16 the manpower group that she was supposed to join.

17 Q. In answering questions put to you by counsel you told this
18 Court that Fatou Gbembo was the girlfriend of Foday Sankoh. Is
19 that correct?

12:26:19 20 A. No.

21 Q. Your Honours, I just need to cross-check. I believe this
22 was testimony that came up this morning. Your Honours, reading
23 from today's transcript, this is at page 27. I will just be sure
24 of that. This is at page 28 on my - I can't tell which font

12:27:45 25 this, but at page 28 line 21, the question - line 20 on my

26 LiveNote:

27 "Q. Was Fatou Lansana - and we know that she changed her
28 name from Fatou Lansana to Fatou Gbembo at some point. Was
29 Fatou Lansana, later to be known as Fatou Gbembo, the

1 girl friend of Foday Sankoh to your knowledge?

2 A. Yes."

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, isn't this quoting from
4 another transcript by another witness?

12:28:23 5 MR BANGURA: No, this is from today's transcript that I am
6 reading.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, but wasn't counsel reading from
8 another transcript? Are you sure it is this witness who said
9 that? What line are you reading?

12:28:39 10 MR BANGURA: I am reading from page - I have to find out
11 what font size this is, but I'm reading from page 28, line 20 and
12 continuing. I just read lines 20, 21 and 22. And I can go back
13 to show that this was questions being put directly to the
14 witness, not that counsel was reading from a document.

12:29:09 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Because I am looking at page 28 where the
16 witness answers - this witness answered, "I never knew Pa
17 Morlai's girl friend."

18 THE WITNESS: That is exactly so.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: But I also know that in the previous page
12:29:27 20 where this question is referred to, and I am reading from page
21 27 - let me just see. Sort of in the middle of page 27 there is
22 a question - rather, there is an answer:

23 "'A. We learnt that they came to Camp Naama through Madam
24 Fatou Brown. Fatou Brown was a girl friend to Pa Morlai.

12:30:00 25 Q. What was her nationality?

26 A. Kpelle. She was residing in Gbarnga."

27 So all that is a transcript of someone else being read to
28 this witness. I don't know if that's what you are referring to.

29 MR BANGURA: That's not exactly, your Honour. Further

1 down, I think, from that point it goes on. I can read --

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Okay, I've seen it.

3 MR BANGURA: -- a paragraph or two before that so we can
4 see the trend suggests clearly that this was counsel putting the
5 question to the witness directly.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, yes, you are right. Further on in
7 line 21 of page 28: "Was Fatou Lansana, later on to be known as
8 Fatou Gbembo, the girl friend of Foday Sankoh to your knowledge?"
9 The answer by this witness was, "Yes."

12:31:02 10 I don't know what he was saying "yes" to. Whether he was
11 saying yes that she was later known as Fatou Gbembo; or yes, she
12 was the girl friend of Foday Sankoh. I don't know.

13 MR BANGURA:

14 Q. Mr Witness, when this question was put to you, your answer
12:31:21 15 was - the question was - I will read the question again and then
16 your answer, and then I'll have you comment:

17 "Q. Was Fatou Lansana, later on to be known as Fatou
18 Gbembo, the girl friend of Foday Sankoh, to your knowledge?

19 A. Yes."

12:31:37 20 Was that the case? Was Fatou Gbembo the girl friend of
21 Foday Sankoh?

22 A. The question my lawyer asked me was --

23 Q. [Overlapping speakers]

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Let the witness finish. We need to know
12:31:55 25 what - how he understood the question.

26 THE WITNESS: Very good. The question my lawyer asked me
27 was: This Fatou Gbembo, was this Fatou Gbembo the one you knew
28 to be Foday Sankoh's girl friend? I said. No. He said did Foday
29 Sankoh have a girl friend on the base by the name of Fatou Brown?

1 I said I did not know. I said I did not know whether Foday
2 Sankoh had a girlfriend on the base by the name of Fatou Brown.
3 That was how the question came about.

12:32:27 4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. But Mr Witness, this doesn't relate
5 to Fatou Brown. This relates to Fatou Lansana, also known as
6 Fatou Gbembo.

7 THE WITNESS: I never said she was the girlfriend of Foday
8 Sankoh. I never said that here. I took an oath on the Bible. I
9 did not take oath on the Bible just like that because if I lie
12:32:48 10 here, it will affect me.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Why did you answer "yes" when your
12 lawyer, that side, asked you, "Was Fatou Lansana, also known as
13 Fatou Gbembo, the girlfriend of Foday Sankoh, to your knowledge?"
14 and you answered "yes." Why did you answer --

12:33:05 15 THE WITNESS: I answered to the name of Fatou Lansana.
16 Instead of Fatou Gbembo, was Fatou - this same Fatou Gbembo
17 called Fatou Lansana? I said yes. But she was not the wife of
18 Foday Sankoh, and I said I never knew Foday Sankoh's girlfriend
19 whilst we were on the base. That was what I said. How would I
12:33:24 20 claim that Fatou Gbembo was the wife of Foday Sankoh, when did it
21 did not happen that way? All what I am saying happened. I can't
22 lie because I am sitting here behind the microphone. I can say
23 what I know.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, thank you for the
12:33:38 25 clarification. I think we now know how the witness understood
26 the question. That is the problem with these convoluted
27 questions; that is what happens.

28 MR BANGURA: Thank you, Madam President:

29 Q. Mr Witness, you have answered in questions put to you by

1 counsel that Fatou Brown never recruited anybody for Foday -
2 Fatou Gbembo never recruited anyone for Foday Sankoh. Do you
3 recall that?

4 A. I said the recruits who went to the base were recruited by
12:34:17 5 Foday Sankoh. Fatou Gbembo did not recruit any recruits on the
6 base, nor the Fatou that you are talking about. We were all
7 recruited by Foday Sankoh. Nobody took recruits to the place to
8 say, "Oh, Martin George recruited five people and took them to
9 the base." No. Each and every one of us was recruited by Foday
12:34:40 10 Sankoh.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, you have to pause. Madam
12 Court Manager, the LiveNote is frozen.

13 MS IRURA: Your Honour, we appear to have lost the internet
14 connection. I will check. The technicians are looking into it.
12:35:45 15 In the meantime I can try and broadcast my LiveNote, which
16 appears to be functional. Your Honour, by pressing "PC1" on the
17 panel, my LiveNote can be followed.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, perhaps you - I don't know,
19 Mr Bangura, if you have access to this PC1 alternative, but you
12:37:09 20 may continue with your questions.

21 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, I have displayed the LiveNotes
22 page. I suppose it may mean that we may not be able to get
23 transcript loaded on. If we were going to refer to transcripts -
24 I just need to have clarification on this point - is this going
12:38:09 25 to restrict our ability to use transcripts to which we will be
26 referring?

27 MS IRURA: Your Honour, unfortunately, it will not be
28 possible to use transcripts, because it is the same screen from
29 which transcripts are broadcast.

1 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, that puts a little bit of
2 limitation on the amount --

12:39:00

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Manager, could I have
4 assistance from you? I don't seem to have access to this
5 transcript thing.

6 Mr Bangura, you may refer to the transcript as long as you
7 read accurately and you put on the record what transcript it is
8 you are quoting, with the lines included.

12:39:45

9 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Bangura, before we leave the subject of
10 Fatou, I would like to be clear. How many people named Fatou
11 were either on the base or associated with Mr Sankoh?

12 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour, I will try to pursue
13 that.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah, you were on your feet.

12:40:04

15 MR ANYAH: Yes, I just rise to indicate that we do have, on
16 this side of the bar, access to the transcripts other than
17 through the Court Management service, so I will be able to follow
18 counsel opposite, should he wish to read from any transcript.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is a safeguard.

12:40:21

20 MR BANGURA: That is helpful, your Honour. Thank you:

21 Q. Mr Witness, you have heard the question posed by learned
22 Justice Doherty. Apart from Fatou Gbembo, were there any other
23 persons on the base who went by the name Fatou - Fatou with any
24 other surname?

12:40:49

25 A. We had one Fatou Kallon.

26 Q. And who was this Fatou Kallon - was this person called
27 Fatou Kallon?

28 A. Fatou Kallon was one of the persons who was trained with
29 us, a lady, a Sierra Leonean.

1 Q. Do you know - did you know Fatou Kallon before you went to
2 the base?

3 A. I met Fatou Kallon on the base.

4 Q. And do you know where she was recruited from?

12:41:24 5 A. No. I met her on the base.

6 Q. Did this Fatou Kallon go with you to Sierra Leone when you
7 launched your invasion?

8 A. Yes, Fatou Kallon went with us.

9 Q. And which of the groups was Fatou Kallon with when you
12:41:51 10 moved into Sierra Leone?

11 A. Fatou Kallon was - joined the 2nd Battalion.

12 Q. Which is the battalion in which you were, correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And can you tell us what role Fatou Kallon played within
12:42:12 15 the RUF after you had moved into Sierra Leone?

16 A. Fatou Kallon was not fighting. She was with us.

17 Q. When you say she was not fighting, what then was she doing?

18 A. Well, she was a member of RUF. She was not armed like I
19 mean fighting on the front line, but she was based with us in the
12:42:45 20 2nd Battalion.

21 Q. Now, I know counsel has asked you before about a person
22 named Fatou Brown. Possibly at the risk of repeating yourself, I
23 will ask you a few questions about that person. You knew or did
24 you know somebody called Fatou Brown?

12:43:08 25 A. I said no. When my lawyer asked me, I said no and I am
26 still saying no. It was only Fatou Gbembo, Fatou Kallon, that I
27 know about.

28 Q. Did you know whether Foday Sankoh had a girlfriend at the
29 base?

1 A. No.

2 Q. You of course knew somebody called Joseph Brown. Do you
3 recall that name?

4 A. Yes.

12:43:38 5 Q. He was also at the base, correct?

6 A. Yes, Joseph Brown was on the base.

7 Q. [Microphone not activated] recruited from Gbarnga, correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did you grow up with Joseph Brown in Gbarnga?

12:43:59 10 A. No, no.

11 Q. You knew him before you went to the base, did you not?

12 A. I went to the base before I got to know Joseph Brown. It
13 was only Monica that I knew before going to the base. I knew
14 Monica, her father was a judge. I knew her. She used to visit
15 our house during normal days, and Fatou Gbembo.

12:44:23 16 Q. So you would not know about Joseph Brown's family
17 situation, whether he had brothers or sisters or a father or
18 mother? Would you know?

19 A. Whether he had a sister, I don't know. Whether he had a
12:44:44 20 brother, I don't know.

21 Q. Thank you. Have you told this Court that - I will come
22 back to the question of recruitment, your Honours. I can't at
23 this point make the proper references without myself having to
24 load up the transcripts. I will come back to that.

12:45:09 25 You told this Court that during the - and that you had a
26 wife while you were within the RUF, correct?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. In fact, in your words you said you had a woman, correct?

29 A. Exactly so.

1 Q. And when you said you had a woman, what did you mean?

2 A. I had a wife. A wife is a woman and a woman can be a wife
3 to a man. So it would not be strange to you if you heard that I
4 said I had a woman. I had a wife, I had a woman. A woman is a
12:46:00 5 wife and a wife is a woman.

6 Q. What nationality was your wife?

7 A. She is a Sierra Leonean.

8 Q. And you told this Court that she left you after you moved
9 to - she left you at some point, correct?

12:46:19 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. When exactly did she leave you?

12 A. She left me in 2003 in Kono.

13 Q. And this was before you came back to Liberia, correct?

14 A. It happened before I came back to Liberia.

12:46:43 15 Q. Was your wife a member of the RUF?

16 A. Yes, she was a member.

17 Q. When did she become a member of the RUF?

18 A. She became a member of the RUF in 1994 when I was assigned
19 at Bandawah, I mean Ngolahun Vaama.

12:47:06 20 Q. And do you recall how she became a member of the RUF?

21 A. When I took my assignment at Ngolahun Vaama I met her on
22 the ground and I approached her and then she agreed. I did not
23 capture her.

24 Q. Do you know which part of the country, Sierra Leone I mean,
12:47:30 25 your wife comes from?

26 A. Yes, she told me she was from Bo Kakua.

27 Q. And did she tell you when she became a member of the RUF?

28 A. I am telling you in 1994 I met her in Ngolahun Vaama where
29 I was assigned. I met her on the ground there. I proposed to

1 her, she told me she did not have any other person and she and I
2 fell in love. Until 2003.

3 Q. Well, you have told this Court already that when you met
4 her she was already a member of the RUF. Isn't that so?

12:48:12 5 A. I never told the Court that, that I already met her a
6 member of the RUF. They only asked me whether I had a wife, I
7 said yes, but we did not talk about my woman business. It is now
8 that we are talking about her.

9 Q. So let us get it very clearly then. Was she a member of
12:48:32 10 the RUF before you met her or was she not?

11 A. Yes. When I got to the ground, she was already on the
12 ground a member of the RUF when I met her.

13 Q. And my question again is do you know how she became a
14 member of the RUF? Did she tell you?

12:49:00 15 A. She said she liked the movement and that was how she joined
16 the movement.

17 Q. Did she just join voluntarily or did she join by some other
18 circumstance?

19 A. I don't think she was forced. We were not forcing people
12:49:26 20 to join the RUF. If you were willing, you joined. If you were
21 not willing, okay. We had civilians who were not members of RUF
22 and they lived as civilians. So no one was forced.

23 Q. Mr Witness, you have told this Court that your witness came
24 from Bo Kakua. Is that correct?

25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Wife, not witness.

26 MR BANGURA:

27 Q. Your wife came from Bo Kakua. Isn't that so?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. And you at the time you met her were at Ngolahun Vaama.

1 How far is Ngolahun Vaama from Bo?

12:50:27 2 A. It's a long distance. She was not in Bo. I said I met her
3 in Ngolahun Vaama where I was assigned. I met her in Ngolahun
4 Vaama where I was assigned. I want you to please take note of
5 that.

6 Q. And do you know why she was in Ngolahun Vaama and not in Bo
7 at this time?

8 A. Oh, my God. No. I never asked her why she was in Ngolahun
9 Vaama.

12:50:41 10 Q. What was her age when you met her?

11 A. No, and I can't tell you her age, but she was a mature
12 person. It looked like she was above 18. I am not talking about
13 a small girl here.

