



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

WEDNESDAY, 2 JULY 2008
9.30 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Mr Simon Meisenberg
Ms Carolyn Buff

For the Registry:

Ms Advera Nsiima Kamuzora
Ms Rachel Irura

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay Taylor:

Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC
Mr Terry Munyard
Mr Morris Anyah

For the Office of the Principal Defender:

Ms Elizabeth Nahamya

1 Wednesday, 2 July 2008

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:31:16 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. I will take appearances
6 please, Ms Hollis.

7 MS HOLLIS: Good morning Madam President, your Honours,
8 counsel opposite. This morning for the Prosecution,
9 Maja Dimitrova and myself Brenda J Hollis.

09:31:33 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Ms Hollis. Mr Griffiths.

11 MR GRIFFITHS: Good morning Madam President, your Honours.
12 This morning for the Defence, myself Courtenay Griffiths,
13 my learned friend Mr Terry Munyard, my learned friend Mr Morris
14 Anyah and also Thomas Scott an intern working with the Defence
09:31:50 15 team. Good morning counsel opposite.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Griffiths. Ms Hollis,
17 I note we don't appear to have a witness in the witness box.

18 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, the Prosecution will call the
19 witness TF1-567. This witness has the following protective
09:32:14 20 measures: That is the use of a pseudonym, screen, image and
21 voice distortion as well as closed session where necessary. Your
22 Honours, in regard to the closed session where necessary, I have
23 spoken with the witness and private session where necessary would
24 suffice for the needs.

09:32:41 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you very much for that information,
26 Ms Hollis. I will check that these - sorry, which language will
27 the witness give his or her evidence in?

28 MS HOLLIS: The witness will give his evidence in Krio.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Have we a Krio interpreter in

1 position?

2 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honours.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very good. Can I have the screen and
4 image distortion and the voice distortion in place, please. Just
09:33:27 5 for purposes of record, I don't have my most recent decision
6 concerning witness protection measures to hand.

7 MS HOLLIS: Your Honour, that was a decision of 13 March
8 2008 from this Trial Chamber.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

09:34:35 10 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, just for your information we will
11 request a short private session at the very beginning for the
12 personal data concerning the witness.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am not sure who is leading - taking
14 this witness for the Defence. You have heard the application.

09:34:53 15 MR GRIFFITHS: I will be, your Honour. I have no
16 objections to that course being adopted.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Please sit down, Mr Witness.
18 Just one procedural matter before we swear you. For purposes of
19 public record, in accordance with rules I think 75 or 79, we will
09:37:04 20 be having a closed session to protect the security of the
21 witness. This is not opposed by the Defence - a private session,
22 so there will not be a broadcast and the sound will not be heard.

23 Also it has just been brought to my attention, Ms Hollis,
24 there was an amending order of 7 May 2008, but I recall that this
09:37:34 25 witness was not in the annexure to that order.

26 MS HOLLIS: That is correct.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: I do recall there was one that was
28 slightly amended. I think it was this witness.

29 MS HOLLIS: Your Honour, there were two witnesses affected

1 by that. This witness was not.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you for that, Ms Hollis. Please
3 proceed now, Madam Court Attendant, to swear the witness.

4 WITNESS: TF1-568 [Sworn]

09:38:12 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Now before we start,
6 Ms Hollis, I want to check exactly where we are; whether we have
7 just got the voice distortion, or whether we are in private
8 session, or if there is a preliminary matter you wish to deal
9 with before private session.

09:38:32 10 MS HOLLIS: Your Honour, I have no matters to deal with
11 before private session.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. May we have the Court in
13 private session, please.

14 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
15 the transcript, pages 12816 to 12817, was
16 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
17 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

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

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Ms Hollis, please proceed.

4 MS HOLLIS:

09:41:42 5 Q. Mr Witness, would you tell the Court what languages you
6 speak?

7 A. I speak Krio, Mende and Liberian English.

8 Q. Do you understand spoken English?

9 A. Yes.

09:42:10 10 Q. How well do you understand spoken English?

11 A. I understand it little by little.

12 Q. Do you read English?

13 A. I read it a little bit.

14 Q. Now, I would like to draw your attention to May of 1991.

09:42:38 15 Where were you in May of 1991?

16 A. I was in Pendembu Town.

17 Q. And what happened in Pendembu Town in May of 1991?

18 A. I was there when I heard that the rebels had entered
19 Pendembu in May 1991.

09:43:03 20 Q. And when you say "rebels", what do you mean?

21 A. Well, I saw people who entered and were speaking Liberian
22 English and they had guns. They were shooting around in the
23 Pendembu Town. They referred to themselves as rebels.

24 Q. When these rebels entered Pendembu Town, were there
09:43:32 25 government forces in the town?

26 A. There was no government forces at that time.

27 Q. And were the people in Pendembu armed at that time?

28 A. No.

29 Q. What kind of weapons were used when the rebels attacked

1 Pendembu?

2 A. I saw guns that were referred to as Beretta, guns like RPG,
3 guns like AK-47.

09:44:19

4 Q. What happened to the people in Pendembu when the rebels
5 attacked the town?

6 A. Well, after they had attacked I was in a group where I saw
7 small boys who had guns who captured us and they took us to the
8 NA court barray together with some other people.

09:44:46

9 Q. You said that you saw small boys in this group. What do
10 you mean?

11 A. Small boys whom I was even older than and some of them were
12 older than me.

13 Q. And how was it that you knew their ages?

09:45:12

14 A. Well, that happened at the time I was at the base. They
15 showed their ages when they called for formation. It was through
16 the formation that I knew their ages.

17 Q. Now we are going to talk about the base in a moment, but
18 before we do that let me ask you what happened to other people in
19 Pendembu during this attack?

09:45:35

20 A. Well, when they captured me we went to the NA court barray
21 whilst the other people ran away to other villages. We were 17
22 that were captured that particular day.

23 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, NA court barray, I believe barray
24 is B-A-R-R-A-Y:

09:46:23

25 Q. What were the ages of the people who were captured?

26 A. There were women amongst, there were boys and there were
27 some other people. Their ages were up to 40 years.

28 Q. These small boys and others who captured you, did they have
29 any weapons?

1 A. Yes, they had guns with them.

2 Q. What happened once you were taken to the NA court barray?

3 A. When they took us to the court barray, we were there for
4 the whole day. They were punishing us, they were shooting around
09:47:13 5 us, they were shooting up. They told us to lie down on the
6 ground and later they asked us to go with them to the training
7 base.

8 Q. Who was it who was doing this to you at the court barray?

9 A. Well, those were the soldiers who had the guns who were
09:47:31 10 speaking the Liberian English.

11 Q. Where was it you were taken after this happened?

12 A. Well, they took us to the Pendembu vocational secondary
13 school compound to undergo training.

14 Q. Now just for clarification, do you know what district
09:47:59 15 Pendembu is in?

16 A. Pendembu is in Kailahun District.

17 Q. And what happened when you arrived at this base?

18 A. When we got to the base they called for a formation and
19 somebody introduced himself to us who introduced himself as
09:48:26 20 Charles Timber and he said he was the training commandant at the
21 base. He told us that the war was a Sierra Leone war and he
22 further told us that they were NPFL and that they have come to
23 help fight the Sierra Leone war, and he even gave an example that
24 we shouldn't fear and that they had Sierra Leoneans amongst them
09:48:57 25 and he made mention of two names. He called Morris Kallon and
26 Kai fa Wai .

27 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, Kai fa Wai would be K-A-I -F-A
28 W-A-I:

29 Q. Now, what do you mean that he made an example and he showed

1 you Morris Kallon and Kai fa Wai ?

2 A. That is to say he wanted to tell us that we shouldn't fear
3 and that there were Sierra Leoneans amongst them.

4 Q. And did he tell you anything about these two people, Morris
09:49:38 5 Kallon and Kai fa Wai ?

6 A. Well, he further told us that Morris Kallon and Kai fa Wai
7 were RUF vanguards who were trained by Foday Sankoh at Camp Naama
8 base in Liberia.

9 Q. How many did you say were brought from Pendembu to this
09:50:08 10 training base? How many people?

11 A. We were 17.

12 Q. In this formation at the base, how many people?

13 A. Well, when I went there we met people who were there up to
14 100. 100 of them.

09:50:28 15 Q. And what were the ages of these people?

16 A. There were children and their ages were from 13 years
17 upwards.

18 Q. What was the gender of these people?

19 A. There were children, there were women, there were men.

09:50:57 20 Q. And the children, what were the gender of the children?

21 A. There were boys. There were girls.

22 Q. Did you learn how these other people came to be there at
23 this training base?

24 A. They were going around the surrounding villages and within
09:51:28 25 the Pendembu township itself and they brought them to the
26 training base.

27 Q. And when you say they were going around, who was going
28 around?

29 A. Those were the training commandants.

1 Q. These people that came, do you know did they come there
2 voluntarily?

3 A. They went around and forcefully captured them and brought
4 them to the base.

09:52:06 5 Q. How long were you at this Pendembu training base?

6 A. I was there for two months.

7 Q. What type of training did you receive there?

8 A. I underwent ambush training, I underwent AK-47 training and
9 I underwent barbed wire crawling and halaka training.

09:52:48 10 Q. Now you said that you underwent this training. Did anyone
11 else receive this training?

12 A. Yes, all of us who were taken to the base. All of us went
13 through that training.

14 Q. While you were on the base during these two months did
09:53:10 15 anyone refuse to accept this training?

16 A. Well, when they took us to the base to be trained, if
17 anybody said that you were tired, you will be beaten.

18 Q. What would happen if you refused to train?

19 A. They will punish you.

09:53:40 20 Q. In what way would they punish you?

21 A. There was a place that was referred to as the halaka place.
22 When you said you were tired they will put other instructions
23 behind you and they will take you to the halaka and they will ask
24 you to run and they will have canes, they continue beating you
09:54:07 25 and they will say you are falling in an ambush.

26 Q. Who would be beating these people?

27 A. Those who were training us there.

28 Q. Now, you said this was done at the halaka place. Can you
29 tell us what the halaka place was?

1 A. Well, the halaka was something like a circle. It was
2 circled using cement blocks and it was round in shape. There was
3 a centre and there was somewhere in the middle that they put some
4 sand. They will place you there and the training instructors
09:55:00 5 will have canes and whilst you were running through there, they
6 will beat you up.

7 Q. What were the ages of those that were taken to this halaka
8 place and this done to them?

9 A. Well, from 12 upwards.

09:55:24 10 Q. What was the gender of the people taken to the halaka place
11 and this done to them?

12 A. Men went there, women went there and children went there.

13 Q. When you say children, what were the gender of these
14 children?

09:55:48 15 A. Girls went there and boys went there.

16 Q. You testified that when you came to the base there were
17 approximately 100 other people at the base. During the two
18 months you were there how many people were training at Pendembu
19 base?

09:56:06 20 A. Well, after I had completed my two months, later the number
21 of people went up to 800.

22 Q. What was the ages of these 800 people?

23 A. From 12 upwards.

24 Q. What was the gender of these 800 people?

09:56:36 25 A. There were girls amongst them, there were boys amongst
26 them, there were men amongst them and there were women amongst
27 them.

28 Q. These 800 people, did they all receive the same training?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. During the time you were at this training base were the
2 trainees organised into any sorts of units?

3 A. Yes, at the time we were undergoing this training they put
4 us in platoons, companies, like there were the WAS unit, and that
09:57:30 5 was how we were arranged.

6 Q. Did you say "wives unit"?

7 A. WAS unit.

8 Q. What was the wives unit?

9 JUDGE LUSSICK: Just to be clear on that, is he saying
09:57:53 10 "wives" or "wise"?

11 THE WITNESS: WAS.

12 MS HOLLIS:

13 Q. Mr Witness, let me spell the word and if you understand
14 tell me if this is the word you're using. Is it W-I-V-E-S?