14 Q. Were you older than her?

12:51:02 15 A. Old man, I can't tell you whether I was older than her or I
16 was not older than her. I can't tell you I was older than her
17 but she was above that age. I did not go about asking her how
18 many years old she was, whether she was 13 or 14.

19 Q. You said you have four children. Did you have all four
12:51:25 20 children by this woman?

21 A. I had two from her and two from a girlfriend.

22 Q. And in the course of your relationship with this lady, you
23 were not able to find out her age at all at any point?

24 A. I said no.

12:51:53 25 Q. Was she 13 years old?

26 A. I can't tell you whether she was 14 years old. I never
27 asked her.

28 Q. You talked about weapons training at Naama and that you
29 were training with sticks. Correct?

1 A. Yes. The recruits were trained with sticks. When they
2 were going for road mile, tactical movement we were training with
3 sticks. But arms class, we had some few unfunctional weapons
4 that we were trained with.

12:52:42 5 Q. Correct. You talked about a GPMG that was not functioning,
6 not so?

7 A. That's the weapon I am talking about, yes.

8 Q. You talked about a G3 that was also not functioning,
9 correct?

12:52:57 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And you talked about RPG, correct?

12 A. Right.

13 Q. Just to be clear, when you talk about RPG in this context,
14 did this include the rocket, the weapon and the rocket, or were
15 you only referring to just the weapon?

12:53:20 16 A. I am talking about the barrel. If we had rocket in it, I
17 would have said we had rocket. But it was the barrel that we
18 were training on. We can't train on rockets. Nobody had a
19 rocket. We were training on the barrel. In case it became
20 defected, what you do to put it back together. But we were not
21 trained with rockets, no, no, no.

22 Q. And again your testimony is that the RPG itself was not
23 functioning, not so?

24 A. Yes. I said the RPG was not functioning. I said all the
12:54:00 25 weapons, the G3, 30 calibre, the GPMG, they were all not
26 functioning. We were just training on them so that in case you
27 went on operation and your arm gave up, the methods you could
28 apply to put them back together. That's all.

29 Q. So, in effect, Mr Witness, all of the armed training or the

1 weapons training you had did not involve anybody firing a single
2 shot from a weapon, correct?

3 A. No, we were not firing. We were not firing. We never
4 fired on the base to say we were testing weapons, this or that,
12:54:43 5 no. We were just doing that training.

6 Q. And which then suggests that the only time that you, as
7 well as your colleagues, were able to fire a weapon was when you
8 attacked Sierra Leone, when you had found weapons kept somewhere
9 and were able to use those weapons. Is that correct?

12:55:10 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Have you heard the expression battle shy, it's normally
12 referred to soldiers. A battle shy soldier. Have you heard it
13 before?

14 A. Please repeat your question.

12:55:31 15 Q. You know, it's normally said that some soldiers are battle
16 shy. Have you heard that expression before?

17 A. No. Battle shy, no. Except if you told me what that word
18 means.

19 Q. It is the case, Mr Witness, that when soldiers are exposed
12:56:00 20 to battle for the first time, even after they have had good
21 training, they sometimes are not confident enough to stand the
22 moment to shoot, to fire a gun. They run away from the sound of
23 gunshots. Isn't that the case, sometimes?

24 A. Well, in my case, no. When I was trained, my first day I
12:56:28 25 received arms I was brave. I was brave. Because that was my
26 target. If I was not brave, it wouldn't have been good for me.
27 So I became brave since we were on the base. So I was not afraid
28 of any sound.

29 Q. Mr Witness, you are an experienced commander. My question

1 is not just about yourself. This is a general case, isn't it -
2 as an experienced commander, haven't you experienced the
3 situation where, people being exposed to battle for the first
4 time, sometimes run away. They are not able to fire their
12:57:02 5 weapons because they have never been exposed to an environment or
6 a situation where there is gunshot everywhere. Isn't that the
7 case?

8 A. It's happened to other people, but it never happened in our
9 case because we were charged for a particular target and if we
12:57:22 10 lost that target, you know, it would have been - it will have
11 taken a long time for us to get that place. So nobody was
12 afraid. We all moved equally and we engaged equally.

13 Q. So you want this Court to believe that a whole bunch of
14 fighters, recruits, over a 180 of you, newly trained, never had
12:57:48 15 an experience in fighting, suddenly took weapons for the first
16 time and you overrun a barracks which was protected by
17 experienced and well-trained soldiers; you want this Court to
18 believe that?

19 A. Oh, yes, the Court has to believe it because the action is
12:58:10 20 there. The action is there. It doesn't mean that because the
21 soldier was trained and sitting in the barracks, it means nobody
22 can overrun him. No. We have certain things we call tactics in
23 fighting. We surprise them. We just surprised them. It was a
24 surprise attack.

12:58:27 25 Q. Did you lose men at all on that day that you attacked the
26 barracks at Bo Gendema?

27 A. I never lost men, but men were wounded.

28 Q. I'm are not talking about you personally. I am talking
29 about the group.

1 A. Yes, that is what I am saying. I said we never lost men,
2 but men were wounded. I am not talking about myself.

3 Q. Mr Witness, you said that the number of you at the base was
4 381, quite precisely, correct?

12:59:11 5 A. Yes, we were 381.

6 Q. And on the day you left the base, that is, your group, this
7 number was divided into two; into the 1st Battalion and the
8 2nd Battalion, correct?

9 A. Yes, you are correct.

12:59:38 10 Q. And the number was an equal division of this - the 381 men
11 so that each battalion had about 180. Is that correct?

12 A. I said we were 381 divided into two. It was divided into
13 two; 1st and 2nd Battalions.

14 Q. So that each battalion had 180 men, correct?

13:00:09 15 A. If that is the number you have there, then, yes. But we
16 were 381, and 381 divided by 2; 1st Battalion and 2nd Battalion.

17 Q. Your testimony is that the 1st Battalion commander was
18 Rashid Mansaray, correct?

19 A. The 1st Battalion commander was Rashid, yes.

13:00:34 20 Q. His deputy was somebody called Abdul Rahman Bangura,
21 correct?

22 A. Abdul Rahman Bangura. Abdul Rahman Bangura.

23 Q. This was the battalion that headed to Kailahun, correct?

24 A. Exactly so.

13:00:53 25 Q. Your battalion, which was the 2nd Battalion, was headed by
26 Mike Lamin as commander, correct?

27 A. You got it right.

28 Q. And AB Wangbe was the deputy?

29 A. Yes, you got it right.

1 Q. You told this Court that your battalion was the first to
2 leave Naama and you left on 1 March 1991, correct?

3 A. Yes.

13:01:37

4 Q. Now, just before we go - and I would like to read to you
5 the testimony of a witness who came before this Court, again only
6 a few weeks ago, and he gave testimony to these events that we're
7 discussing now.

13:02:14

8 Your Honours, I will refer to the testimony of DCT-025, 12
9 March 2010. I will be reading from quite a few pages, starting
10 from page 37252. I hope everybody's on that page. I am reading
11 from line 21 of page 37252 - actually, at line 21 there is an
12 intervention by Justice Doherty. She states:

13:03:19

13 "JUSTICE DOHERTY: Mr Chekera, before you move off, I
14 thought I heard the interpreter say '20 March' on two occasions
15 and it's been recorded on - each time it's '28'. I am not sure
16 which it should be."

13:03:42

17 Basically, the learned justice was trying to seek
18 clarification about the dates that you had given - sorry that
19 that witness had given. Then counsel asked:

20 "Q. What date did you leave Naama?

21 A. I said 20, 20. Sorry, I said March 20, two zero.

22 Q. Two, zero?

23 A. March 20, 1991."

13:04:15

24 Now, I go on to - moving back and forth, I go on to page
25 37254 and I read from line 7 on that page. This is the witness.
26 Again the Presiding Judge intervenes and says:

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: That's when he left Naama. That's when
28 he left. I am asking when did he go to Naama. Mr Witness, when
29 did you go to Naama?"

1 Sorry, I did not indicate I was reading from line 4. And
2 the answer the witness gave was:

3 "THE WITNESS: I said I went to Naama in August. August 20
4 I went to Naama. I left Naama in March 20."

13:05:09 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: August of which year? August of which
6 year?

7 THE WITNESS: August 1990. I went to Naama August 1990."

8 Now, Mr Witness, this witness who was testifying before
9 this Court is a witness that eventually went to Kailahun, as he
13:05:31 10 told the Court. Now, do you know on which date that the 2nd -
11 rather, 1st Battalion left Naama to go to Kailahun?

12 A. No. I would not have been in Pujehun District then, I tell
13 you, when people left to go to Kailahun. If I told you that, I
14 would be lying to you. That was his own date that he showed you.

13:06:00 15 So I can't speak for him, because he went with a separate group
16 and I went with a separate group. So I cannot tell you that it
17 was on this date or that date that they went to Kailahun, no. If
18 I did, I would be lying to you.

19 Q. Thank you. I read from page 37253, line 16. Mr Witness,
13:06:29 20 you have told this Court the names of the commanders of the
21 different battalions and their deputies, correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Let's hear what this witness had to say about the
24 commanders. Your Honours, let me take a question before that.

13:06:53 25 In fact, this has to do with - do you know somebody called Daniel
26 OK George?

27 A. Yes. I can remember that name Daniel OK George.

28 Q. What do you remember about this name?

29 A. Daniel OK George was with us at the base. That was why I

1 said I can remember that name. He trained with us on the base,
2 Daniel OK George.

3 Q. What nationality was he?

4 A. He is a Sierra Leonean.

13:07:36 5 Q. Did he hold any position, or did he play any role in the
6 course of your training at Naama?

7 A. Um, I have now forgotten the role he played, but I remember
8 that he was on the base with us.

9 Q. Remember you told - you called the name of your adjutant at
13:08:01 10 the base, and who was that person; do you recall?

11 A. I said Jonathan Kposowa.

12 Q. Let us see what this witness says about who the adjutant
13 was. Your Honours, 37253, line 16:

14 "Q. And you said the adjutant was calling out names. Do
13:08:27 15 you recall the name of the adjutant?

16 A. Yes. The adjutant at that time was Daniel OK George.
17 He was the first adjutant for the RUF.

18 Q. You said Daniel OK George, is that it?

19 A. Yes, yes.

13:08:48 20 Q. The middle name OK, are those initials or is that a
21 word?

22 A. That is how we used to call him. That was his name,
23 Daniel OK George."

24 So, Mr Witness, we have here a witness who came before this
13:09:05 25 Court and said that the adjutant at the base was somebody called
26 Daniel OK George, and your testimony is that the adjutant at the
27 base was Jonathan Kposowa. So who is this Court supposed to
28 believe? Who is not telling the truth?

29 A. You heard the man talking about the first adjutant. You

1 should at first try to look at the English. Maybe when he got
2 there that was the adjutant that he met on the ground, but I met
3 Jonathan Kposowa as the adjutant on the base, the general
4 adjutant, and he served as general adjutant for the RUF until the
13:09:51 5 end of the war.

6 Q. Well, Mr Witness, if you say so, I will try and read for
7 you the whole context of this transcript. Because what I believe
8 the witness is describing here is the call-out of names on the
9 day they were about to leave the base. I will just go before
13:10:12 10 that. The same page, 37253, I will take it from line 3:

11 "Q. You say the bell was rung and you ran to it. What
12 sort of place is this that you referred to when you say
13 that you ran to this place?

14 A. It was the formation ground where each time we go for
13:10:38 15 PT. They ring that bell and all of us go out there in
16 order to take off for jogging.

17 Q. And you say there was a truck that was parked there?

18 A. There was a truck parked there.

19 Q. What sort of truck was it?

13:10:59 20 A. It was a big truck sealed at the top with a tarpaulin.
21 It was a big truck. I can't give the name of the truck
22 because I didn't see the name of the truck.

23 Q. And you said the adjutant was calling out names. Do
24 you remember the name of the adjutant?

13:11:21 25 A. Yes. The adjutant at the time was Daniel OK George.
26 He was the first adjutant for the RUF at the time."

27 And we already know that this witness left with the 2nd
28 Battalion - the 1st Battalion to go to Kailahun, which was a date
29 much later than when you left; isn't that so?

1 A. The 1st Battalion never went to Kailahun. No, okay, the
2 1st Battalion went to Kailahun and the 2nd Battalion went to
3 Pujehun. Daniel OK George, I met him there. He was not an
4 adjutant. Kposowa was the adjutant that I know about and up to
13:12:05 5 this - up to now and then Kposowa was the general adjutant. So I
6 don't actually know about Daniel OK George being the adjutant for
7 us on the base except that I am hearing it from this person's
8 report. But I know about Jonathan Kposowa. I think it's not
9 just me sitting here that can attest to that. So most people are
13:12:30 10 hearing me, they know who is lying and who is saying the truth.

11 Q. So, in effect, this person who testified before the Court
12 that Daniel OK George was the adjutant as of March 20, 1991, was
13 not telling the truth. Is that what you are saying?

14 A. I cannot say he was not telling the truth. The man said he
13:12:55 15 was the first adjutant at the time he got there. Maybe at the
16 time he got there. But when I got there, Martin George, Jonathan
17 Kposowa was the adjutant throughout those times until I time I
18 left.

19 Q. If Daniel George was not the adjutant in March 1991, why
13:13:17 20 was he the one who was calling out the names of recruits who were
21 to go to Kailahun to join the truck?

22 A. Repeat your question.

23 Q. I got myself mixed up. Why was Daniel OK George the one
24 calling out names, if he was not the adjutant? This was in March
13:13:45 25 1991.

26 A. I am telling you that I don't know about Daniel OK George
27 calling names. The person that I know that was taking care of
28 names was Jonathan Kposowa. I keep telling that you Daniel OK
29 George was the adjutant. The person I know about is the person

1 that I am talking about.

2 Q. Mr Witness, how did you leave the camp, your battalion,
3 your group?

4 A. I left on board the car. I did not walk to go.

13:14:24 5 Q. Well, I am talking about the whole lot of you, not just you
6 alone. And when you say car, what sort of car?

7 A. I said the group was divided into two. We were the first
8 people who left in the 2nd Battalion and I went on board a
9 pick-up truck. The first batch left on the truck. And the
10 second batch stayed on the base. I said it in my statement.

13:14:46

11 Q. It may not have been clear to me, Mr Witness. When you
12 said you left on a truck - now you've said a car, you've said a
13 pick-up and then you've said a truck. Let's be clear. What sort
14 of vehicle did you get into that took you?

13:15:06

15 A. I told you truck. Truck. A four-tyred truck. A Toyota
16 truck for that matter. Toyota truck, four tyres.

17 Q. And how many of you were in that Toyota truck?

18 A. I told you, I said we were 381 and it was divided equally.

13:15:35

19 Q. So we have already established that there were 180 of you,
20 correct?

21 A. You got it right. You know, and --

22 Q. So the question is: How many of you went into that truck?
23 That's the question.

13:15:59

24 A. I said 181 or 80. The 381 was divided into two. One group
25 went one side and the other group went on the other side. So how
26 do you want me to answer this question?

27 Q. So this was a four-tyred truck, right?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. And how big really was this truck?

1 A. It's a four-tyred truck. A four-tyred truck is not
2 different from other four-tyred trucks.

3 Q. And all 181 of you fitted into that four-tyred truck?

4 A. We fitted there neat. We fitted there very neat.

13:16:39 5 Q. Remember you told the Court that Foday Sankoh escorted your
6 group?

7 A. Oh, yes, I said it. And I am still saying it. He escorted
8 us and then later he returned to the base.

9 Q. Where was he when he escorted your group?

13:16:55 10 A. Oh, I was already in the truck and we were moving. He was
11 slowly driving behind us. I was not on the base. I was already
12 in the first group.

13 Q. And you have told this Court that your journey was a very
14 long one, and how long was it before you got to the point of
13:17:15 15 disembarkation? How long were you on the truck before you
16 disembarked you said somewhere before Grand Cape Mount?

17 A. I told this Court that we passed through Fassama and after
18 passing through Fassama we got to the Belle Forest - I mean the
19 Gola Forest. That was what I said. And then we alighted from
13:17:40 20 the truck and the truck went back and we started walking on the
21 road. That is what I said to this Court and that is what I
22 continue stating to this Court.

23 Q. Mr Witness, let me just read to you what the other witness
24 said in relation to division of the men at Naama into battalions
13:18:02 25 and movements from Naama. Your Honours, I read from page 37254,
26 line 20:

27 "Q. You were gathered in this ground where you fall in,
28 your adjutant is calling out names. There is a truck.
29 What happens if your name is called?

1 A. When they call out your name, they will tell you to get
2 on board and you get into the truck.

3 Q. You said there were 300 of you eventually when you
4 trained at Naama. Did all the 300 of you get on this
13:18:55 5 truck?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Do you know approximately how many got on the truck?

8 A. On the first day when I was called, I was on the truck.
9 We were about 150.

13:19:13 10 Q. And do you know what happened to the other 150, if we
11 go by your 300 total number?

12 A. I did not say 350."

13 He probably misheard.

14 "Q. Let me rephrase the question. What happened to the
13:19:35 15 rest of the group that was at Naama besides the 150 that
16 got on to the truck?

17 A. We left them there and we boarded and the truck went.

18 When we got into the truck they told the driver to move.

19 This is how we left. The other group that stayed behind, I
13:20:10 20 did not know what happened to them at the time because we
21 had already left the place.

22 Q. Did you get to know eventually what happened to the
23 group that you left behind?

24 A. I did not know until when we got to Koindu when I heard
13:20:31 25 over the BBC that some of the RUF members had entered
26 through another area. I did not know whether they were the
27 ones or not."

28 And then I will move a few lines down to line 22:

29 "Q. You said you heard on the BBC that RUF members had

1 entered through another area. When you say entered, where
2 had they entered?

3 A. I heard about Pujehun.

13:21:09

4 Q. Pujehun is where? Where is Pujehun? In which country
5 is Pujehun?

6 A. Pujehun is in Sierra Leone."

7 Mr Witness, you heard the testimony of this witness who
8 told the Court that they left Naama, the first group, on 20 March
9 1991. Did you get that?

13:21:33

10 A. Yes, I get the person's own side of the story.

11 Q. And he says that at the time that they left Naama, the rest
12 of the group, the other half of the group, which was the group
13 that eventually ended up in Pujehun, had not yet left. Did you
14 get that?

13:22:00

15 A. That is what he is saying.

16 Q. Your testimony before the Court is that you left Naama on 1
17 March 1991, which is a good almost three weeks before 20 March.
18 So who is not telling the Court the truth here?

13:22:33

19 A. I can't say that that man is not telling the Court the
20 truth, but I believe that the date I showed you is the date I
21 left. If you know the distance from Naama to the Koindu border,
22 it's not a two days' walk. If you know the distance from Naama
23 to Grand Cape Mount County, it's not a two days' walk. You
24 understand? So I know and I believe that I left before - that
25 is, the 2nd Battalion left before the 1st Battalion left. The
26 first place I passed through is what I have spoken about.

13:23:02

27 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be
28 requested to slow down again.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are going to have to

1 repeat your testimony, because everything you said running nobody
2 understood. Now kindly repeat what you said, slowly.

3 MS IRURA: Your Honour, LiveNote is now functional, we have
4 been informed.

13:23:31 5 THE WITNESS: I said I cannot say that the witness is
6 lying. That is the witness's own side of the story. But I
7 believe that the 2nd Battalion first left and I was in that
8 particular group. The distance from Camp Naama to Grand Cape
9 Mount is not an hour's journey. From Naama to Koindu is not a
13:23:52 10 week's journey. So if you are talking about that, I cannot say
11 he is lying; I cannot say he is saying the truth. But I believe
12 that the 2nd Battalion was the first batch that left and Foday
13 Sankoh escorted us and he returned to meet the 1st Battalion.

14 MR BANGURA:

13:24:18 15 Q. Your testimony is that on the way you were stopped and
16 questioned by NPFL soldiers. Isn't that so?

17 A. We were not stopped. I never said we were stopped. I said
18 Mike Lamin was the head of the group and when we met any NPFL
19 soldiers, Mike Lamin answered questions, the reason why we were
13:24:48 20 moving. We moved with Mike Lamin. Not the whole group stopped
21 to answer questions. Mike Lamin, who was the commander, was
22 responsible to answer questions, but not us. That was what I
23 said. I said Mike Lamin.

24 Q. Now, how was Mike Lamin travelling? Because you have said
13:25:06 25 that the whole lot of you travelled in one truck and you say that
26 it was not every one of you that was stopping to answer
27 questions. If Mike Lamin was stopping to answer questions while
28 the rest of you were proceeding, how was he travelling?

29 A. I want you to get me right, the way I am saying it. I said

1 we were in the truck and after Fassama we alighted from the
2 truck, I suppose you got that, and we started walking in group.
3 Those of us who were in the truck in Naama, all of us, we all
4 moved together. No one stayed behind. And Mike Lamin was in
13:25:47 5 charge of us. I said he was answering the questions, not us. He
6 was responsible because he was the head of us. So if there were
7 any questions, he was responsible for answering them. The
8 questions were not referred to every one of us.

9 Q. And what sort of questions were asked about your group?
13:26:07 10 What did Mike Lamin have to answer to?

11 A. I was not there to stand by him and listen to the
12 questions, but we were stopped at points and he would tell us to
13 go ahead and we left him there and later he will join us. I was
14 not standing there to know whether they were asking him, "Where
13:26:29 15 are you going to," or "Where are you taking that manpower to?"
16 No, no, no. No. And most of the towns we passed through, in
17 fact, there were no soldiers. Only civilians. Just few armed
18 men that you could see in the town. There was no fighting
19 around, so we made our way through.

13:26:46 20 Q. So at these points where you were stopped as you made your
21 way from Fassama, were they like checkpoints?

22 A. No checkpoints. I said in the towns, when we entered the
23 towns, there were no checkpoints there. There were no enemy
24 activities around that area. The places were free zones for the
13:27:07 25 civilians that we met there. A free zone.

26 Q. Did Mike Lamin tell you what he - what answers he gave
27 about the purpose of your movement, such a large group, 180 of
28 you?

29 A. I said no. I never bothered myself to ask him, or we never

1 bothered ourselves to ask him because we were - he was the head
2 of us, so he took care. We were not bothered to ask him what was
3 happening there, what did they ask you, or what have you. Our
4 concern was to get to where we were heading for.

13:27:42 5 Q. Your testimony is that you took about 18 days to get to the
6 crossing point, at the crossing point between Liberia and Sierra
7 Leone. Is that correct?

8 A. Exactly so.

9 Q. And at that point you said there were NPFL soldiers
10 guarding or security who were present at the border crossing
11 point. Isn't that so?

12 A. When I am talking about - I mean, Mano River bridge is
13 different from where we crossed. I said there was a crossing
14 point. The Mano River - there was the Mano River bridge where
13:28:27 15 NPFL soldiers were deployed. I want you to get that correct.

16 The place where the arms were kept was a crossing point.

17 Q. When you say a crossing point, was this - how far was this
18 crossing point from the Mano River bridge then?

19 A. It is far off. It is far off from the Mano River bridge.
13:28:52 20 It is far off. When I talk about crossing points, it's a place
21 you see people cross in canoes. We never crossed over the Mano
22 River bridge to enter Sierra Leone, no. I told you in my
23 statement that we passed through the crossing points. Some
24 people even swam across and some people got into canoes to cross.

13:29:14 25 Q. Was there a town or village at the crossing point?

26 A. At the crossing points, yes, but it was an abandoned
27 village, close to the crossing points, yes. We slept there.

28 Q. So when you launched your attack on the barracks at Bo
29 Gendema, where were you launching this attack from?

1 A. We crossed into Sierra Leone. We were not in Liberia
2 launching attacks. We crossed in the canoes after. We had armed
3 ourselves, we crossed in the canoes. The few arms that we met
4 there - the few arms that we saw there, they were distributed to
13:30:08 5 those who could carry them.

6 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be
7 advised to repeat that last bit.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, could you just repeat your
9 evidence. We didn't hear what you said. You are too quick.

13:30:24 10 THE WITNESS: I said we crossed into Sierra Leone. We were
11 not in Liberia when we started attacking the barracks in Sierra
12 Leone. We crossed into Sierra Leone before we started the
13 attack.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, I think this is an
13:30:40 15 appropriate moment to break for the lunch break. We will
16 reconvene at 2.30.

17 [Lunch break taken at 1.30 p.m.]

18 [Upon resuming at 2.34 p.m.]

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good afternoon. Mr Bangura, please
14:34:28 20 continue with your cross-examination.

21 MR BANGURA: Thank you, Madam President:

22 Q. Good afternoon, Mr Witness.

23 A. Good afternoon.

24 Q. We'll continue with your testimony. Mr Witness, you will
14:34:58 25 recall that just before the break we were discussing the
26 situation where you attacked the barracks at Bo Gendema, correct?

27 A. Yes, that was the topic we were on before we went for
28 break.

29 Q. And you had told us that at the crossing point you found a

1 cache of weapons and ammunition, correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And in your testimony you gave the quantities that you
4 found at this point. So just to remind you, or recall your
14:35:57 5 memory, you said you found 45 AKs, that is AK-47 weapons, rifles.
6 Do you recall that?

7 A. I can remember that. It's all in my statement and I said
8 that.

9 Q. And you talked about three RPGs that you found, correct?

14:36:21 10 A. Yes, three RPGs were included.

11 Q. And in terms of GPMGs, you simply said a few GPMGs. You
12 did not quite give a number.

13 A. I said two. I said two. Two GPMG, three RPGs with 45 AK
14 rifles. That was what I said in my statement.

14:36:45 15 Q. Thank you for the correction. And you also mentioned that
16 you found eight boxes of AK rounds, this is ammunition, for the
17 AK rifles, correct?

18 A. Exactly so.

19 Q. And six boxes of RPG rockets?

14:37:04 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And you told this Court that this material were covered
22 with tarpaulin in the location where you found them?

23 A. Yes, that was what I said. We met them there.

24 Q. And I believe your counsel on the other side asked you how
14:37:32 25 they got there and you said you did not know.

26 A. That was what I said. I said I don't know, but we found
27 them there.

28 Q. But then you also said that this was a question for Mike
29 Lamin, according to you, because he only told you to go ahead and

1 that there was something ahead for you.

2 A. Yes, I said it, because when we were going we had no arms.
3 That was why we were asking him how were we going to do the
4 thing, and he said, "Let's go ahead. Something is ahead of us."

14:38:11 5 And when we went ahead, we found the arms packed at that crossing
6 point covered with tarpaulin.

7 Q. And did Mike Lamin explain to you at all how the arms had
8 been brought there?

9 A. No. When we found the arm - when we found the arms,
14:38:35 10 everybody was happy. There was no need to ask questions. What
11 we were asking for has now been found, so there was no need to
12 ask Mike Lamin. He had told us to go ahead and we've gone ahead
13 and found the things, so there was no need for us to ask him.

14 Q. But in your thinking, did you - let me rephrase. The
14:39:05 15 quantity of material that was there was quite large, isn't that
16 so? I mean, given the numbers that we have discussed.

17 A. The materials that were there, I am talking about 45 AKs.
18 It's not a large quantity of materials. It was just for 45 men.
19 And looking at the group that we had, and we are talking about 45
14:39:29 20 arms, tell me now, how many people would use 45 arms? It was not
21 a large cache of arms and ammunition. It was just few. It could
22 not arm all the men, in fact.

23 Q. Bringing those materials at that location would have
24 required a little bit of effort on the part of whoever did the
14:39:51 25 work. Isn't that so?

26 A. If it requires certain effort? That question is for Mike
27 Lamin. I met the arms there. I do not know what effort was
28 required. We met them on the ground. It was Mike Lamin who was
29 supposed to answer that question.

1 Q. You did not know whether Mike Lamin at any point had left
2 the base to come and arrange the weapons delivery at that point,
3 did you?

4 A. I never knew anything like that, but he told us to go
14:40:26 5 ahead. After we had asked him, he told us to go ahead and
6 something would be ahead of us. And when we got there, we found
7 the particular arms parked there covered with tarpaulin.

8 Q. In other words, Mike Lamin was with you at the base for
9 most of the time that you were there. He had not left for a long
14:40:42 10 period without being seen. Isn't that so?