09:58:10 15 A. No.

16 Q. Can you pronounce it for us again, please?

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Maybe the witness could spell it if he
18 knows.

19 MS HOLLIS:

09:58:21 20 Q. Are you able to spell it, Mr Witness?

21 A. W-A-S, WAS.

22 Q. W-A-S?

23 MR GRIFFITHS: Your Honour, it may be best if the witness
24 just explains what he means.

09:58:37 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am sure that's coming.

26 MS HOLLIS:

27 Q. So when you say WAS, W-A-S, unit, what do you mean?

28 A. Those were the women. The girls and the women. Those were
29 the ones who were referred to as the WAS.

1 Q. Now, you mentioned small boys receiving training. Were
2 they in any particular unit?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What was that unit?

09:59:18 5 A. They were called the SBU unit.

6 Q. Did you learn what SBU meant?

7 A. Small Boys Unit.

8 Q. You testified that Charles Timber indicated that he was in
9 charge of the training base. Were there any other commanders at

09:59:49 10 this training base?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Who?

13 A. Monica Pearson was there. She was serving as deputy to
14 Charles Timber and she was the WAS commander too.

10:00:08 15 Q. Who was Monica Pearson?

16 A. Monica Pearson was a Liberian.

17 Q. Do you know where she was trained?

18 A. According to what she told us, she said she trained in
19 Liberia, in Camp Naama.

10:00:30 20 Q. Do you know what group she was with?

21 A. She was in the vanguard group.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, is Timber T-I-M-B-A or

23 T-E-M-B-A?

24 MS HOLLIS: I believe the spelling is actually T-I-M-B-E-R.

10:00:56 25 The "Timba" is the accent:

26 Q. Mr Witness, who actually gave you the training at this
27 training base? Who were the instructors?

28 A. Matthew was there. He was a Liberian. We received
29 training from him. Jah Glory was there. He was a training

1 instructor too. And some others that I cannot recall now.

2 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, Jah Glory, J-A-H, second word
3 Glory, G-L-O-R-Y. Matthew would be the regular spelling:

4 Q. What was Jah Glory's nationality?

10:02:02 5 A. Jah Glory was a Liberian.

6 Q. Do you know what group he was in?

7 A. He was in the NPFL group.

8 Q. You mentioned a Matthew who was a Liberian. Do you know
9 what group he was in?

10:02:22 10 A. Well, he also told us that he was trained in Liberia, in
11 the NPFL.

12 Q. During this two months that you were at the Pendembu
13 training base did you have any visitors to the base?

14 A. Yes, people used to visit us there.

10:02:50 15 Q. Do you recall the names of any of these people who visited
16 there?

17 A. We were there when Foday Sankoh came there, Francis Mewon
18 went there, Dopoe Menkarzon too went there.

19 Q. Who was Francis Mewon?

10:03:20 20 A. Francis Mewon was a Liberian. He was Liberian Special
21 Forces.

22 Q. Do you know what group he was in?

23 A. He told us that he was NPFL at that time.

24 Q. Do you know what position he held at the time he came to
10:03:43 25 visit the base?

26 A. No.

27 Q. Now, you mentioned a Dopoe Menkarzon, who was he?

28 A. Well, Dopoe Menkarzon too told us that he was called Dopoe
29 Menkarzon and that he was trained in Liberia and he said he was a

1 Special Forces. He said he came from Liberia, from amongst the
2 NPFL.

3 Q. Do you know what position, if any, he held at that time?

10:04:29

4 A. Well, when he came at that time he came to replace somebody
5 in Pendembu.

6 Q. To replace them as what?

7 A. There was one NPFL commander who was called Samuel G Tuah.
8 He came to replace him.

9 Q. Now, you mentioned that Foday Sankoh came to the base.

10:04:59

10 What happened when Foday Sankoh came to the base?

11 A. Well, when Foday Sankoh came to the base, after our
12 graduation he told the training commander, that was Charles
13 Timber, that he needed 25 manpower to go and serve as guards at
14 his mansion in Pendembu.

10:05:30

15 Q. How did you know that this man was Foday Sankoh?

16 A. Well, that was the first time I saw him, when he came to
17 the base and introduced himself, that he was the leader and he
18 brought the war. That was the time I knew that he was the Foday
19 Sankoh.

10:05:52

20 Q. Now, you indicated this happened after graduation. Before
21 we talk about Foday Sankoh's visit and his request I would like
22 to ask you to your knowledge how long did the training base
23 remain at Pendembu?

24 A. The training base was there from '91 - it was there in '91
25 to the end.

10:06:26

26 Q. Do you know where the training was moved to after Pendembu?

27 A. Later the training base was transferred to Kailahun Town.

28 Q. Do you know how long the training base was there?

29 A. It was there up to 1992.

1 Q. If you know, where did it move to after that?

2 A. When they moved it from there, it was taken to a town that
3 is moving from Kailahun. The place is called Bunumbu.

10:07:26

4 Q. Do you know who was the training commander at Kailahun Town
5 base?

6 A. I can't recall.

7 Q. Do you know who the training commander was at Bunumbu base?

8 A. It was Monica Pearson that was there.

10:07:56

9 Q. Now, you have indicated that Foday Sankoh asked for 25
10 people to serve him. What happened to these other trainees?

11 Where did they go after graduation?

12 A. They were sent to the various front lines.

13 Q. And do you know the ages of the people sent to the various
14 front lines?

10:08:18

15 A. The ages started from 12 years upwards.

16 Q. What happened to you after you graduated from the training
17 base?

18 A. After Foday Sankoh had come to the base and asked for the
19 25 manpower, I was also selected to serve in the 25 manpower to
20 go and serve at the Mansion Ground.

10:08:56

21 Q. Where was this Mansion Ground?

22 A. In Pendembu Town.

23 Q. To your knowledge, did Foday Sankoh have any other mansion
24 grounds at this time?

10:09:16

25 A. I knew that when I was at the Mansion Ground. I understood
26 from him that he had another mansion in Kailahun.

27 Q. And by Kailahun do you mean Kailahun Town?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. What were your duties at the mansion?

1 A. Well, when they brought us there as mansion guards we were
2 there guarding around the mansion with guns.

3 Q. How long did you serve as a mansion guard?

4 A. We were there as mansion guards for a long time.

10:10:28 5 Q. During what year or years were you there as a mansion
6 guard?

7 A. In '91.

8 Q. During the time you were there as a mansion guard, was
9 Foday Sankoh doing any travelling away from Pendembu?

10:10:51 10 A. Yes, during the time I was there as mansion guard Foday
11 Sankoh sometimes left us there and travelled.

12 Q. Did you know where he went?

13 A. He told us that he was going to Gbarnga in Liberia.

14 Q. Did he tell you why he was going to Gbarnga in Liberia?

10:11:17 15 A. He told us that he was going to see his brother,
16 Charles Taylor, and he brought arms and ammunition together with
17 food.

18 Q. During the time you were at the mansion as a mansion guard,
19 do you know what the chain of command was for the RUF in Sierra
10:11:50 20 Leone?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Please tell us.

23 A. Well, at that time it was General Samuel G Tuah who
24 controlled the movement at that time and he was an NPFL.

10:12:23 25 Q. And at this time, to your knowledge, who was in control of
26 the front line areas?

27 A. Well, it was the NPFL commanders.

28 Q. If you know, at this time how many NPFL were in Sierra
29 Leone?

1 A. Well, there were many. I cannot tell the number.

2 Q. If you know, at this time how many Sierra Leonean RUF
3 personnel were in Sierra Leone?

4 A. There were also many.

10:13:12 5 Q. At the time that you were assigned to the mansion --

6 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, whilst the witness is
7 giving his testimony could he speak up a little at the tail end
8 of his testimony because the last thing he said was not clear to
9 the interpreters.

10:13:27 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreters have to
11 translate everything you say. They are having difficulty hearing
12 the last part of each of your answers, so can you speak clearly
13 right through the answer and, if necessary, come a little closer
14 to the microphone please.

10:13:49 15 THE WITNESS: Okay.

16 MS HOLLIS:

17 Q. Mr Witness, at the time you were assigned to the mansion as
18 a guard were any other people assigned to the mansion?

19 A. Yes.

10:14:11 20 Q. Who else was assigned to the mansion?

21 A. That was the Liberian securities who were with Foday
22 Sankoh.

23 Q. Anyone else?

24 A. Yes, the radio operator was there. They used to call him
10:14:37 25 CO Nya. Foday Sankoh also had a woman called Catherine.

26 Q. Did you say Catherine?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. And what was her position at the mansion?

29 A. Well, she was - Foday Sankoh told us she was his wife and

1 so she used to cook there.

2 Q. You mentioned CO Nya. Do you know him by any other name?

3 A. We used to call him Foday Lansana.

4 Q. Do you know his nationality?

10:15:30 5 A. Well, he was a Liberian.

6 Q. Do you know what group he was with?

7 A. Well, when I was at the mansion I was made to understand
8 that he was part of the NPFL at the time that I joined the RUF.

9 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness be audible
10:15:53 10 a little. He is still not audible enough for the interpreter.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter is still
12 having trouble hearing you. Can you speak a little louder and
13 I will ask Madam Court Attendant to assist us to bring the
14 microphone closer to you.

10:16:10 15 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, let him kindly repeat his
16 last answer.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter asks that you
18 repeat your last answer. Do you need the question asked again?

19 THE WITNESS: Yes.

10:16:27 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, if you could oblige please.

21 MS HOLLIS:

22 Q. Mr Witness, you were talking about CO Nya who was also
23 known as Foday Lansana. You said he was a Liberian and I asked
24 you if you knew what group he was with. Can you tell us the
10:16:43 25 answer to that, please.

26 A. When I was at the Mansion Ground, CO Nya made me to
27 understand that he was part of the NPFL and later he joined the
28 RUF and came to Sierra Leone as a radio operator.

29 Q. You mentioned that Foday Sankoh also had Liberian

1 securities. What was the job of these Liberian securities?

2 A. Well, they were bodyguards to him.

3 Q. And how long did he have these Liberian securities?

4 A. The Liberian securities were with him in '91.

10:17:40 5 Q. What happened after that?

6 A. After that their posts were dissolved and he asked Kargbo,
7 who was the battle group commander for the RUF, to look for five
8 junior commandos to be his bodyguards. He sent these Liberians
9 to the front lines.

10:18:14 10 Q. Now, you said that their posts were dissolved. Can you
11 tell us why that was?

12 A. Well they just left their duties unknowingly to Foday
13 Sankoh, so he too became angry and sent them to the front line.

14 Q. You said that "... he asked Kargbo, who was the battle
10:18:48 15 group commander for the RUF, to look for five junior commandos."
16 Who is the "he"? Who asked Kargbo to do that?

17 A. Foday Sankoh.

18 Q. And who was Kargbo?

19 A. Kargbo was the battle group commander for the RUF.

10:19:11 20 Q. What was his nationality?

21 A. He was a Sierra Leonean.

22 Q. So then what happened after Foday Sankoh asked Kargbo to
23 find these five junior commandos?

24 A. Kargbo - those of us who were at the Mansion Ground, it was
10:19:36 25 from among us that Kargbo appointed people. He appointed me, Ben
26 Sheriff, he appointed Ansu Brima, he appointed Ansu Sillah, he
27 appointed Mohamed.

28 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, Ansu Brima is A-N-S-U B-R-I-M-A,
29 Ansu Sillah is A-N-S-U S-I-L-L-A-H and Ben Sheriff is

1 S-H-E-R-I-F-F:

2 Q. Once you became a bodyguard to Foday Sankoh, what were your
3 duties?

4 A. When Foday Sankoh took me as a bodyguard he told us that we
10:20:38 5 should be protecting him. He told me that I should be taking
6 care of his food and to be preparing tea for him. That was -
7 those were my own duties.