11 A. Yes, Mike Lamin was on the base with us.

12 Q. So it was not likely that Mike Lamin put those arms there -
13 brought them there?

14 A. I said I don't know. I don't know. I found the arms
14:41:05 15 there. We asked Mike Lamin how we were going to do the operation
16 and he told us to go ahead and when we got there, we found the
17 arms parked there to where we were heading. Whether it was he
18 who took them there or it went there by itself, I don't know.

19 Q. You would agree that those arms did not just appear at that
14:41:25 20 point mysteriously, somebody took them there, would you not?

21 A. That's what I'm telling you. Whether it was taken there by
22 somebody, I don't know. I found them parked there. I never met
23 somebody there and now to say I met somebody there. If I had met
24 somebody there, I would have told you that I met one or two
14:41:49 25 persons standing there. But when I went there, the arms were
26 parked there. I do not know whether somebody took the arms
27 there.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you're running again. When
29 you answer, please answer slowly. There is no need to run.

1 You're not in a hurry.

2 THE WITNESS: Okay, Madam President, I'm sorry.

3 MR BANGURA:

14:42:14 4 Q. For instance, Mr Witness, for that quantity of material a
5 vehicle might have been used to deliver them at that location;
6 isn't that so?

7 A. I don't know. I really don't know what you want to hear
8 from me apart from "I don't know". I don't know. I found them
9 parked there. Whether it was taken there by a car, I don't know.
14:42:34 10 I am still telling you that I don't know how it got there, and I
11 don't know.

12 Q. What kind of weapons or material were these? Were they
13 new, were they used?

14 A. They were weapons to be used. It was not old, it was not
14:43:04 15 new. It was not in plastic. It was not in a paper to say it was
16 wrapped, no. We found them parked there just like that and
17 covered with tarpaulin.

18 Q. It's not entirely clear when you say "It was not new, it
19 was not old". They did not appear to be new, did they?

14:43:30 20 A. It appeared like weapons parked there. They were not in
21 plastic. New weapons could be in boxes or in plastic. A new
22 weapon, it could be in a box with plastic on it. But this was
23 not in a plastic. That's what I mean.

24 Q. How far into Sierra Leone did you go after the crossing
14:44:04 25 point before you launched your attack on the barrack at Bo
26 Gendema?

27 A. When we crossed the border, we walked for a mile - you
28 know, a mile in Sierra Leone. We walked for about one mile
29 before we get to the barracks at the Bo Waterside - Bo Gendema, I

1 mean. We walked for one mile.

2 Q. Your testimony is that after you had taken the barracks,
3 after you had overrun the barracks, you then continued to move
4 into other parts of the district, that is, Pujehun District,
14:44:45 5 correct?

6 A. After we had gotten the barracks, we went to Zimmi. Zimmi
7 was the second target.

8 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly be instructed
9 to repeat his answer slowly.

14:45:00 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we didn't hear what you said.
11 You said after you went to Zimmi, what happened?

12 THE WITNESS: I said from Bo Waterside - when we captured
13 Bo Waterside, we advanced to Zimmi. From Zimmi, some groups
14 headed for Pujehun.

14:45:27 15 MR BANGURA:

16 Q. And you eventually captured Zimmi. Isn't that so?

17 A. Yes, we captured Zimmi.

18 Q. And went on to capture other towns like Potoru, isn't that
19 so, and then eventually Pujehun?

14:45:52 20 A. Exactly so.

21 Q. Now, counsel asked you about what normally happened when
22 you captured a town. I'm referring to the transcript of 22 April
23 2010 at page 39665. He asked you when you captured a place, what
24 did that mean? Did that mean that you had control of the place?

14:46:34 25 A. Excuse me, I said yes. Because when we capture a town,
26 there would be no enemy activities there. So what we do was to
27 call the civilians and talk to them, appoint our chiefs to take
28 over the town, then we would walk. We would advance to another
29 area.

1 Q. May I respectfully ask that the transcript for that date be
2 up. I see it's up. Now, I'll just read back to you what you
3 said to this Court. I'm reading from line 15:

4 "Q. And you say when you get to a place what would happen
14:47:58 5 after you captured the place?

6 A. When we captured a place we call the people, we call
7 the civilians. We talk to them, we ask them whether there
8 were any enemies remaining in the town. If enemies were
9 there they will point them out to us. If there were no
14:48:19 10 enemies they will tell us that there were no enemies, and
11 immediately we would organise a group from among the
12 civilians to guard their towns. We would call the chief
13 and we would make him the town commander, and from that
14 point we would move."

14:48:40 15 Now, you talk about enemies here. Who did you refer to, or
16 who did you consider the enemy in this case?

17 A. The enemy that I am talking about is the enemy that shoots
18 against me, shoots at me, like a soldier when I enter a town.
19 Those were the ones I referred to as enemies because they were in
14:49:08 20 arms.

21 Q. Was it always only those who would shoot against you that
22 you considered your enemies, especially in this context?

23 A. Really yes, anybody who takes up an arm against me is my
24 enemy. Who shoots at me is my enemy. Because he's shooting at
14:49:28 25 me when he is able, so I classify him as my enemy.

26 Q. Now, do you recall your earlier testimony before this Court
27 when you told the Court about how Augustine Gbao tried to join
28 your group at Naama at the base at Naama? Do you recall that
29 testimony?

1 A. Yes, I said so, and I can still remember all that I said
2 about Augustine Gbao.

3 Q. I'll soon give the reference, but you did say that
4 Augustine Gbao - you were going to treat him like somebody who
14:50:06 5 was spying on you and was an enemy. Isn't that so?

6 A. He was a spy. He was a spy. We did not know how he got to
7 the place. He was a spy. Foday Sankoh took us there and we knew
8 that he took us there. Augustine Gbao entered the base and we
9 did not know how he entered the base, so we took him to be a spy;
14:50:34 10 someone who comes and spies on people and takes the news away.

11 So he was arrested. That was what where mean.

12 Q. Do you recall the kind of treatment which you were about to
13 mete out to Augustine Gbao? You told this Court that you had him
14 to dig his grave and you were going to, I believe, execute him
14:51:02 15 before Foday Sankoh came. Isn't that so?

16 A. Yes. That was the plan on the base. We did not know where
17 he had come from. He couldn't tell us where he had come from, so
18 really he was taken down to the swamp.

19 Q. Now, this treatment which you gave Augustine Gbao - or you
14:51:26 20 were about to give to Augustine Gbao was typical of the treatment
21 that you gave to people whom you called your enemies; isn't that
22 so?

23 A. You see, during a battle we have two types of enemies. Not
24 just the one that fires against me and I surrender, no. When we
14:51:51 25 are firing equally and I am able to overcome you in a battle, you
26 are my enemy. But as long as you surrender to me and put up your
27 hands, I will not treat you as an enemy. As long as you
28 surrender to me there is no need, and we had most of them.

29 Q. In the case of Augustine Gbao, on that occasion he was not

1 firing at you, was he?

2 A. Augustine Gbao was not firing. I wonder if you're getting
3 me clearly. We were training. We were training. We did not
4 know where he had come from. He just walked on to the base. We
14:52:24 5 did not beat him but we screened him, carried him to dig his own
6 grave to know why he had come. Then at last he told us he had
7 not come with any evil intention. You do that when you capture
8 an enemy to find out whether he came with something or came on
9 reconnaissance to know his mind. He came out plainly and said he
14:52:53 10 had not come with any different intention. He had heard about
11 the base and that was why he had come to train, and that was all
12 and he joined us. So we were not taking him to be an enemy, but
13 we needed to do that so that we can know his intention, yes.

14 Q. In his case how he was going to be executed if the process
14:53:10 15 had not been stopped?

16 A. Well, he was going to bear the consequence because nobody
17 called him to come to the base. He was going to tell us exactly,
18 but he couldn't convince us. The only blessing was Foday Sankoh,
19 who took us to the base. He said he knew him. He knew Augustine
14:53:34 20 Gbao. He said we should leave him alone, and he was set free.

21 Q. Mr Witness, the question is in the case of Augustine Gbao,
22 you had him already dug his grave and you were going to execute
23 him. How were you going to execute him if the process was not
24 stopped when Foday Sankoh came? How?

14:54:03 25 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat his answer
26 slowly.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry, Mr George, can you please repeat
28 your answer. We didn't hear any of it interpreted. Please
29 repeat your answer slowly.

1 THE WITNESS: I said we could have beaten him up till he
2 dies. We hadn't arms to shoot him.

3 MR BANGURA:

4 Q. You're giving us the possibility, but the - you had a
14:54:34 5 definite intention. You are giving us what could have happened,
6 but you had a definite intention at that point in time to kill -
7 to execute Augustine Gbao. How did you intend to do it? is the
8 question.

9 A. To kill him. What's the difference there? You can stab
14:54:51 10 the man to death. It's not just arms that can kill somebody.
11 You can stab somebody to death; you can beat somebody to death.

12 Q. Mr Witness, the question is I believe very clear. You had
13 an intention at that point to kill Augustine Gbao. How did you
14 intend to do it? That's the question.

14:55:12 15 A. If Foday Sankoh had not come to say, "Oh, I know him.
16 Leave him alone," we could have beaten him to death. Is that
17 correct?

18 Q. Mr Witness, this style of having what you called your
19 enemies digging up their grave before you executed them was very
14:55:35 20 typical of the RUF, wasn't it?

21 A. Say that again. Repeat your question. Let me get it
22 clearly.

23 Q. The treatment which you were about to mete out to Augustine
24 Gbao, have him dig his grave and then execute him, was a very
14:55:59 25 typical style of how you treated persons whom you regarded or you
26 called your enemies. Isn't that so?

27 A. I told you no and I showed you different kinds of enemies.
28 When I'm fighting on the front line against my opponent, firing
29 at each other, when he surrenders himself, I have nothing to do

1 with him. That means I have overcome him. It's not the same as
2 coming to spy on me to take news along. Are you getting it?

3 Q. Now, where you captured, as in the case of Pujehun or
4 Zimmi, where you captured a town and you had the civilians, you
14:56:50 5 also in cases like those you had people who tried to run away.
6 Isn't that so?

7 A. Run away from what? From the town?

8 Q. [Microphone not activated] yes?

9 A. Oh, yes. When you run away, we have no problem with you
14:57:08 10 because you are running away from us.

11 Q. When such persons your captured, they were subjected to a
12 certain kind of treatment, weren't they?

13 A. No. I told you that we had some soldiers that we captured
14 like Poto Poto [phon]. We had them. They surrendered themselves
14:57:30 15 to us at the battlefield. We had nothing against them. They
16 were with us, fighting with us.

17 Q. Now, let us look specifically at what happened in the case
18 of Zimmi, when you attacked Zimmi, and let's see what a witness
19 who experienced this attack told the Court. Now, this is a
14:57:55 20 witness who was in Zimmi when it was attacked. Your Honours, the
21 transcript of TF1-360, 4 February 2008, page 3025. I'll read
22 from line 2. This is a witness, as I've mentioned, who was in
23 Zimmi and was part of the group that - when you attacked the
24 town, he was there:

14:59:19 25 "Q. Now can you tell this Court when in 1991 that you were
26 captured?

27 A. Well, for me in particular it was in April 1991, in
28 Zimmi, I was captured. I was taken to the training base
29 together with other people that includes men and women. In

1 1991 we were trained.

2 Q. Mr Witness, at the time you were captured and you say
3 you were taken to the training - to a training base in
4 Zimmi, were you told anything by the persons who captured
14:59:59 5 you?

6 A. Oh, yes. They said a lot of things. In fact, when
7 I was captured I was not alone. We were captured, we were
8 many, male and female. They said it was a war that has
9 come to this country, Foday Sankoh is the leader for the
15:00:16 10 RUF that came with this war from Liberia. He came along
11 with Sierra Leoneans and Liberians that Charles Taylor had
12 asked to join them to come with the war to Sierra Leone."
13 Now, I'll skip and go on to the next page, which is page
14 3026. I'm reading from line 6:

15:00:43 15 "Q. Mr Witness, you have told the Court that when you were
16 captured you were taken to a place where you were given
17 training. Do you remember the name of that place? You
18 were capture in Zimmi, you have told the Court Zimmi, but
19 do you remember the name of the place where you were taken
15:01:04 20 to and given training?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. What was the name of that place?

23 A. The place is called Gisiwulo. It is the very first
24 training base in Pujehun District."

15:01:22 25 I'll move down to line 17:

26 "Q. Mr Witness, you have told the Court that the fighters
27 who came to Sierra Leone were headed by Foday Sankoh. Can
28 you tell the Court who was the leader of the group that
29 captured you at the time?

1 A. Well, I was under Mosquito's group. He was the leader
2 of that group in our area."

3 Let me pause there for a while. Mr Witness, do you recall
4 that this is consistent with what may have happened in Zimmi at
15:01:50 5 the time you captured Zimmi? This is evidence of a witness who
6 was there in April 1991.

7 A. They capture of Zimmi, I said that in my statement. I said
8 the first training base was Gisiwulo. I think it's in my
9 statement. We started training in Gisiwulo. That was the first
15:02:16 10 training base.

11 Q. This person says that Mosquito was the leader of the group
12 that captured his area. Was Mosquito part of that group, the 2nd
13 Battalion, that attacked from Pujehun --

14 A. I don't know which of the Mosquito's you are referring to,
15:02:35 15 but I told you that Mosquito was ahead of us. It was not -
16 Mosquito was not with me. From the starting of my statement, I
17 have not mentioned Mosquito, that he passed through the 2nd
18 Battalion. I don't know where he got his own Mosquito from.

19 Q. When you say you don't know which of the Mosquitos he's
15:02:54 20 talking of, did you know of more than one person called Mosquito
21 within the RUF?

22 A. I told you that the Mosquito that I know, Sam Bockarie,
23 passed through Kailahun, not in Pujehun. I don't know where he
24 got his own Mosquito from, because we didn't have any Mosquito
15:03:12 25 with us. The Mosquito we had was in Pujehun - I mean, Kailahun.
26 How could have come from Kailahun to us in Zimmi? And I want to
27 know this person who gave this testimony.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, how do you expect anybody to
29 understand what you're saying at that speed? I don't know with

1 whom you are angry, but you are obviously angry. Am I wrong?

2 THE WITNESS: No, ma'am. I'm not angry, ma'am.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Cool down. Slow down and repeat your
4 answer. Take a drink, if you need to. Repeat your answer so
15:03:44 5 that we may understand you.

6 THE WITNESS: My last answer here is that I want to know
7 the person who gave this testimony here, whether he was a fighter
8 whom we captured in Zimmi?

9 MR BANGURA:

15:04:04 10 Q. This person says that the group that came was a group that
11 had Liberians who had been sent by Charles Taylor to support your
12 forces. What do you say to that?

13 A. Charles Taylor never gave us reinforcement. Like I told
14 you, Liberians were trained for Foday Sankoh and we were sent in
15:04:35 15 by Foday Sankoh and not Charles Taylor. I can't remember
16 Charles Taylor bringing us together or recruiting us for Foday
17 Sankoh, no. We had Liberians. Like myself, I was a Liberian.
18 Other Liberians were there. So we were all RUF soldiers that
19 went across.

15:04:55 20 Q. When you attacked the bridge - the barracks which is close
21 by the bridge as you have told this Court, there were NPFL
22 soldiers guarding the bridge on the other side, weren't there?

23 A. NPFL soldiers were in Liberia. They were not at the Bo
24 Waterside or Bo Njala. They were taking care of their own area
15:05:24 25 in Liberia and we were on our own side.

26 Q. And you told the Court that the bridge is the only - it's
27 more or less the distance between the two positions where the
28 barracks was, which is not far away from where the Liberians were
29 on the other side.

1 MR ANYAH: Madam President, with respect, I apologise for
2 interrupting, may we have a page reference for this last
3 assertion?

4 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I could find it, but I was just
15:05:57 5 trying to sum up what I understood his testimony to be. I stand
6 corrected. If counsel says I'm not putting it quite correctly,
7 I'm happy to rephrase. But I don't immediately have it handy.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Put your question to him and the witness
9 can answer you whether you're right or wrong.

15:06:19 10 MR BANGURA:

11 Q. Your testimony is that between the position where the
12 Liberians were on the other side of the bridge and where the
13 barracks is on the Sierra Leone side was not a very far distance
14 apart. Isn't that so?

15:06:37 15 A. I told you in my statement that the bridge - the Mano River
16 Bridge - the Mano River Bridge - NPFL sitting at the edge on this
17 part of the bridge, they had their checkpoint there. And where
18 we were in the bridge, there was a branch, and when you get to
19 Sierra Leone there is somewhere dividing it and we were sitting
15:07:04 20 here. The bridge is long like this. This is NPFL sitting here
21 and we in Sierra Leone were sitting on the other side.

22 Q. If I understand you, the attack which you undertook on the
23 barracks was done within full view of soldiers who were on the
24 other side of the bridge, the Liberian side. Is that correct?

15:07:32 25 A. Don't put words into my mouth. I never said that and it
26 did not happen like that. We carried out our own attack. We
27 carried out our own attack. How could we have informed the NPFL?
28 We never had any problem with them in our operation.

29 Q. Mr Witness, it's a simple question.

1 A. No. But don't twist the question for me to put words into
2 my mouth and that was not what I said. Listen to my statement.
3 It is happening - ask me according to my statement. Don't put a
4 different question in it and try to confuse me. I will disagree.

15:08:13 5 Q. I will try the question again. Where the barracks at Bo
6 Gendema were situated which you attacked is normally or at the
7 time was within full view of Liberian soldiers who were on the
8 other side of the bridge. Isn't that the case?

9 A. The bridge - the barracks that I'm talk about is far away
15:08:47 10 from the bridge. You know your country. From that particular
11 point, you know there. From the bridge to that particular
12 barracks that I'm talking about, you know the distance. It's not
13 even near the bridge. It's far away from the bridge.

14 Q. Mr Witness, we'll move on. You said that you had no
15:09:02 15 communications with the other group that you left behind until
16 you were able to capture a radio in Zimmi. Isn't that so?

17 A. That was what I said.

18 Q. And you also stated that you were able to establish a radio
19 base or communication base at Potoru, correct?

15:09:25 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Now, let's just be clear about this. You captured Zimmi
22 some time before you were able to capture Potoru. Isn't that so?

23 A. Yes, we captured Zimmi before we could capture Potoru, and
24 from Potoru we advanced to Pujehun.

15:09:49 25 Q. Well, after you captured the first radio set which you
26 talked about at Zimmi, is it the case that you did not use the
27 radio for communications until you had captured Potoru, where you
28 said you set up the communication base? What is the position?

29 A. We used the radio in Potoru as our point to communicate to

1 our men in Kailahun. It was at that point - it is that point
2 that the commander chose for the radio to be. That was where we
3 chose our radio station to be based. It was our wish. Nobody
4 could tell us to be based so and so. It was where the commander
15:10:39 5 felt it necessary that it should be based. It was not a law that
6 it should be based in Zimmi.

7 Q. At that point, at the point - or the time when you
8 established a base at Potoru, had you already established
9 communication with the men who were in Kailahun?

15:11:00 10 A. I said yes. When we captured the radio station we started
11 in Potoru. From there we started communicating to know how far
12 our men were, and they too were communicating with us to know how
13 far we've gone, yes.

14 Q. Your testimony is that the radio which you captured was a
15:11:18 15 Thompson Long-range radio, correct?

16 A. Exactly so.

17 Q. And you told the Court that it was Alfred Brown who
18 operated the radio after you captured it, correct?

19 A. Yes.

15:11:38 20 Q. If I understood your evidence correctly, there was no other
21 person who could operate that radio but Alfred Brown at the time.
22 Is that a correct summation of your evidence?

23 A. Yes, we had just entered and it was Alfred Brown who was
24 using the radio. He was our signal man. We had just entered.

15:12:03 25 We had not starting recruiting people like Daf, King Perry and
26 others, no.

27 Q. And you refer to Alfred Brown as the senior radio operator,
28 correct?

29 A. He was the senior operator. He was trained by Sankoh on

1 the base. That was why I called him senior. He started training
2 other people. That is what - that was what made him senior, yes.

15:12:37 3 Q. So in fact after you had set up your own base in Potoru,
4 Alfred Brown then started training people in Potoru - in Pujehun
5 District?

6 A. Exactly so.

7 Q. Now, you said that Alfred Brown received training from
8 Foday Sankoh at the base in Naama. Was he the only one who was
9 trained by Sankoh?

15:12:55 10 A. There were about two or three, but I can't remember the
11 names of the other people. There were about two or three,
12 because the other two were in Kailahun with the other unit whilst
13 Alfred Brown was with us.

15:13:16 14 Q. So in fact if I understand your evidence correctly, Alfred
15 Brown was the only radio operator who you had with you when you
16 came across to Pujehun from Liberia, correct?

17 A. From the base to Pujehun.

15:13:40 18 Q. It doesn't seem to be clear what you're saying, Mr Witness.
19 The question was Alfred Brown was your only operator you had when
20 you came across from the base to Pujehun? Is it a yes or is it a
21 no?

15:14:02 22 A. That's what I'm saying. I said from the base, Alfred Brown
23 was the only radio communicator we had. He was the only man whom
24 we had with us when we got to Pujehun. That's what I'm saying,
25 that he was based in Potoru.

26 Q. And what sort of training, if you recall, did Alfred Brown
27 get from Foday Sankoh at Naama?

28 A. I was not a signal man. Alfred Brown had his own training.
29 In the evening Foday Sankoh would take him and the three people

1 that I've spoken about and they would train them in
2 communication, because Foday Sankoh also did communication
3 training when he was in the army. So that was his field. We did
4 not monitor him. Whilst he was training the other people, we
15:14:38 5 were doing something different.

6 Q. Your testimony is that Foday Sankoh did not have - or you
7 did not have a communication set at Naama. Is that correct?

8 A. Yes. When I'm talking about training, I'm not talking
9 about the set that he had it with him to say "roger" or to do
15:14:59 10 this or that. They were using a blackboard, teaching them. It
11 was not communication. He was teaching Alfred Brown on how to
12 receive a message. Everything was down on the blackboard. It
13 was not through communication. We never had a set on the base.
14 He was writing on the blackboard while they were taking down
15:15:21 15 notes. That's what he did when Alfred Brown was being trained.

16 Q. Your testimony, then, is that this training that Alfred
17 Brown had was what he used to use the - was what enabled him to
18 use the Thompson radio that he - that you captured at Zimmi,
19 correct?

15:15:40 20 A. But Thompson radio is not different from other radios. The
21 only difference is that it's a military radio. It's green in
22 colour. But it's the same communication that it sends through.
23 There was no other button there that Alfred Brown did not know:
24 Put it on, switch it on, send it on the frequency. That was all.

15:16:06 25 Q. At this time, Mr Witness, do you know whether the - when
26 you left Naama, do you know whether the other group that
27 eventually went to Kailahun, whether they had a radio
28 communication set?

29 A. The only time we knew that they had communication set was

1 when Alfred Brown - because they had codes. In case 2nd
2 Battalion captures a radio - in case 2nd Battalion captures a
3 radio, they had that code through which they could link up. That
4 was the time that Alfred Brown --

15:16:42 5 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat his
6 answer slowly.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you repeat your evidence
8 where you said, "In case the 2nd Battalion captures a radio."
9 Continue from there.

15:16:59 10 THE WITNESS: I said the only time that we knew that the
11 1st Battalion had a radio, it was at the time that Alfred Brown
12 was trying out the frequencies, because they had a code that was
13 given to each radio operator in case he captures a radio station
14 or a radio set in so and so area. That was the code he was to
15:17:24 15 use to get in touch with us. That was how Alfred Brown - after
16 we had captured the set, when he switched it on and started
17 fidgeting with the code, he was able to get men from Kailahun and
18 dialogue started and we started communicating. That was how it
19 worked.

15:17:41 20 MR BANGURA:

21 Q. Mr Witness, was there already a frequency for the RUF when
22 Alfred Brown left Naama - when you all left Naama to come to
23 Pujehun, a radio frequency?

24 A. A frequency is not something you give to somebody. The
15:18:02 25 book is what - that matters, where you get the message from. It
26 is the book that is important. You can twist it - you can twist
27 it until you get your open end. It does not mean that there is a
28 special frequency that you can open. You try everything. You
29 keep trying it. You monitor. If you know that they were on this

1 frequency you set it up, but it is the book that matters how to
2 receive a message. That was the only important thing.

3 Q. And your testimony is that the training which Alfred Brown
4 had at Naama was what he was able to apply in training other
15:18:41 5 people at Potoru or in Pujehun generally?

6 A. Exactly so. It was the same training that he used to train
7 other people like Daf, King Perry, Zedman and other operators.

8 Q. I note that you have just been calling names of other
9 operators. Are these names of persons that Alfred Brown trained?

15:19:12 10 A. Alfred Brown first trained Daf, King Perry - they all were
11 trained by Alfred Brown. There was nobody to train signal men
12 whom I knew because he was the most senior.

13 Q. Did Foday Sankoh come to Pujehun after you had captured the
14 towns within Pujehun District?

15:19:42 15 A. No, Foday Sankoh did not enter Pujehun. We were trying to
16 open a link from Joru so that we can get a short link from Daru
17 to Joru and to Zimmi. But we were not able to open up that link,
18 so it was difficult for Foday Sankoh to enter Pujehun.

19 Q. Mr Witness, I will read to you - or continue to read to you
15:20:12 20 the testimony of a witness, and this was somebody who was
21 captured in Zimmi and who went through all of what - much of what
22 you have explained to this Court and he was trained - in fact,
23 this is an open session testimony and the witness is somebody
24 called King Perry. You've mentioned the name already. Okay?
15:20:35 25 Let me read to you what he had to say. He was captured and he
26 had training in Pujehun.

27 Your Honours, may the transcript for 4 February - I think
28 we should still have it on. It was already put up. 4 February
29 2008. I'll continue to read from page 3027, line 9:

1 "Q. Now just before we deal with that, can you tell the
2 Court who were your trainers at the training base?

3 A. Those that trained us at the base were Liberians who
4 were NPFL rebels from Liberia.

15:21:25 5 Q. And you have just mentioned that at some point after
6 two months Foday Sankoh came to the base. Why did he come
7 there?

8 A. Well, this time the reason why he went there, he said
9 he needed people who had attended school from Form 3 to
10 Form 5, so that they could be used for communication
11 purposes.

12 Q. Did you get selected among this group?

13 A. Among that group, I was among the group. In fact, I
14 was the first person among the group that was supposed to
15 go for that particular training.

16 Q. How many of you were selected?

17 A. Yes, we were more than 12.

18 Q. Did you go for training anywhere?

19 A. Yes, we were taken to a mining company where Foday
15:22:29 20 Sankoh made his base. That mining company were called
21 Makpelle Mining Company, MMC. There all the authorities
22 went and stayed with Foday Sankoh.

23 ...

24 Q. What kind of training did you get at Makpelle Mining
15:23:00 25 Company?

26 A. We went there for a radio course. We were taught how
27 to use the radio communication. Like what we were shown,
28 we were shown what a radio is, what is communication and
29 how to - how to communicate with people through the radio.

1 We called it voice procedure. From there we were shown how
2 to install the radio.

3 Q. Who conducted this training?

4 A. It was Foday Sankoh himself.

15:23:32 5 Q. And what did he use to train you?

6 A. Well, he used a blackboard and a chalk. That was the
7 theory aspect of it. Then also we did use the radio that
8 we also used them for practical as well.

9 ...

15:24:01 10 Q. Just before we get on further with that, you mentioned
11 that you were taught how to use the voice procedure. Can
12 you explain what that means?

13 A. Fine, what is meant by voice procedure in radio
14 communication, you talk - you will talk with your voice,
15:24:19 15 you will call the letters phonetically and then the person
16 that is the receiving it will receive it the same way
17 according to the message, through the voice."

18 Now, let's just stop there for now. You see, Mr Witness,
19 this person, King Perry, whom you have now mentioned was trained
15:24:46 20 you said by Alfred Brown, was in fact in Pujehun and was
21 captured, and he says he got his training from Foday Sankoh.
22 What do you say about that?

23 A. I can't remember Foday Sankoh training anyone in Zimmi.
24 Even that place that you're talking about, I don't know. I can't
15:25:11 25 remember. He was trained - if he was trained by Foday Sankoh,
26 then he was lucky. But I knew very well that these men were
27 trained right in Pujehun with Alfred Brown. Foday Sankoh never
28 entered Zimmi. Maybe. I don't really know where he got his
29 training from from Foday Sankoh. As I told you, Foday Sankoh was

1 training these men on the blackboard, like he has said. Besides
2 that, they never had any communication like Alfred Brown, Daf,
3 King Perry trained. They were many. But he is talking about MM,
4 that camp, no, I never saw Foday Sankoh training people in Zimmi.