8 Q. And do you recall what year it was that you and these
9 others became a bodyguard to Foday Sankoh?

10:21:03 10 A. It happened in 1991.

11 Q. Now if I can go back for just a moment, you said that Foday
12 Sankoh told Kargbo to find junior commandos. Who are junior
13 commandos?

14 A. That refers to those of us who were trained in Sierra
10:21:28 15 Leone. They referred to us as junior commandos.

16 Q. What was the name given to Foday Sankoh's bodyguards?

17 A. At first after the bodyguards he changed it to Black Guard.

18 Q. And when did this happen?

19 A. It happened in 1992.

10:22:04 20 Q. How long did you remain a bodyguard to Foday Sankoh?

21 A. Since when I was with him, I was with him until the time
22 that he was arrested.

23 Q. Until the time he was arrested where?

24 A. I was with him until he was arrested in - when the Court
10:22:45 25 indicted him.

26 Q. When you say "court", what court are you talking about?

27 A. Special Court.

28 Q. What were the duties of the Black Guard personnel?

29 A. Well, Foday Sankoh trained us, the Black Guards, and he

- 1 told us that the revolution that he had launched was a black
2 revolution. We, the Black Guards, our duties were to guard the
3 revolution. So he trained us and sent us to the front lines.
4 Our duties were that we should go and sensitise the soldiers that
10:23:43 5 no raping should take place, no looting, no burning of houses, so
6 that was the training that he gave us and told us that we should
7 go to the front lines to teach the soldiers.
- 8 Q. In addition to sensitising the soldiers did you have any
9 other duties at the front lines?
- 10:24:05 10 A. To send reports to him in relation to what was going on.
- 11 Q. What kind of reports would you send, in what form?
- 12 A. We used to write them down on paper and send them to him.
- 13 Q. When you were at the front lines in addition to these
14 written reports did you have any other way to communicate with
10:24:38 15 Foday Sankoh?
- 16 A. We communicated to him through radio communications.
- 17 Q. Do you remember the names of any of the radio operators you
18 worked with?
- 19 A. There was Daf, who was a radio operator, and others.
- 10:25:27 20 Q. [Microphone not activated]
- 21 A. His name is Dauda Fornie.
- 22 Q. What was his nationality?
- 23 A. He is a Sierra Leonean.
- 24 Q. Now, you testified that you were sent to the front lines to
10:25:55 25 sensitise the soldiers that there would be no raping, no looting,
26 no burning of homes. Now, when you were at the front line did
27 raping occur?
- 28 A. It used to happen.
- 29 Q. Did looting occur?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Did burning of houses occur?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And did you report all these things?

10:26:22 5 A. Yes, because that was my duty. I used to do it.

6 Q. If you know, what happened when you reported these things?

7 A. Sometimes the leader took action and at some other times he
8 didn't.

9 Q. Could you tell us, please, what was the command structure
10:26:51 10 of the Black Guards?

11 A. We had Black Guard commander, we had a deputy Black Guard
12 commander, we had the adjutant, we had the operation - Black
13 Guard operation. We had those.

14 Q. What was the duty of the adjutant?

10:27:37 15 A. The adjutants who had been with the commanders, whenever
16 things happened at the front line it was the adjutants and the
17 commanders who sat together and the adjutant would write them
18 down.

19 Q. Then you said you also had "operation", what do you mean by
10:28:01 20 that?

21 A. I have not got that clearly.

22 Q. You said that in this command structure you had operation.
23 What do you mean by "operation"?

24 A. Operation commander. He was - he went to the front lines
10:28:24 25 to the other Black Guards. If he had any report, he will take
26 that to the deputy commander and the deputy commander in turn
27 will send them to the Black Guard commander. That was how we
28 operated.

29 Q. During the time that you were a bodyguard, a Black Guard,

1 to Foday Sankoh did you ever see Foday Sankoh's signature on any
2 documents?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And are you able to recognise his signature?

10:28:59 5 A. Yes.

6 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, at this time I would ask that the
7 document at tab 2 which is D-15 and the document at tab 3 which
8 is P-65 be taken to the witness.

9 MR GRIFFITHS: I wonder if I can just intervene to clarify
10:29:43 10 what it is that my learned friend proposes to do. Is it merely
11 to identify the signature, or is it to introduce the document?
12 I am not quite sure what the purpose of this is.

13 MS HOLLIS: Firstly, your Honour, both documents are in
14 evidence, so I am not introducing or offering a document, and my
10:30:05 15 next questions were going to be if the witness recognised the
16 signatures.

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, we just need to make sure we
18 are on the same page. My document in tab 2 doesn't have a
19 signature. Maybe I am looking at the wrong document.

10:30:27 20 MS HOLLIS: Perhaps I am in error, your Honour. The
21 document I am talking about is a two page handwritten document.
22 It is D-15. It is from Corporal Foday Sankoh to brother Mohamed
23 Talibi, subject: "Follow-up request". Your Honour, that's in
24 the binder for week 23.

10:31:12 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Attendant, please show the
26 document to the witness.

27 MS HOLLIS:

28 Q. Mr Witness, if you would take a moment and look at page 2.
29 Do you see the signature on page 2?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Do you recognise that signature?

3 A. I have seen it. Yes, I can remember it. It is Foday
4 Sankoh's signature.

10:31:43 5 Q. Mr Witness, did you know someone called Mohamed Talibi?

6 A. Yes, I used to know him.

7 Q. How did you know him?

8 A. I knew Mohamed L Talibi at the time that I was in Liberia.
9 It was Foday Sankoh who introduced him to me.

10:32:09 10 MS HOLLIS: If the witness could be shown the document at
11 tab 3, P-65. It is a one page document:

12 Q. Mr Witness, do you recognise the signature on this
13 document?

14 A. Yes.

10:32:30 15 Q. Whose signature is it?

16 A. This too is Foday Sankoh's signature.

17 Q. Now, Mr Witness, this signature on P-65, look at that and
18 then would you also look at the signature on the document D-15,
19 the two page letter. Would you look at both of those signatures.

10:33:00 20 Now, those signatures appear to be different. Can you explain
21 that to us?

22 A. Yes. Foday Sankoh was a person who hadn't a single
23 signature. He had up to three.

24 Q. Mr Witness, once you became the bodyguard to Foday Sankoh

10:33:30 25 you have described some of the duties. Did you have other duties
26 as his bodyguard?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. What were those duties?

29 A. I was a bodyguard to him. He used to send me to the front

1 Lines to bring reports.

2 Q. Did you ever travel with him?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Where did you go with him?

10:34:08 5 A. The first trip that I made with him, Foday Sankoh and
6 I travelled to Liberia.

7 Q. How many trips to Liberia did you make with Foday Sankoh?

8 A. In 1991 I travelled with him once. In '92 we travelled
9 again.

10:34:41 10 Q. And were those the only trips you made with him to Liberia?

11 A. I can't recall.

12 Q. Where did you travel to in Liberia?

13 A. When we left Pendembu we went - we travelled to Kailahun.

14 From Kailahun, Buedu to Koindu and from there we went to Foya and
10:35:15 15 from Foya we went to Kolahun and then Voinjama and then Zorzor,
16 then we got to Gbarnga. That's how we went.

17 Q. Did you take this route both times that you went with Foday
18 Sankoh?

19 A. Yes.

10:35:34 20 Q. When you travelled this route did you ever have any
21 problems crossing into Liberia from Sierra Leone?

22 A. No, we had no problems in crossing.

23 Q. Who was in control of the border on the Liberian side?

24 A. Well, when we were crossing over we met the Liberian
10:36:04 25 securities there and they were NPFL.

26 Q. When you travelled from the border to Gbarnga did you go
27 through checkpoints?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Who controlled those checkpoints?

1 A. The NPFL soldiers.

2 Q. Did you ever have problems at those checkpoints?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Now, why did you go to Gbarnga these two times?

10:36:39 5 A. Foday Sankoh told us that it was one of his bases. When he
6 used to go there he used to go there to meet his brother
7 Charles Taylor.

8 Q. And when he told you it was one of his bases what did you
9 understand that to mean?

10:37:04 10 A. That it was a place that was there for him. Whenever he
11 goes to Gbarnga, that was where he was to stay.

12 Q. On this first trip to Gbarnga, did you have any
13 communications during that trip?

14 A. Yes.

10:37:33 15 Q. And what communications did you have?

16 A. When we crossed the border, we got to Foya, Foday Sankoh
17 told us that he was going to the signal room; that is the radio
18 room. He disembarked from the vehicle and he went into the radio
19 office and we kept guard. After some time he came out. Then he
10:38:12 20 told us that he had spoken to his brother Charles in Gbarnga and
21 his brother said "No problem" and that he would be happy to
22 receive him. Then we went.

23 Q. Now, you said that he went into a radio room in Foya.
24 Whose radio room was this?

10:38:33 25 A. Well, this radio room, it was the NPFL that controlled it.
26 I did not know who was operating it.

27 Q. What happened when you arrived at Gbarnga on this first
28 trip?

29 A. When we went, we arrived at night. Later I saw someone

1 come and introduced himself as an SS officer. He said he had
2 come from Charles Taylor's mansion. I saw him enter to Foday
3 Sankoh. After some time he came out.

4 Q. Now, where were you when this happened?

10:39:25 5 A. Well the area where we went in Gbarnga, Foday Sankoh told
6 us that that place was called the far east. That was where we
7 went. That was where the house was.

8 Q. When you say "the far east" and this is where the house
9 was, whose house was there?

10:39:47 10 A. It was Foday Sankoh's place.

11 Q. You said that an SS officer came. Did you learn what SS
12 meant?

13 A. Yes, later I was made to understand that SSS was Special
14 Security Services.

10:40:11 15 Q. And did you learn for whom the Special Security Service
16 worked?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Who was that?

19 A. They were Charles Taylor's securities.

10:40:27 20 Q. So what happened after the SS man went into Foday Sankoh
21 and then came out?

22 A. Foday Sankoh went to the mansion to Charles Taylor.

23 Q. Did anyone go with him?

24 A. Yes, I went with him together with some other securities.

10:40:53 25 Q. And what happened at Charles Taylor's mansion?

26 A. We went there. When we got there, Foday Sankoh entered.
27 He told us that he was going to meet his brother Charles and so
28 we waited in the waiting room. We were there up to 1.30 and he
29 came back and we went back home.

1 Q. You said you were there until 1.30. Is that in the
2 afternoon, or early morning?

3 A. Well, we went there at night, 1.30 a.m.

4 Q. What happened then when you arrived back at the residence?

10:41:38 5 A. We came back home. Foday Sankoh told us that he had spoken
6 with his brother Charles. He said he was happy. He said his
7 brother had told him that he will help him with materials to
8 return.

9 Q. And did you understand what materials meant?

10:41:59 10 A. Well, he said arms and ammunition.

11 Q. What happened after that?

12 A. After that, the following morning they came with the arms
13 and ammunition in a vehicle.

14 Q. And who came with the arms and ammunition?

10:42:24 15 A. One SS officer.

16 Q. Do you remember that person's name?

17 A. He called himself - he said he was Cassius Jacob.

18 Q. What happened when he arrived with the arms and ammunition?

19 A. He handed over everything to Foday Sankoh and then he
10:42:55 20 returned.

21 Q. Did you learn what type of arms and ammunition he had
22 handed over?

23 A. He came with AK rounds, RPG bombs, grenades and other
24 weapons which I can't recall now.

10:43:25 25 Q. Do you recall what quantity of materials you were given at
26 that time?

27 A. There were plenty. I can't recall now.

28 Q. You said this person came with the materials in a truck.
29 What happened to the truck?

1 A. This truck, Foday Sankoh said that the truck should take
2 the materials to Sierra Leone.

3 Q. Now this truck, was this a truck you had brought to
4 Gbarnga?

10:44:09 5 A. No, it came from there. It had come from the mansion.