15:25:50 5 No. That's a big black lie.

6 Q. You did not know any place called Makpelle Mining Company?

7 A. No.

8 Q. How long were you in Zimmi after you had captured the town?

9 A. Zimmi was our first headquarters. When you go to the front

15:26:16 10 line, you had the right to come back, spend one or two weeks, or
11 one week and return to where you were assigned. But I never saw
12 training - a radio training base apart from the first training
13 base at Gisiwulo. There was no training base like Foday Sankoh
14 training men for communication. No, I did not see that.

15:26:38 15 Q. Let's just be a little clear about what this witness has
16 said. He doesn't quite say that the training took place in
17 Zimmi. He was captured in Zimmi, and from what we have read
18 already, he was taken to a training base at Gisiwulo, and also
19 from what we've read already, after two month of training at
15:26:59 20 Gisiwulo, he then gets selected to go to training for radio
21 communication.

22 A. That's where he told a lie. There was no training that
23 lasted for two months when we entered Gisiwulo. No recruit was
24 trained for two months. No recruit was trained for two months.

15:27:19 25 At that time we were looking for manpower. We had basic
26 training. Basic training. How can you keep men for two months
27 when we were looking for men to fight? That's the lie there.
28 And Foday Sankoh never had any - what they call it - training, or
29 what do you call it, signal training base in Zimmi or around

1 Zimmi that I know of, no.

2 Q. Mr Witness, you know King Perry, don't you?

3 A. I know King Perry very well. He's no stranger to me. I
4 know him. I think if he's around, he will be hearing Martin
15:27:56 5 George and he knows who Martin George is.

6 Q. You know him to be one of the senior radio operators in the
7 RUF; he became one of the senior radio operators in the RUF.
8 Isn't that so?

9 A. I never knew him to be a senior operator. I knew him as an
15:28:13 10 operator. I never knew him to be a senior operator.

11 Q. And do you think King Perry had a reason to lie about how
12 long he took in training at Gisiwulo before this Court?

13 A. Maybe he was doing it - you know, we have some people, they
14 say something just to boost their own morale - yes, we have such
15:28:40 15 people - to satisfy themselves. We have such people. Nobody
16 will tell you that training commenced in Zimmi for two months.
17 No recruit. That's the first lie. We were looking for men. How
18 could we have kept men for two months? No. That's the first
19 place.

15:28:59 20 Q. Mr Witness, do you think King Perry had a reason to lie
21 about Foday Sankoh coming to Pujehun District in 1991? Do you
22 think he would have a reason to lie before this Court?

23 A. It's up to him, but I am telling you that it's a lie.
24 Foday Sankoh never went there. He could say something to please
15:29:21 25 himself or please the Court. But Foday Sankoh never went there.
26 That's what I'm trying to say.

27 Q. What if I suggest to you that you are saying something to
28 please the Court and not telling the truth about your evidence?

29 A. You have more documents on which Martin George's name

1 appears.

2 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat this
3 answer slowly.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Can you please repeat your comment or
15:29:53 5 your answer. We haven't heard any of it because you're running
6 with it.

7 THE WITNESS: Please ask your question again.

8 MR BANGURA:

9 Q. You said here some people say things to please others, and
15:30:07 10 referring most specifically to King Perry, and I said to you, if
11 I suggested that you are saying things here which are not true
12 just to please, what would be your response?

13 A. My response is that you should check the document, Martin
14 George's document. Martin George's name appears in so and so
15:30:32 15 documents that you hold so and so position. I have not seen that
16 document where I said I hold so and so position. So through that
17 you would know that Martin George is not lying. I am not talking
18 to satisfy myself or the Court. Do you see that?

19 Q. You talked about being attacked in Pujehun District by SLA
15:31:03 20 and ULIMO forces. Is that correct? This was in 1992.

21 A. Exactly so.

22 Q. About what part of 1992 did this attack take place?

23 A. If I'm not mistaken, it was in August, because it was
24 during the rainy season. I remember we crossed the Wangei. It
15:31:35 25 was in the rainy season.

26 Q. And you said that ULIMO had - you had heard about ULIMO
27 already being in training somewhere in Sierra Leone from about
28 late 1991 into 1992. Correct?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. And you named a place where you said they were in training.
2 Can you remind the Court about the name of the place again?

3 A. I said Towama base. Towama base.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, there are two places in that.
15:32:31 5 One was the river, river Wangei, or something like that, and then
6 this other location that he has said.

7 Mr Interpreter, can you spell that river?

8 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, Wangei.

9 THE WITNESS: It's not far away from Pujehun Town. It is
15:32:56 10 around the town. It is spelt as W-A-N-G-E-I.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. And the name of this other
12 place, Towama base.

13 THE INTERPRETER: T-O-W-A-M-A, Towama.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Please continue.

15:33:25 15 MR BANGURA:

16 Q. You had heard about ULIMO training from late '91 into early
17 '92. Now, this training that you heard about, did it actually
18 start about late '91, as you've told the Court?

19 A. Yes. I heard about the training in late '91 to '92 when
15:33:55 20 they were attacking us seriously.

21 Q. Now, let's be clear. You have said that they attacked you
22 in August '92 and you have talked about hearing that they were in
23 training from late '91 to '92. It's just to be clear. Isn't
24 that the case?

15:34:20 25 A. Look at the statement. I said late '91 there was training.
26 We heard about that training before. '92, they started - the
27 government troops started attacking our position. What do you
28 want me to say again?

29 Q. Mr Witness, we simply just want to be clear with your

1 evidence. And eventually in August 1992 you were pushed out of
2 Sierra Leone. You were dislodged from your positions in Pujehun
3 District. Is that correct?

4 A. Yes. I was pushed and I came to Zimmi and up to the
15:35:18 5 border.

6 Q. And you said you went across the border, didn't you, the
7 whole lot of you, RUF fighters, along with civilians who were
8 with you, you all went across the border? Isn't that the case?

9 A. Yes, I said so. I said we crossed.

15:35:42 10 Q. And you went to a place called Tiene?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Now, just so we are clear, how far away from the point
13 where you crossed the border is it to Tiene?

14 A. Please repeat your question.

15:36:08 15 Q. From the point where you crossed into Liberia, how far away
16 is it to Tiene where you said you eventually went to?

17 A. Tiene is far. It's a little bit far away. We were coming
18 in a group whilst the enemies were attacking us. We were mixed
19 with civilians. We crossed through the bridge, the Mano River

15:36:34 20 Bridge, and we got to Bo Waterside on the Liberian side and we
21 started marching on to Tiene. It's a distance from Bo Waterside
22 to Tiene.

23 Q. How long did it take you once you had crossed on the
24 Liberian side, how long did it take you to march on to Tiene?

15:36:53 25 A. Roughly from Bo Waterside to Tiene, it's about 35 to 40
26 minutes' walk.

27 Q. How long were you in Tiene before you - you said you were
28 maltreated in Tiene by Liberians whom you found on the other
29 side. Isn't that so? NPFL soldiers, in fact.

1 A. Yes. We were mal treated.

2 Q. Continue, please.

3 A. I said we were mal treated, and what we did was that we
4 regrouped to go and join Tonkara.

15:37:42 5 Q. How long were you in Tiene before you decided to leave and
6 go and join Tonkara?

7 A. We were in Tiene for almost one and a half weeks. We were
8 there; the place was jam packed.

9 Q. Now, did all of you go to Tiene? All of you who left
15:38:03 10 Sierra Leone and crossed into Liberia, did you all go to Tiene?

11 A. We all went to Tiene. Some civilians found their way to
12 the nearby villages, but we the soldiers, we were together at
13 Tiene. We were intact at Tiene. The civilians who entered
14 Liberia, we didn't have any control over them. They were finding
15:38:28 15 somewhere to rescue themselves. They were finding villages to go
16 and stay.

17 Q. Now, when you talk about civilians, who were these
18 civilians?

19 A. The civilians whom we had under our control. It was not
15:38:43 20 everybody that was a soldier. We had civilians with us.

21 Q. What were they doing for you? Why did you have civilians
22 under your control?

23 A. Why can't we have civilians when we were fighting for them?
24 We were fighting for the people. So wherever we were based, they
15:39:00 25 were there with us. Whether they were doing anything, they were
26 there with us in the town. So when we were retreating, we told
27 them to move because of enemy threat. If you were willing to
28 join us, you would join us. If you were going to wait for the
29 enemy, you can stay.

1 Q. And did any of these civilians stay as you pulled out of
2 Pujehun to go across the border?

3 A. The ones that followed me, they crossed with me over to
4 Pujehun. The ones who wanted to stay, they stayed, because it's
15:39:32 5 not everybody that will come together. Some of them stayed. And
6 those who were willing to join us, they joined us. Nobody was
7 forced to join us or to stay, no.

8 Q. As you fled across the border, how did you carry the things
9 that you had? Your personal belongings, your supplies, how did
15:39:51 10 you carry them?

11 A. What kind of personal things are you talking about? My
12 clothes? What are you referring to?

13 Q. Anything personal you had and your supplies.

14 A. All soldier - every soldier was entitled with an arm.
15:40:14 15 Everybody had his arms with him. Those who were responsible for
16 ammunition, they had it, the soldiers. We were intact.

17 Q. So what were the civilians made to carry for you?

18 A. The civilians were entitled to carry their own loads. They
19 had their own belongings. They had their own belongings with
15:40:37 20 them. They never had soldiers' belongings.

21 Q. Your testimony is that some of you decided to come back.
22 What about the rest of you that had gone to Tiene?

23 A. In the first place, let me come down again. I told you
24 that when we entered Tiene, there was tension there. We had some
15:41:14 25 recruits that were among us. We, who had grouped ourselves
26 together to go and joined Tonkara, we joined - we came together
27 and went to Tonkara. The civilians stayed. All our armed force
28 that we carried across, everybody came together and crossed right
29 back to Tonkara. So the civilians who stayed behind, I did not

1 know. I was - we were only after the armed men. We were only
2 concerned with the armed men, those in arms. We regrouped
3 ourselves and crossed over --

15:41:59 4 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat the
5 name of the island.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: What is name of the place where you
7 crossed over?

8 THE WITNESS: We crossed through York Island and went to
9 Sulima to join Tonkara.

15:42:17 10 MR BANGURA:

11 Q. Mr Witness, your testimony before this Court is that there
12 were about 65 of you who came together and decided to come back.
13 That was not the number - is that correct, first of all?

14 A. That was the number that crossed, and before that I told
15:42:30 15 you that some men went. Tonkara took some men along to re-attack
16 Pujehun. That's in my statement. They never came back. They
17 were caught out. We were on the highway - we who were on the
18 highway were also pushed to Bo Waterside. Check the record.
19 It's my statement. When we entered Bo Waterside, we entered - we
15:42:50 20 got to Tiene, we regrouped to join Tonkara who had gone to
21 re-attack Pujehun. Check my record or my statement. You will
22 see it there.

23 Q. Is it your testimony, then, that when the 65 or so of you
24 decided to come back into Sierra Leone, there were no other RUF
15:43:11 25 members left behind in Tiene? Is that what you're telling the
26 Court?

27 A. If RUF members stayed there, maybe it could be a recruit
28 that never had an arm. Those of us who had arms crossed right
29 back. The civilians stayed. They were going to the various

1 villages around Tiene. We crossed right back, 65 armed men with
2 some unarmed men. We crossed.

3 Q. Your testimony is that this group that crossed back -
4 re-crossed into Sierra Leone then formed themselves into a group
15:43:57 5 called Black Kadaffa. Is that correct?

6 A. Exactly so.

7 Q. And what was the purpose of forming this group?

8 A. The name Black Kadaffa is a unit name. That's the name of
9 a unit. We never formed it. It was a fighting force. You can

15:44:22 10 look after your unit and give it a name, whatever name you feel
11 like, as long as it was a strong force. We didn't have a special
12 meaning to that name or particular reason for giving that unit
13 Black Kadaffa. Black Kadaffa, we named it because it was a
14 strong force and we believed in that force that we can go

15:44:43 15 anywhere and nobody could stop us. The spirit of all spirits was
16 moving. That was why we named that particular unit Black
17 Kadaffa, the spirit of all spirits.

18 Q. And your testimony is that the members who formed Black
19 Kadaffa were entirely RUF fighters who had gone into Liberia and
15:45:03 20 re-crossed into Sierra Leone. Correct?

21 A. Yes. No NPFL soldier crossed with us. RUF soldiers were
22 in the Black Kadaffa.

23 Q. Just before we continue on, I'll take you back briefly to
24 Tiene. During the period that you were in Tiene, the one week or
15:45:33 25 so that you were there, what were your interactions with the NPFL
26 soldiers who were based there on the ground in Tiene? What sort
27 of interactions did you have?

28 A. We never had any other interaction to say they will give us
29 manpower or help us with arms and ammunition or escort us back.

1 No, we were only there resting until we could find ourselves back
2 to Tonkara.

3 Q. And you did not have to report to some senior NPFL
4 authority when you crossed into Liberia at all?

15:46:12 5 A. When we entered Tiene we met the commander. When we met
6 that commander, it was nothing. He saw us, he didn't have
7 anything to do with us. And when we were going back, we did not
8 inform him because of the way they were treating us. So there
9 was no need to tell them that we were returning home or we were
10 going back across. We mobilised ourselves and moved.

11 Q. And your testimony is that this group that formed itself
12 into a group called Black Kadaffa remained active just as an
13 ordinary fighting unit, as you've said, until you moved to
14 Kailahun in late 1992, '93. Is that correct?

15:47:04 15 A. This Black Kadaffa remained an active movement in Sierra
16 Leone until few men went to meet Foday Sankoh in Kailahun
17 District.

18 Q. And what happened eventually to the name Black Kadaffa?

19 A. The name was nothing. It meant nothing. The name was
15:47:24 20 still there as long as men were fighting. There was no other
21 target. There was no problem with the name. Black Kadaffa does
22 not mean it's a special group from the RUF. They were the same
23 members of the RUF.