6 Q. Who took these arms and ammunition back to Sierra Leone?

7 A. One other security who was with Foday Sankoh. His name was
8 Papa. They took the ammunition to Sierra Leone.

9 Q. And what was Papa's nationality?

10:44:42 10 A. Papa was a Liberian.

11 Q. Do you know what group he was with?

12 A. At first he was with the NPFL and he later joined Foday
13 Sankoh.

14 Q. Did Foday Sankoh give Papa any instructions as to what to
10:45:00 15 do with these arms and ammunition?

16 A. He told Papa to take the arms and ammunition to Pendembu to
17 give to Kargbo, who was the battle group.

18 Q. What did Foday Sankoh and you and the others do after Papa
19 left?

10:45:26 20 A. Well, Foday Sankoh went back to the mansion to his brother.
21 He gave him one other pick-up with arms and ammunition.

22 Q. How do you know it was Charles Taylor who gave Foday Sankoh
23 these materials?

24 A. Whatever happened, he told us the bodyguards to him.

10:46:01 25 Q. Just to be clear, when you say "he told us" who are you
26 talking about?

27 A. Foday Sankoh used to tell us that Charles was his brother.

28 Whatever arms and ammunition he gave to him, we the bodyguards -

29 he will tell us, the bodyguards, that it was his brother that had

1 given them to him.

2 Q. Now, you said it was a pick-up truck that the materials
3 were in. Did you learn what kind of materials were in this
4 pick-up truck?

10:46:34 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What kind of materials?

7 A. AK rounds were there, RPG and AK rounds, RPG and M203 gun
8 and others which I cannot recall.

9 Q. What happened after this pick-up truck was brought with
10:47:05 10 these arms and ammunition in it?

11 A. Well, we travelled with Foday Sankoh to Sierra Leone.

12 Q. Where did you go in Sierra Leone?

13 A. We went to Pendembu.

14 Q. During this first trip to Gbarnga, did you see
10:47:37 15 Charles Taylor?

16 A. No.

17 Q. During this first trip, did Foday Sankoh have any
18 communications with Sierra Leone while he was in Gbarnga?

19 A. Yes.

10:47:57 20 Q. And, if you know, what type of communications did he have?

21 A. Well, at that time when he wanted to communicate to Sierra
22 Leone he used to go to the Mansion Ground. The operator was
23 there and he was called Butterfly. That was where he
24 communicated.

10:48:18 25 Q. Who was Butterfly?

26 A. Butterfly was an operator for Charles Taylor.

27 Q. What happened once you arrived back in Pendembu?

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

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

2 A. He said they should be distributed to the front lines.

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

10:49:04 5 A. It happened in 1992.

6 Q. What happened on this second trip?

7 A. During the second trip we used the same route through
8 Koindu in Mendekoma. That was where we crossed and got to
9 Gbarnga. When we got there, Foday Sankoh went to greet his

10:49:36 10 brother Charles again. Later he told us that he had received a
11 radio message at Cape Mount area. He said his brother Charles
12 had told him that the soldiers - the RUF soldiers from Pujehun -
13 had retreated and have come to Bomi Hills and Bopolu.

14 Q. Now, you said that he had received a message. Who received
10:50:13 15 this message?

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

19 Q. You said this message came from Cape Mount. What do you
10:50:33 20 mean by Cape Mount?

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

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

10:50:59 25 A. Yes, Bomi Hills they called there Tubmanburg.

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

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

1 we went.

2 Q. So there was food and other items "and then we went". What
3 do you mean "we went"?

4 A. Well after these items had been given to Foday Sankoh, he
10:51:56 5 organised a trip. He said the truck would go through. He said
6 it will leave Gbarnga for Kakata. From Kakata it will go to Bong
7 Mine crossing point. That is where they would leave the rice.
8 Other people were to come from Bomi Hills and cross the rice over
9 in a canoe. We were to - Foday Sankoh, together with us, the
10:52:27 10 securities, were to use a pick-up and go through Gbarnga to
11 Zorzor and from Zorzor we go to Fassama until we get to Bomi
12 Hills. That was how it happened. That was how he organised the
13 trip.

14 Q. Mr Witness, if we were to provide you with a map of Liberia
10:52:48 15 would you be able to show us these routes?

16 A. Yes.

17 MS HOLLIS: If the witness could be shown L1, it is in the
18 map binder as L1, and if the witness could be given a moment to
19 orientate himself to the map.

10:54:27 20 THE WITNESS: Yes.

21 MS HOLLIS:

22 Q. Mr Witness, you are orientated to the map?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. If you could first show us on this map - if you could be
10:54:40 25 perhaps provided a pen and just show us the route that the truck
26 with the supplies took to Bomi Hills. You will have to move over
27 to the map, but you will have to leave those headphones on.
28 Madam Court Administrator, are we going to be able to do this
29 with the microphones?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Now, Mr Witness, if you could please show the judges by
3 tracing it with your pen - show the judges the route that the
4 truck took to Bomi Hills.

10:55:22 5 A. This is Bong County and this is where we were, Gbarnga
6 Town. So the route the truck took to go to Bong Mines, it went
7 this way up to Totota. From there it came this way up to here,
8 Kakata. That was where they took the intersection from Kakata
9 and went to Bong Mines. This is where they crossed over. This
10:57:10 10 is where they crossed and went to Tubmanburg. Here, this is
11 where they came.

12 Q. [Overlapping speakers]

13 A. This is where Bong Mines crossing point is. Here is
14 Tubmanburg. So this is where they used the truck to bring the
10:57:34 15 rice. It was unloaded here and they crossed over to Tubmanburg.

16 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. Now, if you could, using that same
17 map, could you show us the route that you and Foday Sankoh and
18 the others took to go to Tubmanburg?

19 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, don't you think the witness
10:57:57 20 should actually mark this? How is this going to go into
21 evidence?

22 MS HOLLIS: He did mention that he went from Gbarnga to
23 Kakata and up to Bong Mines and over. Now if it would be of more
24 assistance we can certainly have him trace it.

10:58:14 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Yes, because I am concerned about the
26 record months from now. This running of the pen is not
27 registering anywhere.

28 MS HOLLIS: Yes, your Honour.

29 Q. Mr Witness, are you able to trace that route for us that

1 you just described?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Perhaps green would be better given that the road
4 [overlapping speakers]?

10:58:47 5 A. Gbarnga is in Bong County. This is in Bong County. Here
6 is Gbarnga. This was where we were. So the truck took this
7 route. It came this way.

8 Q. Mr Witness, would you please mark the map with the
9 highlighter. Actually trace the route on the map, if you can.

10:59:12 10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Witness, in other words, draw with
11 your pen the route that you took.

12 THE WITNESS: This route - what I am trying to say, from
13 what Foday Sankoh said, I did not use this route. He said this
14 truck - this was an instruction he gave to them, the way the
10:59:32 15 truck should go. I went this way, the Fassama way. But Foday
16 Sankoh gave instruction that the truck was to leave Gbarnga and
17 come this way, the main road up to Totota. When it got to Totota
18 it was to go to Kakata. From Kakata it was to use that
19 intersection to enter Bong Mine. The crossing point was at Bong
11:00:01 20 Mines, from what he said. From there people were to come from
21 Tubmanburg to receive this rice and they will be crossed - they
22 were using a canoe.

23 MS HOLLIS:

24 Q. Mr Witness, we understand that. What we would ask you to
11:00:19 25 do, if you can, is to take that green marker and actually mark it
26 along the route that the truck took so that you are marking the
27 route with the green marker. Can you do that?

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, if the witness has said he
29 wasn't on the truck, he took a different way, he only heard the

1 instruction, how on earth can he mark the route?

2 MS HOLLIS: Well, he was told the route that they were
3 taking.

4 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: That they were going to take, but he
11:00:48 5 wasn't with them.

6 MS HOLLIS: He can mark the route he understood they would
7 take:

8 Q. Now, Mr Witness, are you able to do that for us?

9 A. Yes.

11:01:11 10 JUDGE LUSSICK: Ms Hollis, just on that very same point,
11 your question was, "Show the judges the route that the truck took
12 to Bomi Hills" but now this witness is being asked to mark a
13 route that he thinks they took.

14 MS HOLLIS: Let me rephrase the question to be consistent
11:01:30 15 with his knowledge then, your Honour:

16 Q. Mr Witness, you said that Foday Sankoh instructed the
17 people in this truck to take this route to Bomi Hills. Would you
18 mark on the map the route Foday Sankoh instructed them to take.

19 A. From Gbarnga Town this way the truck was to leave here, use
11:02:01 20 the main road, so --

21 Q. Mr Witness, I want you to actually use the marker to mark.
22 So the green that you are marking, is this along the road?

23 A. Okay, they used the main road and got to Totota. They
24 continued up to Kakata. Then they branched off and they went to
11:03:20 25 Bong Mine. When they got to Bong Mine he gave instruction that
26 that was where they were to cross. He said that was the crossing
27 point, at the riverside, here, this area. This was where they
28 were to cross to go to Tubmanburg.

29 MS HOLLIS: Could we have the assistance of the Court

1 Administrator to move the map so we can see what has been marked.

2 Move all the way over so Tubmanburg is on the screen:

3 Q. Now, can you complete your marking to Tubmanburg?

4 A. Well, I heard Foday Sankoh giving the instruction that when

11:04:31 5 they got to Kakata it was from there that they would take the

6 point up to Tubmanburg, but I was not with them to know the

7 actual route they took to get to Tubmanburg, but I know that when

8 you get to Kakata that is where you would branch off to go to

9 Tubmanburg.

11:04:51 10 Q. Thank you for that, Mr Witness. Now, are you able on this

11 map to take that marker and mark for us the route that you and

12 Foday Sankoh travelled to Tubmanburg? Are you able to do that?

13 A. Yes, yes. We were in Gbarnga Town. We left there, went

14 this way. We got to Fassama, then we branched off and went to -

11:07:15 15 and got to Bopolu, then Tubmanburg. That was how we travelled.

16 Q. So the route that is shown in green is the route that the

17 truck took, is that right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. That is the route that the truck was instructed to take?

11:07:39 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And the route that is --

22 MR GRIFFITHS: I hesitate to interrupt, your Honours, but

23 I wonder if we could just clarify what that first mark from

24 Gbarnga going east - what that first mark made by the witness

11:07:55 25 represents.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is that the one in red?

27 MR GRIFFITHS: The one in red - well it is actually orange,

28 but it shows up on the screen as red. Initially the witness made

29 a mark going east on the map and I just wondered what that

1 represents.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Ms Hollis, I did notice that he
3 seemed to start in a different way.

4 MS HOLLIS: Well, your Honour, if I had the ability to ask
11:08:24 5 the questions I would have asked that.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please do so.

7 MS HOLLIS:

8 Q. So this marking in red, you have marked in orange or red,
9 is the route that you and Foday Sankoh took to Tubmanburg. Is
11:08:33 10 that correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Now if you look at what you marked from Gbarnga, you
13 initially had a line going off to the east. What is that line?

14 A. Are you talking about this one?

11:08:56 15 Q. Back to Gbarnga --

16 A. Yes, here is Gbarnga.

17 Q. -- do you see where you went north on the map, or you went
18 up? Now, you have another mark here going to the east instead of
19 going north. Can you tell us what that mark is?

11:09:15 20 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Madam Court Officer, could you move --

21 THE WITNESS: This?

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Could you move it into view, please, the
23 marking in question. It is off the map now.

24 THE WITNESS: The line that I drew it is from - this is
11:09:49 25 Gbarnga Town going this way.

26 MS HOLLIS:

27 Q. Yes, now look at the other line that you started to make
28 from Gbarnga going to your right as you are looking at the map.

29 A. This?

1 Q. Yes, would you tell us what that is?

2 A. No, this is not the actual route. This is a mistake. It
3 is the ink. This is the actual route that we used, from Gbarnga
4 Town here and went this way.

11:10:20 5 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, if I can ask that that map be
6 marked for identification.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that is MFI-1 - no, MFI-4 I think.
8 Just let me check, please.

9 MS IRURA: Your Honour, it is MFI-2.

11:10:40 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: MFI-2. It is one map of Liberia, with
11 the surrounding countries of Sierra Leone, Guinea and Cote
12 d'Ivoire, as marked by the witness in green and orange.

13 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Madam President:

14 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you can move back if it is better for the
11:11:03 15 microphones. Mr Witness, what happened? Did you actually take
16 that route to Tubmanburg with Foday Sankoh?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Now, you had mentioned earlier that the radio message said
19 that RUF had come to Bopolu and to Tubmanburg. When you went to
11:11:40 20 Bopolu, did you find any RUF there?

21 A. Yes, I saw RUFs there.

22 Q. And what happened when you arrived in Tubmanburg?

23 A. When we got to Tubmanburg, we went to a place where I met a
24 person who was an NPFL commander called One Man One. He
11:12:10 25 introduced himself to us that he was the commander in that area.

26 I saw some other people who were later introduced by Foday Sankoh
27 to me as the RUF soldiers.

28 Q. Do you remember the names of any of these people that were
29 introduced to you as RUF soldiers?

1 A. He introduced Philip Palmer - he was an RUF person - and Pa
2 Moriba, Smiling P and Mosquito.

3 Q. Philip Palmer, were you told where Philip Palmer had
4 trained?

11:13:07 5 A. They told me that Philip Palmer was trained at Camp Naama.
6 He was an RUF vanguard.

7 Q. What was his nationality?

8 A. He is Sierra Leonean.

9 Q. You mentioned a Smiling P. Who was that?

11:13:31 10 A. Smiling P was a woman, but she was NPFL.

11 Q. And do you know why she was with these RUF fighters?

12 A. She had been with the RUF. That was what she said.

13 Q. And you also mentioned a Moriba. Who is that?

14 A. Pa Moriba was a Liberian.

11:14:08 15 Q. Do you know why he was with the RUF?

16 A. I can't recall now.

17 Q. You mentioned Mosquito. Did you have another name for
18 Mosquito?

19 A. Mosquito - Mosquito was Sam Bockarie.

11:14:44 20 Q. And what was his nationality?

21 A. He was a Sierra Leonean.

22 Q. Did you learn where he had trained?

23 A. Please repeat your question. The last bit was not clear.

24 Q. Did you learn where Sam Bockarie had trained?

11:15:05 25 A. Well, when I was there I was made to understand that he had
26 trained at Camp Naama. He was one of the vanguards.

27 Q. And what happened then when you and Foday Sankoh were with
28 these RUF people?

29 A. He called a meeting where Foday Sankoh arranged with One

1 Man One and Philip Palmer that they should try and - since they
2 had retreated from the Pujehun area they were to organise how
3 they were to go to Gbarnga and to go back to Kailahun because the
4 RUF were still in the Kailahun area. That was what they
11:16:04 5 arranged.

6 Q. And what happened after this arrangement was made?

7 A. Well, after that arrangement had been made Foday Sankoh and
8 I returned to Gbarnga.

9 Q. While you were at Tubmanburg, did that supply truck arrive
11:16:30 10 at Tubmanburg?

11 A. No, it didn't arrive.

12 Q. Now, you said you and Foday Sankoh went back to Gbarnga.
13 Who went with you?

14 A. The group that we went with, when we were returning
11:16:54 15 Mosquito added to our number because Mosquito had a problem with
16 the NPFL soldiers and so Foday Sankoh said he was not going to
17 leave him behind. We were all to go together.

18 Q. What was his problem he had with the NPFL?

19 A. From what they said Mosquito had killed one NPFL soldier
11:17:25 20 whom they said had raped someone, so he killed the soldier. This
21 caused the problem between himself and the NPFL soldiers.

22 Q. But what was the problem itself?

23 A. They wanted to kill him.

24 Q. Now when you returned from Tubmanburg to Gbarnga, what
11:17:58 25 route did you take?

26 A. That same route was the one that we used to Belle Fassama,
27 from there Zorzor and back to Gbarnga.

28 Q. What happened after you arrived back in Gbarnga?

29 A. After we had arrived Foday Sankoh went to his brother,

1 Charles Taylor.

2 Q. And what happened after he went to his brother,
3 Charles Taylor?

4 A. Well he told him that he and his brother had arranged that
11:18:48 5 this was the time that they were to capture Kono, because Kono
6 was a diamond mining area and that they should try and capture
7 there. Later Charles Taylor gave the arms and ammunition.

8 Q. And what type of arms and ammunition --

9 JUDGE LUSSICK: Well I am sorry to interrupt, but it is
11:19:09 10 just that I don't understand that last answer. The answer was
11 "Well, he told him that he and his brother ..." It looks as
12 though there is a third person in there somewhere.

13 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, your Honour, I will clarify that:

14 Q. Mr Witness, you said that Foday Sankoh went to his brother
11:19:30 15 Charles Taylor and "... he told him that he and his brother had
16 arranged that was the time that they were to capture Kono." Now
17 when you say, "... he told him that he and his brother had
18 arranged ...", who told whom?

19 A. Well he was trying to talk to us that he and his brother,
11:19:56 20 he and Charles Taylor, have arranged that Charles Taylor was to
21 help with arms and ammunition to go and capture Kono because Kono
22 had diamonds.

23 Q. Just to be absolutely clear, when you say, "He and
24 Charles Taylor", who is the "he"?

11:20:14 25 A. Foday Sankoh.

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

28 A. The arms and ammunition were plenty. He gave up to 50
29 boxes - 50 boxes of AK rounds. That is 100 sardine tins were

1 contained in two boxes, that is hundred. He gave rice, he gave
2 RPG boxes, GPMG and others that I cannot recall.

3 Q. And when you talk about sardine tins, what are you talking
4 about?

11:21:07 5 A. Well in the box, the box - in the box the tins that were
6 in - the tins in which the ammunitions were we used to call them
7 sardine tins.

8 Q. And what happened after you received these materials?

9 A. Well after we had received these materials Foday Sankoh
11:21:43 10 said that we were to go back to Sierra Leone, but at that time
11 some other soldiers for whom he had left an instruction at Bomi
12 Hills to meet him at Gbarnga were already on the ground. So he
13 put Mosquito in charge of the group to go with the truck that
14 contained the arms and ammunition, so we moved.

11:22:12 15 Q. This truck that contained the arms and ammunition, whose
16 truck was it?

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

19 Q. And what size truck was this?

11:22:31 20 A. Well, it was a six-tyred truck.

21 Q. And when you say it was a DAF truck, what do you mean by
22 DAF?

23 A. Well the vehicle, that was the name of the vehicle. In
24 front of it - in front of the vehicle it was written "DAF",

11:22:59 25 D-A-F.

26 Q. Now, you said that Foday Sankoh put Sam Bockarie in charge
27 of the truck and "we moved". What do you mean "we moved"?

28 A. We went to Sierra Leone.

29 Q. At this time when you left Gbarnga, where was Philip

1 Palmer?

2 A. Well the other group that were coming, Philip Palmer came
3 to Gbarnga. He stayed in charge of the other materials and to
4 control the other soldiers that were coming.

11:23:46 5 Q. And who gave him this assignment?

6 A. It was Foday Sankoh who gave him the assignment.

7 Q. Now, on this second trip to Gbarnga did you see
8 Charles Taylor?

9 A. Yes, I saw him.

11:24:02 10 Q. How did it happen that you saw Charles Taylor?

11 A. It happened when we were returning to Sierra Leone, we
12 passed through the Mansion Ground. As we were approaching
13 Charles Taylor's mansion area in Gbarnga, we were approaching the
14 motor pool. At that time Charles Taylor was outside and so Foday

11:24:31 15 Sankoh told the driver to slow down. When he slowed down, he
16 told him to stop. When he stopped, Foday Sankoh alighted and
17 went and met his brother Charles. It was since - it was then
18 that I knew him.

19 Q. The residence that Foday Sankoh had in Gbarnga, what was
11:24:52 20 the distance between that residence and Charles Taylor's mansion?

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

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

24 A. If you are walking on foot you could spend about
11:25:25 25 15 minutes.

26 Q. You said that you, Foday Sankoh and the others left for
27 Sierra Leone. Where did you go in Sierra Leone?

28 A. We went straight - we went straight to Pendembu.

29 Q. And what happened once you arrived in Pendembu?

1 A. When we got to Pendembu, Foday Sankoh called a meeting
2 which they referred to as a forum.

3 Q. Who came to this meeting?

4 A. When we arrived, it took three days before he called this
11:26:11 5 meeting. At this meeting - at this meeting Morris Kallon and
6 others were there, Issa and others, Mosquito. At this meeting he
7 said that we had been fighting for a long time. He said this was
8 the time that we were to capture Kono. He introduced Mosquito at
9 this meeting to the others who did not know Mosquito. He said
11:26:47 10 Mosquito - he had heard that Mosquito was a strong fighter. This
11 Kono mission, Mosquito was to be in charge. Mosquito was to be
12 the commander of this Kono mission; the mission commander to
13 capture Kono.

14 Q. You said that Issa was at this meeting. Who was Issa?

11:27:10 15 A. Issa was one of the vanguards.

16 Q. Do you know his last name?

17 A. Issa Sesay.

18 Q. Did Foday Sankoh explain why you should capture Kono at
19 this meeting?

11:27:28 20 A. Yes, he said that we should capture Kono to get more
21 diamonds so that we will be able to get more arms and ammunition
22 to continue the war.

23 Q. So what happened after this meeting?

24 A. After the meeting Mosquito - Foday Sankoh brought the
11:27:57 25 manpower together and Mosquito went to the place called Kono
26 bypass at Mende Buiima and that was where he was based. It was
27 from there that he was to leave and go and run the mission.

28 MR GRIFFITHS: I hesitate to interrupt, your Honour, but
29 I wonder if it can be clarified whether the witness was actually

1 at this forum called by Foday Sankoh because I am not sure from
2 the transcript that that has been clarified.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Ms Hollis, there is that point of
4 clarification and I have just been alerted that we are almost up
11:28:35 5 to time.

6 MS HOLLIS: Is there time for that clarification?

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think so.

8 MS HOLLIS:

9 Q. Mr Witness, how did you know about this meeting?

11:28:43 10 A. I was with him. Because I was a bodyguard, wherever Foday
11 Sankoh was I was with him.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Ms Hollis. Mr Witness, this
13 is now the time when we normally take the mid-morning adjournment
14 for half an hour. We are going to have a break and we will
11:28:59 15 resume court at 12 o'clock. Please adjourn court until 12.

16 [Break taken at 11.30 a.m.]

17 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, when you're ready, please
19 proceed.

12:00:12 20 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Madam President:

21 Q. Mr Witness, before the break you were explaining about a
22 meeting where Foday Sankoh talked about taking Kono for access to
23 the diamonds and that Sam Bockarie was placed in charge and that
24 he made his camp at Mende Buima. Now, you said that he was given
12:00:53 25 manpower for this operation. If you know, could you tell us the
26 ages of the manpower that went with Sam Bockarie on this
27 operation?

28 A. The age groups that Sam Bockarie received for that mission
29 started from 14 years of age upwards.

1 Q. And could you tell us the gender of these people that were
2 sent with Sam Bockarie?

3 A. Men were among them, women were among.

12:01:38

4 Q. Now you yourself, where were you when Sam Bockarie took the
5 manpower for this operation?

6 A. I was with Foday Sankoh in Pendembu.

7 Q. And could you tell us what happened after Sam Bockarie
8 established his base at Mende Bui ma?

12:02:08

9 A. Sam Bockarie attacked Gandorhun. He attacked Gandorhun
10 first, but he was unsuccessful in his first attack, but later he
11 succeeded and he sent a message to Foday Sankoh that he had
12 captured Gandorhun and that they were now advancing to Koi du
13 Town.