24 Q. Mr Witness, we have the testimony of other witnesses before
15:47:42 25 this Court who have talked about Black Kadaffa, and they have
26 given - they've talked about Black Kadaffa, and I'll read to you
27 what we have. One witness - or one person who has talked about
28 Black Kadaffa to this Court is Mr Taylor. I'll read to you what
29 he says.

1 Your Honours, the reference is the testimony of 16 July
2 2009, an open session, and the page is 24702, line 13:

3 "You're going to have to look at this boy, this Augustine
4 Wright, Peter Kerseh, these were the people that were
15:49:31 5 involved in this second-tier issue involving Black Kadaffa,
6 and the objective of Black Kadaffa is what we found out
7 eventually that they had given assistance to certain
8 individuals and were seeking assistance in return. Now, I
9 can get into these details about that. Black Kadaffa was a
15:49:56 10 group that involved Liberians and Sierra Leoneans that had
11 been brought into Liberia just off Kakata as a possible
12 stand-by unit to stage an attack against us, the rest of
13 the NPFL. That was the objective of Black Kadaffa with the
14 Oliver Varney on the one side and the Anthony Mekunagbe and
15:50:30 15 all of them on the other side. So these were the people
16 that were involved in that conspiracy.

17 Q. Now, help us, because Black Gadaffa has featured in the
18 evidence placed before this Court by the Prosecution, so I
19 want your assistance with it.

15:50:57 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. When did that phenomena of Black Gadaffa occur?

22 A. Black Kadaffa started around the early part of - the
23 late to early part of 1990 and 1991. That is when this
24 whole thing started developing of Black Kadaffa under the
15:51:23 25 real command of two - three principal people.

26 Q. Who were they?

27 A. Anthony Mekunagbe, Yegbeh Degbon and Varney - Oliver
28 Varney.

29 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, I want - so there is three names that

1 you have given us, Mekunagbe, Degbon and Varney . . . Right.
2 Let's just take this in stages, please, and slowly, so we
3 can follow."

4 They are discussing Black Kadaffa, and there is a document
15:52:23 5 which is shown to Mr Taylor, and these are the answers which
6 Mr Taylor gives in response to the question about whether he knew
7 about Black Kadaffa. I will move on to page 24705. Continuing
8 from line 17:

9 "Q. And you tell us that Black Gadaffa was a grouping
15:53:13 10 composed of both Sierra Leoneans and Liberians intent on
11 deposing you?

12 A. That is correct.

13 Q. And that they commenced or embarked upon this course of
14 action sometime in late 1990?

15:53:28 15 A. Yes, with Black Kadaffa, but the whole action of trying
16 to remove me started from Libya, yes."

17 Then I will refer to another reference, transcript
18 reference, on the same subject. Again, the testimony of
19 Mr Taylor. This was on 10 September 2009. This is private
15:54:11 20 session, please. I believe the testimony of a witness who is
21 protected was being discussed at this point, but I think this
22 should be sufficient at this point to discuss.

23 Mr Witness, you have heard the testimony of Mr Taylor about
24 the group Black Kadaffa. He told this Court that Black Kadaffa
15:54:39 25 was a group comprising Liberians and Sierra Leoneans and this was
26 a group which was formed for the purpose of deposing him. It had
27 the connivance of Liberian commanders; Oliver Varney, Mekunagbe,
28 Degbon. They were supposed to be - they were based in Kakata
29 from where they were supposed to have launched some attack. Did

1 you appreciate the testimony as put by Mr Taylor?

2 A. Yes, I got the testimony clearly.

3 Q. Now, Mr Witness, having heard what Mr Taylor says, do you
4 still say that Black Kadaffa was a group that comprised only you
15:55:32 5 Sierra Leoneans that returned from Liberia?

6 A. I said yes. Look at the place that I'm talking about,
7 Tiene, from Tiene - when we crossed and came to Tiene, because of
8 the maltreatment, we returned. And Black Kadaffa - some of us
9 went to Kailahun where we went to meet Foday Sankoh.

15:56:07 10 Q. So your testimony is that there was nothing to do with
11 Liberians - Black Kadaffa had nothing to do with Liberians,
12 correct?

13 A. My own Black Kadaffa that I'm talking about had nothing to
14 do with Liberia. We just crossed over a spent a week in Liberia.
15:56:26 15 From there we went in and never came back to Liberia until 2005.
16 So I don't know about any other Black Kadaffa that was
17 functioning there. I only knew about the Black Kadaffa that we
18 went back with after we had crossed.

19 Q. Before you formed your group Black Kadaffa, had you heard
15:56:41 20 of that name before as a unit in any fighting force?

21 A. After we had formed the Black Kadaffa, we were already in
22 Sierra Leone. I was not monitoring Liberian activities, so I
23 can't tell you whether there was a Black Kadaffa or not. I only
24 know about the unit that I was fighting with.

15:57:17 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Talk the way the lawyer is talking,
26 slowly. You can hear and understand him slowly. Why can't you
27 talk that way?

28 THE WITNESS: Yes, I know.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please try.

1 THE WITNESS: I should repeat it?

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: You don't have to repeat it, but when you
3 are talking, try to talk normally, slowly.

4 THE WITNESS: All right.

15:57:39

5 MR BANGURA:

6 Q. Mr Taylor in his testimony mentioned a number of Liberian
7 commanders who he said were connected with this Black Kadaffa
8 conspiracy. He calls it a conspiracy. He mentions Oliver
9 Varney, he mentions Yegbeh Degbon and he mentions Anthony
10 Mekunagbe. Did you know any of these persons?

15:57:59

11 A. No. I told you initially that I never fought for
12 Charles Taylor. I don't know any of his Special Forces. I left
13 in 1991 and entered Sierra Leone. I went back in 2005, April 7.
14 When I went back, Charles Taylor was not in command in Liberia.

15:58:26

15 I never set eyes on him and I never took part in any of his
16 activities in Liberia, so I can't say much about his activities
17 in Liberia.

18 Q. I did not actually ask you about Special Forces, but I see
19 that your answer to my question involves not knowing Special
20 Forces. Did you understand my question as asking you about
21 special - these persons being members of Special Forces? Did you
22 understand the question, Mr Witness?

15:58:42

23 A. I do not understand your question. I do not understand it.

24 Q. These persons who were named by Mr Taylor whose names I
25 called out to you, you mentioned that they - you didn't know any
26 one in the Special Forces. I did not ask you about Special
27 Forces. Were these members of the Special Forces?

15:59:07

28 A. I do not know whether they were members of Special Forces,
29 but I said I don't know them. I don't know any of

1 Charles Taylor's Special Forces.

2 Q. [Microphone not activated] mentioned Special Forces. I
3 have not asked you about Special Forces. I simply asked you
4 whether you knew them as members of his force. I don't believe I
15:59:45 5 use the word force, in fact.

6 A. Okay. I just thought that you used that word.

7 Q. I said did you know any of these persons.

8 A. No, I don't know any of them.

9 Q. So what do you know about the Special Forces?

16:00:04 10 A. I don't know anything about Special Forces.

11 Q. Mr Witness, you have just said here that - you've used the
12 word Special Forces now quite a few times. It's not a word that
13 you --

14 A. I said I don't know about Special Forces. That is what I
16:00:24 15 said.

16 Q. Mr Witness, just try to be calm.

17 A. I'm very calm. I don't have problems with anybody. I'm
18 very calm.

19 Q. Now, at Naama you had those of you who were trained there
16:00:50 20 who came over to Sierra Leone, you were called the vanguards.
21 Isn't that so?

22 A. Repeat your question.

23 Q. Those of you trained at Naama who came over to Sierra Leone
24 to launch the invasion, you were called the vanguards. Isn't
16:01:10 25 that so?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Were there persons at Naama who were called Special Forces?

28 A. I don't know about Special Forces. I know that Mohamed
29 Tarawalli was trained in Libya, but I do not know about Special

1 Forces.

2 Q. Mr Witness, are you telling this Court that you had never -
3 you've never heard the name Special Forces? Is that what you
4 want the Court to believe?

16:01:51 5 A. When I was in Crab Hole, I never heard about special forces
6 at Crab Hole. Until the time I left Crab Hole for Sierra Leone,
7 I never knew about Special Forces.

8 Q. Why did the word just come out of your mouth just a short
9 while ago? Is it a word you had heard before?

16:02:21 10 A. When I went back to Liberia, I heard that word Special
11 Forces. That was just recently when I returned in 2005, that it
12 was Special Forces who fought for Charles Taylor.

13 Q. And what else did you learn about Special Forces apart from
14 the fact that they were the ones that fought for Charles Taylor?

16:02:42 15 When you went back to Liberia, what else did you learn about
16 Special Forces?

17 A. When I went back to Liberia, I started seeing some of the
18 Special Forces that fought for Charles Taylor. Some of my
19 friends showed me the Special Forces. They used to say, "Oh,
16:02:55 20 this is Special Forces and this is one of the Special Forces."

21 That was how I got to know about them. But during my training, I
22 never knew about Special Forces. But when I got to Liberia,
23 everything was normal and it was during campaigns they told me,
24 "Oh, these are Special Forces," and I saw them all in the
16:03:12 25 campaign campaigning.

26 Q. Which ones were pointed out to you as Special Forces in
27 Liberia, if you can recall a few names?

28 A. No, I do not recall the name. But I got some of my friends
29 around with whom I was moving around, they pointed some of them

1 to me. They told me, "Oh, this is one of Charles Taylor's
2 Special Forces." And even when we were campaigning.

3 Q. And who were these friends that pointed out Special Forces
4 to you in Liberia?

16:03:47 5 A. I have my friends there, and even ordinary civilians know
6 about Special Forces. My sister, my older sister told me about
7 Special Forces. The name is not a strange one in Liberia. It's
8 not strange.

9 Q. That's the point, Mr Witness. You being a commander of the
16:04:11 10 RUF --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- a vanguard who had trained in Liberia --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- at Naama right from the beginning, more or less, and
16:04:18 15 stayed with the RUF to the end, and you're claiming that you did
16 not hear the word Special Forces. You never knew what that word
17 means. Is that your evidence before this Court?

18 A. I don't know who is a Special Forces. I was on training on
19 the base. I was not mixed with Special Forces. I was training
16:04:44 20 in Naama. There was no Special Forces there. It was only Foday
21 Sankoh, Mike Lamin and the recruits with whom I was training
22 until the time I left and went to Sierra Leone. I don't know
23 about Special Forces. Even if I was a commander, I was
24 commanding in Sierra Leone. I was not commanding in Liberia. I
16:05:02 25 was only focused on the activities in Sierra Leone, not that in
26 Liberia. It was not part of my thinking.

27 Q. Those people who trained you at Naama; Rashid Mansaray,
28 Foday Sankoh, Mohamed Tarawalli and - perhaps those three, did
29 you ask where they had got their training?

1 A. I said it. I think it's in my statement. I said they were
2 trained in Libya. It's in my statement. That was what they told
3 us. That was what Foday Sankoh told us.

16:05:42 4 Q. And nobody ever told you - after telling you that they were
5 trained in Libya, nobody ever told you that they were called
6 Special Forces?

7 A. They never told me that they were called Special Forces.
8 They were trained in Libya with Foday Sankoh, and then he trained
9 them and they came to train us. That was what they told me. Me
16:06:04 10 personally. He told me, because I was friendly to Mohamed
11 Tarawalli, Rashid Mansaray and even Mike Lamin. They were
12 trained by Foday Sankoh to come and train us. That is all I know
13 about them.

14 Q. Mr Witness, which were the different groups that formed the
16:06:21 15 RUF? The different groups that formed the RUF. We know about
16 the vanguards. Were there other groups?

17 A. Besides the vanguards and Mohamed Tarawalli and others who
18 were trained elsewhere, I don't know about any other group that
19 came to join the RUF.

16:06:43 20 Q. Did you know about junior commandos?

21 A. Junior commandos, that was the time we entered Sierra
22 Leone. The ones that were recruited there, they were the ones
23 who were the junior commandos. That is what I know. The junior
24 commandos were not from Liberia. They were in Sierra Leone.

16:07:07 25 After we had entered, the ones that we recruited there were the
26 junior commandos.

27 Q. Now, just to come back. You said in Liberia your friends
28 pointed you out to persons who were Special Forces before. Did
29 those friends of yours include John Vincent, the ones that

1 pointed out to you some members who were Special Forces?

2 A. I never told you about John Vincent. I never told you it
3 was John Vincent. I said some of my friends. And even my
4 sister, my older sister. I never called John Vincent. Maybe you
16:07:47 5 just want to call John Vincent's name. I never called John
6 Vincent.

7 Q. I asked you whether those friends that you referred to,
8 whether they included John Vincent. That's the question.

9 A. Whether it included John Vincent, the people who were
16:08:03 10 pointing out the Special Forces to me? Is that what you mean?

11 No. John Vincent was not there. John Vincent, in fact, never
12 showed me any Special Forces. You know, when you live around the
13 community you have other people who mingle with the Special
14 Forces. There are other people who are living with the Special
16:08:21 15 Forces, yes. If you look at the time I entered Liberia, I mean,
16 you should know.

17 Q. Did those friends include Paul Vaye?

18 A. Paul Vaye is not living in my area. He lives a distance
19 off from me.

16:08:41 20 Q. And not even your close acquaintanceship with Monica
21 Pearson would have helped you to know that there were people in
22 the RUF who were called Special Forces? That acquaintanceship
23 did not even help you in knowing you had Special Forces in the
24 RUF, did it?

16:09:02 25 A. Please repeat your question.

26 Q. Not even Monica Pearson who was your friend whom you knew
27 from before and whom you were with at the base and whom you were
28 with even at Pujehun, not even her at any point in time told you
29 about who Special Forces were?

1 A. Monica and I did not discuss things about Special Forces.
2 Our discussions did not go up to Special Forces. She did not
3 tell me about Special Forces. We were called the vanguard. That
4 was all I knew.

16:09:36 5 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. Now, Mr Witness, I will read to you
6 the testimony of TF1-360. That is King Perry. He gives us a
7 picture of what happened in Sierra Leone and Liberia after the
8 SLA and ULIMO forces attacked the RUF, okay? And let's hear what
9 he says which has some bearing on the formation of the group
16:10:08 10 Black Kaddafa. I am reading, your Honours, from transcript of 4
11 February 2008 at page 3029, line 14:

12 "Q. Mr Witness, you have just said that something happened
13 on the side of the government after Foday Sankoh left to go
14 to Liberia. What are you referring to that occurred?