14 Q. What kind of message did he send to Foday Sankoh?

12:02:32

15 A. After he had sent the message that he had captured
16 Gandorhun and that he was now advancing to Koi du, that was the
17 message that he sent to Foday Sankoh; that he had advanced to
18 Koi du.

19 Q. And what was the form of this communication?

12:03:01

20 A. It was through - it was a message that they brought, a
21 radio message. It was on the radio.

22 Q. And what happened after he had given the report that he had
23 captured Gandorhun and advanced to Koi du?

12:03:43

24 A. Well, after capturing Koi du, Foday Sankoh sent a message to
25 Mosquito that he wanted to go to Koi du, but later Mosquito sent
26 another message saying that he shouldn't go to Koi du that moment,
27 he said because he wanted to push the enemies far off from Koi du
28 before he could send to him for him to go, but Foday Sankoh did
29 not listen to Mosquito, so he went there.

1 Q. Foday Sankoh went where?

2 A. Foday Sankoh went to Koidu Town.

3 Q. And when Mosquito said he wanted to push the enemy far off
4 from Koidu Town, do you know what he meant?

12:04:37 5 A. He said that he wanted to push the enemies towards Sewafe
6 area before allowing Foday Sankoh to come.

7 Q. Now, you have named quite a few places. You've named Mende
8 Buima. Can you tell us what district Mende Buima is in?

9 A. Mende Buima is in Kailahun District.

12:05:08 10 Q. You mentioned Gandorhun. What district is that in?

11 A. Well, Gandorhun, I can't recall the district in which it
12 is.

13 Q. And you mentioned Sewafe. Can you tell us what district
14 Sewafe is in?

12:05:40 15 A. Sewafe is in Kono District.

16 Q. When Foday Sankoh went to Koidu Town, who went with him?

17 A. We, the bodyguards, went with him.

18 Q. Now these enemies that Sam Bockarie was talking about at
19 this time, who were the enemies that he was fighting?

12:06:10 20 A. Well, at that time it was in 1992, it was the NPRC soldiers
21 that they were fighting against at that time.

22 Q. What happened when Foday Sankoh went to Koidu Town?

23 A. When Foday Sankoh got to Koidu Town, Mosquito later came to
24 Foday Sankoh, but when he got there it did not take long that we

12:06:48 25 heard that the soldiers were advancing from the Sewafe side, so
26 Mosquito moved there to go and put the situation under control.

27 So he came back later to Foday Sankoh and explained to him that
28 he has put the situation under control.

29 Q. When you say the soldiers were advancing from Sewafe, what

1 soldiers are these?

2 A. Those were the government soldiers who were under the NPRC
3 government.

4 Q. When Mosquito came back and told Foday Sankoh that he had
12:07:25 5 put the situation under control, what else happened at that time?

6 A. Well, when Mosquito came to Foday Sankoh he told him that,
7 "Pa Sankoh, we have put the situation under control, but that we
8 have not yet started mining", and I saw him give Pa Sankoh a
9 parcel and they were --

12:07:57 10 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness slow down
11 and repeat the last bit of that. The cup, I don't know what cup
12 he referred to.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause, Mr Witness. The
14 interpreter is having trouble keeping up with you, so can you
12:08:09 15 speak a little slower and also clarify for the interpreter when
16 you're talking about a cup, what you're referring to. The
17 interpreter does not understand.

18 THE WITNESS: Those were film cups, Kodak film cups. The
19 films that they use in cameras to snap with. A small cup.

12:08:41 20 MS HOLLIS:

21 Q. Did you yourself see what was in this small cups like Kodak
22 film cups?

23 A. Yes, I saw Mosquito give diamonds to Pa Sankoh and when he
24 displayed them on the table, Pa Sankoh checked them and he sorted
12:09:03 25 them out and the bigger ones that were inside were about 15 and
26 the sizable ones were five. There were small ones, but he did
27 not take those ones and he told Pa Sankoh that, "We have not yet
28 started mining, but we got these from the operation."

29 Q. Did he explain how he got those from the operation?

1 A. He said, "We got these when we attacked the town and when
2 we searched civilians we took these diamonds from them, or when
3 we took their houses, we checked there and we got these diamonds
4 from there."

12:09:54 5 Q. Now, what happened after Sam Bockarie came back and gave
6 these diamonds to Foday Sankoh?

7 A. Later Sam Bockarie went. He came another time and he
8 brought diamonds, but by then, when he brought those diamonds,
9 the enemies were advancing so he advised Pa Sankoh to go back to
10 Pendembu, so Pa Sankoh went.

11 Q. Now, you say that Sam Bockarie went and then later he
12 brought back diamonds. Where did Sam Bockarie go?

13 A. He went back to the front line.

14 Q. And these diamonds that he brought back, do you know the
12:10:51 15 quantity of these diamonds?

16 A. Well, at that particular time Pa Sankoh did not check them.
17 He just handed them over to Pa Sankoh and they were plenty, but
18 because the enemies were advancing he was unable to check them,
19 so he returned.

12:11:14 20 Q. When you say "he returned", who are you referring to?

21 A. Mosquito returned.

22 Q. Returned where?

23 A. He returned to the front line, but before he went back he
24 told Pa Sankoh to go back to Pendembu because the enemies were
12:11:36 25 advancing, so Pa Sankoh went.

26 Q. Now, just to be clear, these diamonds that Sam Bockarie
27 brought back, what did he do with the diamonds?

28 A. He handed all the diamonds over to Pa Sankoh.

29 Q. The materials, the arms and ammunition that Sam Bockarie

1 was using on this operation, where did those arms and ammunition
2 come from?

3 A. The arms and ammunition were coming from Liberia, Gbarnga.

12:12:22

4 Q. When Foday Sankoh was in Koidu, how many times did Sam
5 Bockarie give him diamonds?

6 A. I saw him give diamonds to Foday Sankoh two times.

7 Q. Now, you say that Sam Bockarie warned Foday Sankoh and
8 Foday Sankoh went. Where did he go?

12:12:49

9 A. Sam Bockarie advised Foday Sankoh not to come to Koidu Town
10 at that time, but Foday Sankoh did not take his advice, so he
11 came.

12 Q. And you said that when Foday Sankoh was in Koidu Town Sam
13 Bockarie warned him that the enemy was advancing and then you
14 said Foday Sankoh went. Where did he go?

12:13:09

15 A. He went back to Pendembu Town.

16 Q. And what did you do?

12:13:46

17 A. Before Foday Sankoh left he gave me an instruction that I
18 should stay and control the other things that were given to him,
19 like the rice and some other items that the soldiers gave to him,
20 and he instructed me that I should stay and later take them over
21 for him. So I stayed in Koidu Town.

22 Q. These items that the soldiers gave to him, do you know
23 where the soldiers got these items?

12:14:15

24 A. Mosquito said that they got those items when they captured
25 Koidu Town. He said they got them from the shops that were in
26 Koidu Town. When they broke into the shops they got them and
27 when they broke into people's houses they got them there too.

28 Q. So to be clear, you're saying they broke into shops, they
29 broke into people's houses. Did they pay for these items?

1 A. No, they did not pay for them because when they captured
2 the places the shops were closed, so they broke into them and
3 took those items.

12:14:56 4 Q. How long did you stay in Koidu Town after Foday Sankoh
5 left?

6 A. I was there for some time and later, when the enemies
7 advanced, we all moved from there and went to Gandorhun.

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

12:15:28 10 A. Whilst we were in Gandorhun, at one time Mosquito said that
11 Foday Sankoh had sent a message to him that he had received an
12 urgent message from his brother Charles that he was supposed to
13 go and meet him in Gbarnga.

14 Q. You say this is while you were in Gandorhun. How long were
12:15:56 15 you in Gandorhun?

16 A. We spent some time in Gandorhun.

17 Q. Now, what year are we talking about?

18 A. Here I am talking about 1992.

19 Q. And do you have any recollection as to what part of 1992
12:16:30 20 this was when you were in Gandorhun?

21 A. This happened at the time we were approaching the end of
22 '92.

23 Q. While you were in Gandorhun did you receive any other
24 communications from Foday Sankoh?

12:17:04 25 A. Yes. Whilst we were there another message came. Foday
26 Sankoh sent a message to Mosquito that he has arrived in Gbarnga
27 and he said his brother Charles has given him arms and
28 ammunition, but he said the ULIMO had blocked the road between
29 Voinjama and Kolahun, but he said his brother told him not to be

1 worried, that he was going to give him manpower to come and clear
2 the way and that he was going to come and meet us back, so that
3 was the message that he sent.

4 Q. And did he tell you where he was going to meet you?

12:18:02 5 A. I did not get that one clear.

6 Q. Did he tell you in what location he was going to meet you?

7 A. I did not get that one clear. To go and meet whom? Me?
8 Who? Where?

9 Q. Let me try it again then. You said that Foday Sankoh sent
12:18:25 10 a communication and he said he was in Gbarnga, "He was going to
11 come and meet us". So my question is where was Foday Sankoh
12 going to come to meet you?

13 A. He said his brother Charles has given him all the arms and
14 ammunition that he needed, but that the ULIMO had blocked the
12:18:57 15 road, but he said they shouldn't be worried, he was going to give
16 him manpower to come and clear the way for him to join us back in
17 Sierra Leone.

18 Q. Now, you said you were in Gandorhun for some time. Why did
19 you leave?

12:19:16 20 A. Well, when Foday Sankoh arrived in Kailahun he sent for
21 Mosquito and whilst Mosquito was going - was answering to his
22 call, I joined him for us to go together.

23 Q. Where was Foday Sankoh in Kailahun?

24 A. He was in Kailahun Town.

12:19:42 25 Q. When you joined Mosquito to go meet Foday Sankoh, what did
26 you do with these items that had been taken from shops and homes?

27 A. I took civilians to carry the loads to Kailahun.

28 Q. And how did you get these civilians to carry the loads?

29 A. I got the civilians around Gandorhun Town and the

1 surrounding villages.

2 Q. And were these people volunteers to carry these loads?

3 A. No, they did not volunteer. We just captured them.

4 Q. And while we're talking about that, how did you move those
12:20:40 5 items from Koidu Town to Gandorhun?

6 A. Whilst we were moving from Koidu to Gandorhun we used
7 vehicles, but it got to a time that the roads were not good and
8 so that was the reason why we decided to capture civilians to
9 carry the loads for us to Kailahun to meet Foday Sankoh there.

12:21:09 10 Q. If you remember, how long did the RUF hold Koidu?

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

13 Q. And do you remember for what period of time the RUF
14 controlled Koidu?

12:21:45 15 A. I can't recall that again.

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

17 A. When we arrived in Kailahun, Foday Sankoh called a meeting.
18 At this meeting there was Ajami, who was the MP commander, and
19 Mosquito was there and other people were there, and during this
12:22:17 20 meeting he said that he went and met his brother Charles and in
21 this meeting too he said the diamonds that Mosquito handed over
22 to him, he said he gave him some for him to keep - to keep them
23 for him.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Who is the "he", Ms Hollis?

12:22:46 25 MS HOLLIS:

26 Q. So who gave some diamonds to whom?

27 A. Foday Sankoh gave the diamonds to Charles Taylor. That was
28 what Foday Sankoh told us during the meeting.

29 Q. And did Foday Sankoh explain to Charles Taylor why he was

1 giving him the diamonds?