16:10:51 15 A. Well, what happened, the government forces changed,
16 started forcing us out, moving from Joru going towards
17 Gorahun Tonkia and then they were moving towards Zimmi, so
18 he too said he is going to consult Charles Taylor.

19 ...

16:11:26 20 Q. So what happened? Did anything happen as a result of
21 this situation?

22 A. Yes, by then he had left. He said he was going for the
23 radio. When he went we didn't see him. By then the fight
24 had intensified so we entered into Liberia. When we went
16:11:44 25 to Liberia we didn't see him. Then some group, some group
26 went to Bo Waterside and then we went by the Mano River.

27 Q. Mr Witness, let us be clear about the situation that
28 occurred that led you to go across into Liberia. You said
29 that some problem occurred on the government side, which

1 government are you referring to?

2 A. By then in 1991 it was the APC government of JS Momoh
3 and also the Liberians that crossed over to Sierra Leone
4 organised themselves and formed what they call ULIMO. They
16:12:27 5 joined together with the government forces to push us out
6 of Sierra Leone.

7 Q. Now, when you got to Liberia did anything happen there?

8 A. Yes, when we went to Liberia we had to - we were
9 arrested. They said we were RUF so we should not - we were
16:12:53 10 not to run away from our country, we were to organise
11 ourselves and form a unit.

12 Q. Now, can you describe the group that actually went
13 across to Liberia? Who were you?

14 ...

16:13:16 15 A. It was the NPFL and the RUF were in that group that
16 went to Liberia. We met some other Liberians there as well
17 that were NPFL. When we were in Liberia we saw General
18 Peper and General Devon. They assembled all of us
19 together. They said we should form a team.

16:13:47 20 Q. You have mentioned two names. Can you repeat those
21 names?

22 A. General Peper and General Devon. They were NPFL
23 commanders.

24 ...

16:14:10 25 Q. Mr Witness, where in Liberia did you go to? Which part
26 of Liberia did you go to?

27 A. It was in Cape Mount County.

28 ...

29 Q. Mr Witness, you were in Liberia and what happened

1 there?

2 A. When we were in Liberia we saw the generals I have
3 named; General Devon and General Peper. They came with
4 arms and ammunition in trucks together with food. They
16:14:51 5 said it was Charles Taylor who sent them to organise us so
6 that we can fight back to Sierra Leone, so a meeting was
7 called. They said we should form a unit. In that meeting
8 there we got the name of - there we got the name of the
9 unit. We called it Black Ghadafa. This Black Ghadafa
16:15:13 10 constitutes the NPFL of Liberia and the RUF.

11 ...

12 A. So from there General Devon and General Peper
13 appointed a commander that will lead the units that we
14 formed. That was - which was Black Ghadafa.

16:15:48 15 Q. Who was appointed to lead your unit?

16 A. It was Pele Boy, a Liberian, NPFL.

17 ...

18 Q. At this time do you remember who was the leader of
19 the NPFL?

16:16:13 20 A. Yes, Mr Taylor was the leader of the NPFL.

21 Q. Now after you had formed the unit Black Ghadafa, did
22 you engage in any activities?

23 A. Yes, we engaged in fighting throughout. We came to
24 Sierra Leone and we crossed the river. We came to Sierra
16:16:31 25 Leone, fight and then return.

26 Q. And what was the focus of this, the fighting that you
27 were engaged in at that time?

28 A. Well, we were fighting to regain the areas we were
29 before we were pushed across the border. Then also he said

1 if we fight very strongly he will come with ammunition for
2 us to continue our war in Sierra Leone. That is the reason
3 why we keep fighting inside and then going back."

4 Now, I'll read to you a little later what became of this
16:17:12 5 group later on. But you have heard, Mr Witness, what King Perry
6 had to say about the formation of the group Black Kadaffa. Do
7 you have a reason to dispute what King Perry has told this Court
8 about Black Kadaffa?

9 A. To my understanding, the group that was called the Black
16:17:42 10 Kadaffa, my own Kadaffa was not fighting from Liberia and then
11 going back into Liberia or coming across Sierra Leone, fighting,
12 and going back to Liberia. When I crossed, I told you that in my
13 own group, those of us who crossed over to Tonkara, we never went
14 back to Liberia. We never had any fighting force in Liberia.
16:18:08 15 Like I said, I never fought in Liberia. I never took a group
16 there to fight. Maybe they formed their own Black Kadaffa there
17 that was different. But that Black Kadaffa that crossed, we
18 never got back into Liberia. We left some men there, and then
19 few men went to Kailahun.

16:18:25 20 Q. So your testimony, if I understand you then, is that there
21 may have been more than one group called Black Kadaffa; is that
22 what you're saying?

23 A. I only know about my own Black Kadaffa. But even if they
24 had any other Black Kadaffa, I don't know. The Black Kadaffa
16:18:45 25 that we formed, Tonkara was the commander and that is the Black
26 Kadaffa that I know about. Monica was a member of that Black
27 Kadaffa. She was a member. From the day we left Tiene, we never
28 turned back into Liberia.

29 Q. Mr Witness, what do you say to the testimony of King Perry?

1 First of all let me ask you: When did you get to know King
2 Perry?

3 A. King Perry was a civilian when we entered. We captured him
4 and we trained him. After King Perry was trained, he will not
16:19:26 5 tell me that he fought. To say that he was faced with a serious
6 battle, no. He is talking his own side of the story. But what I
7 know, Martin, concerning the Black Kadaffa, is what I know. When
8 we crossed back into Sierra Leone, we never went in there with
9 our own Black Kadaffa. Maybe their formed their own Black
16:19:51 10 Kadaffa in Liberia. But in the case of my own Black Kadaffa for
11 which Tonkara was commander, no.

12 Q. So it is true that King Perry was with you when Pujehun was
13 overrun by the government forces, Sierra Leone government forces;
14 correct? There is no dispute about that?

16:20:12 15 A. Oh, yes, he was with me because he was in Zimmi. He was in
16 Zimmi. He was with me.

17 Q. So his account about how Black Kadaffa was formed is not
18 correct, according to you? Is that what you're telling the
19 Court?

16:20:29 20 A. The way we formed the Black Kadaffa, if that is what he is
21 talking about, then it's not correct. I said our own Black
22 Kadaffa that we formed, Tonkara was the commander and we never
23 retreated back there, no.

24 Q. King Perry mentions that there were NPFL soldiers with you
16:20:55 25 in Pujehun when the SLA and ULIMO forces attacked, and all of you
26 retreated into Liberia. What do you say to that?

27 A. I said it's a lie. How many times do you want me to say
28 "It's a lie"? I said it's a lie. It's a lie.

29 Q. King Perry mentions the name of the commander of the unit

1 that was formed, the Black Kaddafi unit, and this person is Pele
2 Boy. Did you know that name?

3 A. We never had any Pele Boy fighting with us in Pujehun. We
4 never had any Pele Boy who was with us in the Black Kaddafi in
16:21:41 5 Sierra Leone.

6 Q. This Pele Boy, according to King Perry, was NPFL and this
7 group was formed in Liberia, not in Sierra Leone. This group was
8 formed in Liberia. Did you know that name?

9 A. I don't know that name and I don't know about that man. I
16:21:57 10 don't know him. In fact, this is my first time hearing that name
11 is from King Perry, that name, Pele Boy.

12 Q. Now, we have heard from King Perry as well mentioning names
13 of commanders inside Liberia, NPFL commanders. He mentions two
14 commanders here - generals, in fact: General Devon and General
16:22:25 15 Peper. Did you know any of those names before? Have you heard
16 any of those names before as commanders of the NPFL?

17 A. No, I don't know them and I have not heard that name
18 before. I told you that I was always focused on Sierra Leone. I
19 was not monitoring Liberian activities.

16:22:47 20 Q. Now, earlier in the testimony of Mr Taylor which I read to
21 you about Black Kaddafi, he mentioned the name of three NPFL
22 commanders whom he said were implicated in this whole Black
23 Kaddafi - he called it a conspiracy, a plot. He mentioned
24 Anthony Mekunagbe. I ask you again - I believe I may have asked,
16:23:16 25 but I ask you again: Have you heard that name before?

26 A. I told you, I said no. I was in Sierra Leone. How would I
27 have heard the name?

28 Q. So this group, the Black Kaddafi unit that we're talking of
29 here, was formed and they kept making - staging attacks into

1 Sierra Leone and going back. They were trying to get - take back
2 territory which they had occupied before. Did you know about
3 this?

16:24:11 4 A. I don't know about that. I don't know about King Perry's
5 own Black Kaddafi. I don't know about King Perry's Black
6 Kaddafi.

7 Q. I am not asking you specifically now about King Perry's
8 Black Kaddafi. I'm simply asking you about a group that would
9 come from Liberia and fight their way into Sierra Leone and go
16:24:29 10 back - when I say Sierra Leone, into Pujehun District and try to
11 fight against the government forces who had taken ground from
12 them; did you know about this?

13 A. No. Those of us who crossed back into Pujehun, we were not
14 entering into Liberia any more. We were based in there and we
16:24:53 15 were engaging the enemy. We were not there to hit them, retreat,
16 hit them and retreat. No. We crossed mainly for us to go and
17 stay. We were not just there to go and attack them and then
18 retreat, no.

19 Q. Mr Witness, you told this Court that when you returned from
16:25:13 20 Liberia, crossed back into Sierra Leone, you joined Tonkara and
21 you joined him, the 65 or so of you joined him with his own men
22 that he had. When eventually all of you came together, were you
23 of the same number, same strength, that you were before you fled
24 across the border?

16:25:38 25 A. Tonkara had men with him and the ones we took with us, you
26 know, we were many in the bush. Not all of us used to go and
27 attack together. Whilst you go, the jungle was - in fact, people
28 who stay in the jungle, they would go and attack, they come back,
29 just like that.

1 Q. Mr Witness, you're missing the question. The question is:
2 When all of you came back together after you regrouped with
3 Tonkara, were you still of the same strength, numbers, that you
4 were when you fled?

16:26:17 5 A. We were still the same manpower because the force that was
6 on the highway was the force that retreated, but the force that
7 Tonkara went with on their attack, they were still in the bush in
8 Pujehun, but not in the township. They would go and attack. The
9 men who were on the highway were the ones that were pushed by the
16:26:36 10 enemies together with the civilians to the border. So when we
11 assembled ourselves again, we came together, then we had enough
12 manpower. The manpower was large.

13 Q. So your testimony is that all of you came back together and
14 there was not even the possibility of some of you staying behind
16:26:52 15 in Liberia because you were again reconstituted in your same
16 numbers. Is that what you're telling the Court?

17 A. It was the armed forces that we were after. I told you the
18 armed men. We did not leave armed men in Liberia. We were
19 particular about arms. Because you cannot go back into the
16:27:15 20 jungle without arms. You can't go and fight with your naked
21 hands. We were particular about arms. Those who had arms, we
22 did not leave them behind. We took them with us to go and join
23 Tonkara.

24 Q. Mr Witness, I believe we have been talking about RUF
16:27:32 25 fighters who were trained, but can you be clear, when you say
26 armed men, what do you mean?

27 A. What I mean by armed men, those who had arms. Arms. Those
28 who carried guns. Let me put it in the simple English. Those
29 who carried guns were the ones we were looking for. We did not

1 deal much - too much with unarmed men, those who did not have
2 arms to go and fight, because we were going to fight and most of
3 them, in fact, were recruits. So we were not concerned about
4 them. Those who had arms were the ones that we regrouped to go
16:28:13 5 in again and join our brothers. That was it.

6 Q. So you did not count on the strength of those who did not
7 have arms, even though they were trained, or those who were
8 recruits. You did not count on their strength at all. Is that
9 what you're telling the Court?

16:28:31 10 A. Those who never had arms, actually, we did not check them
11 because --

12 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
13 to slow down again.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Right, Mr George, now you can repeat your
16:28:46 15 evidence so that we can understand it, slowly. Repeat what you
16 just said.

17 THE WITNESS: Ask your question.

18 MR BANGURA:

19 Q. The question is, from what you have said, it means then you
16:29:00 20 did not count on the strength of those members of the RUF who did
21 not carry arms and those who were recruits. Is that what you're
22 telling the Court?

23 A. That is what I am telling the Court. Those men, some of
24 them were in Gisiwulo when the heavy retreat took place. Most of
16:29:25 25 them never went to fight on the front lines. They were based at
26 Gisiwulo during - when this mass retreat took place. So when we
27 crossed into Liberia, you would not force them to go back because
28 of the tension they saw there. They were recruits. So those who
29 were able to join us and those who were armed men, even if you

1 were unarmed, we went in and we joined our brothers so that we
2 will go and establish our jungle.

3 Q. So then your testimony is that the ones who stayed behind
4 that became the Black Kadaffa that was formed in Liberia were
16:29:59 5 unarmed RUF fighters as well as recruits. Is that what you want
6 the Court --

7 A. Yes, some men stayed there. They were recruits. And they
8 did not withstand the tension to go back and join us in the
9 jungle. So we did not disturb them. Those who were armed that
16:30:20 10 we retreated with, we regrouped ourselves and we went to join our
11 brother, Tonkara, to restart our normal struggle.

12 Q. We agree then, Mr Witness, that some of your men, RUF,
13 stayed behind in Liberia, they were not carrying arms, as well as
14 some who were recruits at the time of the attack and they were
16:30:43 15 the ones that became - formed into the group called the Black
16 Kadaffa. Do we agree on that?

17 A. Yes, it is possible because I was no longer there. So
18 maybe they took that name that we took to form their own unit for
19 themselves. But those of us who put ourselves together in Tiene
16:31:06 20 and we went back, after we had crossed, we did not get time for
21 anybody whom we left behind. We were only focusing ahead.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr George and Mr Bangura. We
23 will adjourn to tomorrow. And in the meantime, Mr Witness, you
24 are not to discuss your evidence. Court is adjourned to tomorrow
16:31:25 25 at 9.30.

26 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.31 p.m.
27 to be reconvened on Tuesday, 27 April 2010 at
28 9.30 a.m.]

29

I N D E X

WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENCE:

DCT-062	39877
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR ANYAH	39877
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR BANGURA	39906