2 A. He said he gave him for him to give a little more arms and
3 ammunitions for him to bring them back.

4 Q. When Foday Sankoh was in Kailahun, to your knowledge did he
12:23:24 5 bring anything back with him from Gbarnga?

6 A. Yes, he brought a good amount of ammunition, with rice,
7 salt, he brought them.

8 Q. And do you recall the types of ammunition that he brought
9 back?

12:23:50 10 A. He brought RPGs, RPG boxes, AK rounds, GPMG and some others
11 that I cannot recall now.

12 Q. And what did he do with this ammunition that he brought
13 back from Gbarnga?

14 A. He gave them to the G4 and they kept them in the warehouse,
12:24:23 15 and he was Joseph Brown and later they were distributed to the
16 front lines.

17 Q. If you know, at the time of this meeting in Kailahun Town
18 with Foday Sankoh how many people were in the RUF?

19 A. They were more than 10,000 people.

12:24:55 20 Q. Now, you've told the Court about ULIMO cutting the road for
21 a period of time in Liberia. First of all, who is ULIMO?

22 A. According to what we heard, ULIMO were fighting under
23 Alhaji Kromah. Alhaji Kromah was the leader for - the leader of
24 ULIMO at that time.

12:25:26 25 Q. Did ULIMO ever block the route in Liberia again after that?

26 A. Yes, that later happened in 1993. ULIMO blocked the road,
27 they captured Kolahun, Foya, Voinjama. ULIMO captured all of
28 those areas.

29 Q. When they captured these areas in 1993, what access, if

1 any, did the RUF have to Charles Taylor?

12:26:33 2 A. Well after ULIMO had captured all of those areas, Foday
3 Sankoh called to Gbarnga and told his brother Charles and
4 Charles Taylor suggested to him that he should send some soldiers
5 from Sierra Leone to go to him so that he will be able to give
6 him some arms and ammunition. So Foday Sankoh selected some
7 Liberian soldiers who were with him, including Morris Kallon, for
8 them to go.

12:26:56 9 Q. And did Morris Kallon and these others go to
10 Charles Taylor?

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

13 Q. And how did you come to understand that they did not arrive
14 there?

12:27:11 15 A. When they went after a week Foday Sankoh communicated with
16 Gbarnga, but they told him that they have not been able to see
17 them. That was how I came to know.

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

12:27:43 20 A. It was in 1993.

21 Q. Until when?

22 A. Until 1998 again.

23 Q. Now when the access was once again open between the RUF and
24 Charles Taylor, where were you?

12:28:14 25 A. At that time I was in Kailahun District. I was based in a
26 town called Balahun.

27 Q. During this time that the access across the border was cut
28 off, was there any contact between the RUF and Charles Taylor?

29 A. I did not get that clearly.

1 Q. During the time that the border was cut off between the RUF
2 and Charles Taylor, was there any contact between the RUF and
3 Charles Taylor?

4 A. Since the time ULIMO captured the road, we did not have
12:29:06 5 road contact. We only had contact through communication.

6 Q. What type of communication?

7 A. Radio communication.

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

12:29:33 10 A. Yes, when the communication was taking place they did not
11 talk directly to Charles Taylor. Sometimes Foday Sankoh would
12 communicate with the operator that was with Charles Taylor that
13 was called Butterfly. It was through him that the communication
14 went on.

12:29:50 15 Q. And were you yourself present for any of these
16 communications?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. These communications that you were present for, what was
19 the communication about?

12:30:08 20 A. At that time he was trying to tell his brother Charles the
21 prevailing conditions in the RUF controlled zones.

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

24 A. Well, at that time Charles Taylor was not talking directly
12:30:39 25 to Foday Sankoh. He would tell his operator the message and the
26 operator in return would send a message to Foday Sankoh.

27 THE INTERPRETER: Sorry, your Honours, the message to
28 Charles Taylor. Correction.

29 MR GRIFFITHS: Your Honour, I hesitate to interrupt, but I

1 note that to date we've been talking about a time frame from 1993
2 to 1998 and it's during that period that my learned friend has
3 obtained from the witness evidence of communications between
4 Charles Taylor and Foday Sankoh, but could we have some
12:31:25 5 clarification on that, please, given that we know that for some
6 of that time Foday Sankoh was actually in prison.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm sure counsel will come to it,
8 Mr Griffiths. Ms Hollis, you've heard counsel.

9 MS HOLLIS: Your Honour, just a point. I appreciate
12:31:46 10 counsel's comments. However I would like to point out that, if
11 at the end of direct examination there are details counsel wants,
12 that's what cross-examination is for.

13 MR GRIFFITHS: I'm very much aware of that, your Honour.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: So am I, but I haven't commented on it.

12:32:08 15 MS HOLLIS:

16 Q. Now, let's clear up what we were talking about. You said
17 you were present when Foday Sankoh would send messages to Charles
18 Taylor. Were you ever present when Charles Taylor sent messages
19 back to Foday Sankoh?

12:32:24 20 A. Yes. When Foday Sankoh was giving the message to the
21 operators, who in turn sent them, he explained the prevailing
22 conditions in the RUF and that we were now suffering and we were
23 not getting support from him and at that time whilst we were
24 advancing the areas that we got - that we got to, those were the
12:32:54 25 messages that he sent. And he said, "Okay, things happen that
26 way because that is a guerilla warfare."

27 Q. Who said "things happen that way because that is guerilla
28 warfare"?

29 A. That was the message that came from Charles Taylor.

1 Q. Now, you've talked about communications over a long period
2 of time. Can you tell us the years in which these communications
3 occurred that you knew about?

4 A. From 1994 to '96.

12:33:46 5 Q. Now, what happened with the RUF after the border was cut
6 off between the RUF and Charles Taylor?

7 A. When they had cut us off, when Foday Sankoh asked Morris
8 Kallon to go with the other commanders he said at that time now
9 he was now planning the war for us to launch the operations
10 against the enemies and so he sat down again and
11 arranged/organised the operations with the commanders.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, just before you proceed on, to
13 revert back to a previous answer, "He said, 'Okay, things happen
14 that way because of guerilla warfare.'" Who said that? This is
15 page 66, line 25 and thereafter.

16 THE WITNESS: That was the message that came from
17 Charles Taylor in Liberia.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

19 MS HOLLIS:

12:35:03 20 Q. When Foday Sankoh sat down and organised these operations
21 now, what kind of operations did he organise?

22 A. He reorganised that since the enemies have come to our area
23 we should forget about them there and then we should go and
24 launch another operation. So he called on Mohamed Tarawalli
12:35:28 25 Zino, Mosquito, Superman, Issa Sesay and he tried to organise
26 them and said, "You, Mosquito, I will be in your group. We will
27 take the operation to the Nomo Faiama area and" --

28 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness slow
29 down. Could he slow down and repeat his last bit.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: You've speeded up, Mr Witness. You're
2 going to a little too quick for the interpreter. Please speak
3 more slowly and pick up your answer from the point where you
4 said, "We will take the operation to the Nomo Faiama area."

12:36:15 5 Continue from there, please.

6 THE WITNESS: Pa Sankoh said we will take the operation to
7 Nomo Faiama whilst Issa Sesay will stay in Kailahun and Mohamed
8 Tarawalli will go to the Kangari Hills area. So that was how he
9 planned the mission.

12:36:37 10 MS HOLLIS:

11 Q. Now, where were you in Sierra Leone when Foday Sankoh came
12 up with this mission?

13 A. Well, I was with Foday Sankoh. At that time we had been
14 pushed to the border. We were close to the Liberian border,

12:36:56 15 around the Koindu area. That was where we were when he made that
16 plan.

17 Q. And who was in this area near Koindu, near the border, when
18 Foday Sankoh made this plan?

19 A. At that time it was the NPRC soldiers and on the Liberian
12:37:30 20 side they had the ULIMO.

21 Q. And at this time near Koindu, near the border, what RUF
22 commanders were there with Foday Sankoh?

23 A. Issa Sesay was there, Morris Kallon was there, Superman was
24 there, Mohamed Tarawalli was there and some others that I can't
12:38:02 25 recall now.

26 Q. You said that Morris Kallon was there. Was this the Morris
27 Kallon that had been sent to Liberia?

28 A. That is not the one.

29 Q. This Morris Kallon you're talking about, who is this?

1 A. There was another artillery boy who was called Morris
2 Kallon. He was also a commander.

3 Q. So which of these Morris Kallons was sent to Liberia?

4 A. It was the vanguard Morris Kallon who went to Liberia.

12:38:58 5 Q. And while you're in the border near Koindu and Foday Sankoh
6 makes this operation, which Morris Kallon was there?

7 A. This Morris Kallon was also a strong fighter. He was the
8 artillery commander.

9 Q. You mentioned a Mohamed Tarawalli and you said also Zino.

12:39:26 10 Who was that?

11 A. He's the same person. Mohamed Tarawalli's nickname was
12 Zino.

13 Q. And who was Mohamed Tarawalli?

14 A. Foday Sankoh told us that they and Mohamed Tarawalli took
12:39:52 15 their training in Libya and that he was the next in charge to
16 him.

17 Q. You also mentioned Superman. Who was Superman?

18 A. Superman was an NPFL soldier, but later he joined the RUF.

19 Q. Did you know him by any other name?

12:40:18 20 A. They used to call him Denis Mingo.

21 Q. Now this attack, this operation on Nomo Faiama. Do you
22 know what district Nomo Faiama is in?

23 A. It's under Kenema District.

24 Q. And who went on this operation with Foday Sankoh?

12:40:51 25 A. Mosquito was the commander who went with the operation.

26 Q. And you testified that Issa Sesay would remain in Kailahun
27 District. Who was with Issa Sesay in Kailahun District?

28 A. Those were the other commanders who were to stay with him.

29 I can't recall their names.

1 Q. And what did you do when Foday Sankoh created this
2 operation?

3 A. I joined Foday Sankoh. Myself, Foday Sankoh, Mosquito, all
4 of us went on the Nomo Fai ama mission.

12:41:46 5 Q. And was that Nomo Fai ama mission successful?

6 A. Yes, we captured there.

7 Q. And what did you do after you captured Nomo Fai ama?

8 A. When we captured Nomo Fai ama we advanced to the Blama
9 Highway and that was where we were when Pa Sankoh opened the
10 place that was referred to as Zogoda.

12:42:16

11 Q. This Blama Highway that you're talking about, in what
12 district is that located?

13 A. I can't just recall now, but the Blama Highway is close to
14 Kenema.

12:42:43

15 Q. And when you say Kenema, what Kenema are you talking about?

16 A. Kenema Town. It's not far from Kenema Town.

17 Q. You said that Foday Sankoh established Zogoda. Where was
18 Zogoda located?

19 A. Zogoda was close to a town that was called Bandawa. That
20 was where Zogoda was. It was in the bush and that was the place
21 where Foday Sankoh was based. We called the place Zogoda.

12:43:15

22 Q. Do you know what district that is in?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Who was at Zogoda when Foday Sankoh opened the base there?

12:43:46

25 A. Foday Sankoh himself was there and those of us, the Black
26 Guards, who were with him and whilst the fighting was going on,
27 any wounded soldier that they had at the front was brought there.
28 We were those who were staying there.

29 Q. So what was Zogoda base?

1 A. I did not get that one clearly.

2 Q. The base at Zogoda, what was located at that base?

3 A. Foday Sankoh was based there together with his bodyguards
4 and wounded soldiers.

12:44:37 5 Q. Now, you earlier mentioned that Foday Sankoh said that you
6 would open an area in Kangari Hills. Who went to Kangari Hills?

7 A. It was commander Zino, Mohamed Tarawalli. He went and
8 established Kangari Hills.

9 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, sorry to interrupt. It seems
12:45:07 10 we've now left Zogoda. I just wondered if we could have a time
11 frame for the Nomo Faiama mission and the opening of Zogoda,
12 please.

13 MS HOLLIS:

14 Q. Now, you talked about Foday Sankoh coming up with this
12:45:24 15 operation and there was going to be an attack on Nomo Faiama. Do
16 you remember when that happened?

17 A. Yes. We entered Nomo Faiama in 1993, December, and we
18 established Zogoda in 1994.

19 Q. And do you remember when Mohamed Tarawalli went to Kangari
12:45:57 20 Hills?

21 A. Mohamed Tarawalli also went to the Kangari Hills in 1993.

22 Q. You said you attacked Nomo Faiama in December 1993, so in
23 what month did Mohamed Tarawalli go to Kangari Hills?

24 A. Well, I can't recall the month, but it was in 1993 that he
12:46:28 25 went.

26 Q. And did he go to Kangari Hills before you attacked Nomo
27 Faiama?

28 A. Yes, he first got there.

29 Q. What were your duties while you were at Zogoda?

1 A. Well, whilst we were at Zogoda we were securities to Foday
2 Sankoh. He used to send us to the front lines to get information
3 and bring back to him.

4 Q. How long were you based at Zogoda?

12:47:16 5 A. We were there in '94 when Foday Sankoh sent a message to
6 commander Zino to come and he told him that he had a mission for
7 him to attack Rutile and the western jungle. So we were there
8 when commander Zino came, together with Superman. So Foday
9 Sankoh gave him the mission to go and open the areas that I have
12:47:50 10 spoken about.

11 Q. So Foday Sankoh sent a message to Zino and told Zino to
12 come to Zogoda. Where was Mohamed Tarawalli, Zino, when Foday
13 Sankoh sent him that message?

14 A. At that time Mohamed Tarawalli was at Kangari Hills. He
12:48:23 15 had already established the base. So he told Mohamed Tarawalli
16 to move from there to come and join him at Zogoda.

17 Q. And you said that Zino came to Zogoda with Superman. Where
18 was Superman coming from?

19 A. Superman was with them. They all came.

12:48:46 20 Q. So at that time Superman was based where?

21 A. He and commander Zino went to Kangari Hills. So all of
22 them came.

23 Q. You said that Foday Sankoh wanted them to go on a mission
24 to go and open the areas you talked about and you talked about
12:49:10 25 western jungle. Where was this area?

26 A. Western jungle was close to Freetown, because where we were
27 it was around the Rotifunk area. We were in the bush, but we
28 referred to the place as the Western Area because it was close to
29 Freetown.

1 Q. And how long were you in the Western Area?

2 A. Well, we were there until '97 when the NPRC took over.

3 Q. And who took over in 1997?

4 A. That was the AFRC.

12:50:22 5 Q. And while you were in the Western Area, what were your
6 duties?

7 A. Whilst we were in the western jungle, we used to attack and
8 we used to set ambushes on the highway.

9 Q. While you were in the Western Area, did you receive any
12:50:49 10 communications from Foday Sankoh?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And what communications did you receive?

13 A. Whilst we were in the western jungle, communication came
14 from Foday Sankoh that - and that happened in 1996 and that was
12:51:19 15 when he was going for the Abidjan Peace Accord. He did say that
16 he was going for the Abidjan Peace Accord and he said that
17 Mohamed Tarawalli should go back to Zogoda and he said I should
18 go. But by then I had a problem with my foot, I had a wound, so
19 I did not go and so I stayed at the western jungle. So Mohamed
12:51:42 20 Tarawalli went and met Foday Sankoh at Zogoda, so Mohamed
21 Tarawalli stayed in charge whilst Foday Sankoh went for the
22 accord.

23 Q. Mohamed Tarawalli was in charge of what?

24 A. Foday Sankoh said Mohamed Tarawalli should go to Zogoda
12:52:10 25 because that was the headquarters. He should go and stay in
26 command until he goes for the Abidjan Peace Accord.

27 Q. And who was --

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, sorry to interrupt again, but
29 did the witness say whilst they were in the western jungle he and

1 others set ambushes to loot ammunition? Is that what he said?

2 MS HOLLIS: That's what I understood, but I'll ask him.

3 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Because that's not in the transcript.

4 MS HOLLIS:

12:52:42 5 Q. Mr Witness, just a point of clarification. You said that
6 when you were in the western jungle you would set ambushes. Can
7 you tell us why you set those ambushes?

8 A. We used to set ambushes to get food and arms and
9 ammunition. That was the reason why we used to set the ambushes.

12:53:04 10 Q. And from whom were you getting the food?

11 A. From the ambush. The vehicles that were passing by, we
12 used to set ambushes.

13 Q. And what kinds of vehicles did you take food from?

14 A. Civilian vehicles.

12:53:26 15 Q. Who were you getting the ammunition from - the arms and
16 ammunition? Who were you getting the arms and ammunition from?

17 A. Well at that time we were setting ambushes to get arms and
18 ammunition, or sometimes we will go and attack where soldiers
19 were based. It was through such things that we got the arms and
12:53:57 20 ammunition.

21 Q. So you said that Foday Sankoh left Mohamed Tarawalli in
22 command, in charge. Who was he in charge of?

23 A. Well, Mohamed Tarawalli was in charge of all the soldiers
24 in the RUF and he was at the headquarters at Zogoda.

12:54:30 25 Q. Once Mohamed Tarawalli left the western jungle to go to
26 Zogoda, who was in charge of the western jungle?

27 A. It was Denis Mingo - Superman - that stayed in charge.

28 Q. When Foday Sankoh left to go for the Abidjan peace talks,
29 did you get any communications from him after he left?

1 A. Yes, when he went whilst he was now in Abidjan on the
2 accord he sent another message to the commanders saying that
3 before ever he will be in place to sign he will have to come and
4 talk to us, the soldiers, so he came.

12:55:30 5 Q. And he came where to talk to you in the western jungle?

6 A. Well, he came. We were around the bushes around Roti funk,
7 so the helicopter that he came with landed in a town called Bauya
8 close to Roti funk. That was where it landed. So when he
9 alighted we went there and he spoke to us.

12:56:05 10 Q. And what did he tell you when he spoke to you?

11 A. He told us that he is the leader, but that we the soldiers
12 were fighting the war and so before ever he would be in place to
13 sign the accord he will have to come and talk to us. So he asked
14 the views of commanders and soldiers, so we too told him that he
15 should go ahead. He should go ahead and sign.

16 Q. Did anyone come to Bauya with Foday Sankoh?

17 A. Yes. Yes, the helicopter that he came with I saw some
18 other people that he told us about. He said it was the Ivorian
19 government that gave him security to come and I saw Philip Palmer
12:57:11 20 with him. I saw another Black Guard with him who was called
21 Olangba. I saw him.

22 Q. And did any of these other people talk with the soldiers?

23 A. When Foday Sankoh spoke Philip Palmer and others too spoke,
24 but they were the same things that they said.

12:57:44 25 Q. You told the Court earlier that you remained in the western
26 jungle until 1997 and you said first when the NPRC took over and
27 then you said when the AFRC took over. So in 1997 who took over
28 in Sierra Leone?

29 A. In 1997 it was the AFRC that took over.

1 Q. And how did you learn about that?

2 A. Well I was in the western jungle and at one time I listened
3 to the radio, FM 99.9, where it was announced that the soldiers
4 had overthrown, so it was through there that I came to know and
12:58:44 5 that the group was called AFRC.

6 Q. And what is this FM 99.9? What is that?

7 A. It was a radio station that was in Freetown.

8 Q. What happened after you heard that the AFRC had taken over?

9 A. Later we received another instruction from Foday Sankoh
12:59:15 10 through the same radio FM 99.9 when Foday Sankoh was giving
11 instruction to the RUF to join the brothers, that is the AFRC
12 government, and that we should work together. He emphasised to
13 especially the Superman's group in the Western Area.

14 Q. You said, "He emphasised to especially the Superman's group
12:59:50 15 in the Western Area." What do you mean by that?

16 A. That was because we were close to Freetown. We were to be
17 the first to meet the group.

18 Q. And then what happened after that?

19 A. So after he had passed that instruction through the FM
13:00:17 20 radio, later Mosquito - he was in Kailahun. Mosquito sent -
21 Mosquito sent a message to Superman saying that as long as our
22 leader has given the instruction to join the people, so Mosquito
23 made the arrangement - the communication arrangement - between us
24 and the AFRC government through a radio communication.

13:00:50 25 Q. And how were you able to communicate with the AFRC over the
26 radio?

27 A. Mosquito gave our frequency to them. Through that they
28 contacted us. So he arranged that they were to meet at the
29 Rotifunk Town, the soldiers were to come there, so we too were to

1 come from the bush to meet them there. So that was what
2 happened.

3 Q. And when you say that is what happened, what happened?

13:01:40

4 A. We came from the bush. The AFRC, the soldiers, too came to
5 Bauya and we met there. When we met there, they took us to
6 Freetown.

7 Q. Now, who was it who went to Freetown?

8 A. Well at first Superman organised about 75 armed men,
9 including Superman. All of us went to Freetown.

13:02:03

10 Q. And what did you do in Freetown?

11 A. Well, when we were taken to Freetown all of us were in a
12 vehicle. They took us round Freetown. Later they took us to a
13 radio station called the SLBS. It was there that Superman spoke.
14 Superman did not talk long. From there Eldred Collins spoke to

13:02:34

15 the people. After that we returned to Hastings. It was at
16 Hastings that we were camped.

17 Q. Now, you said that Superman talked on SLBS. What did he
18 say?

13:02:58

19 A. Superman said that we were people who had been in the
20 bushes. As long as the brothers have taken over and have called
21 us, nobody should be frightened. We were not going back to the
22 bush. He did not talk for long. That was all he said.

23 Q. You said that Eldred Collins also spoke. Who was Eldred
24 Collins?

13:03:18

25 A. Eldred Collins was one of the RUF vanguards who took
26 training in Liberia, Camp Naama. He too was with us. He spoke.

27 Q. And what was his position with you?

28 A. Immediately after we had come to Freetown Superman made him
29 spokesman for that group.

1 Q. Spokesman for what group?

2 A. For those of us who had come to Freetown, for Superman's
3 group, western jungle.

4 Q. And when Eldred Collins spoke on the radio, what did he
13:04:12 5 say?

6 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat the
7 name.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just a moment, Mr Witness. The
9 interpreter asks that you repeat the name that you have just
13:04:27 10 mentioned. Maybe start your answer again, Mr Witness.

11 THE WITNESS: Eldred Collins.

12 MS HOLLIS:

13 Q. And what did he say?

14 A. He said he was trying to appeal to the civilians that those
13:04:53 15 of us who had been in the bush, we killed people, we killed our
16 mothers and our fathers, we burnt down houses, we did all sorts
17 of bad things. He said he was asking the civilians to forgive
18 us. He spoke a lot, but I can't recall everything, but he said
19 that.

13:05:17 20 Q. And what language did he say this in?

21 A. He spoke English.

22 Q. You said that you were based at Hastings. How long did you
23 remain based at Hastings?

24 A. We were at Hastings when the ECOMOG attacked us there.

13:05:48 25 From there I left and went to Waterloo.

26 Q. And, if you remember, how long did you stay in Hastings
27 before you went to Waterloo?

28 A. I cannot recall the time any more.

29 Q. And what year was it that you moved to Waterloo?

1 A. It was in '97.

2 Q. And what happened while you were at Waterloo?

3 A. After we had withdrawn from Hastings for Waterloo, we were
4 there when Sam Bockarie's group came from Kailahun and they met
13:06:34 5 us there.

6 Q. And when you say you were in Waterloo, in what area were
7 you based?

8 A. We were based at where they were training the soldiers.
9 They called there Benguema.

13:07:02 10 Q. And what happened when Sam Bockarie and his group came to
11 Benguema?

12 A. Well, those of us who first went to Freetown and after we
13 had been dislodged, that was where they met us. That was where
14 they came.

13:07:22 15 Q. Do you recall any of the people in Sam Bockarie's group?

16 A. Sam Bockarie came along with Issa Sesay and others I can't
17 recall.

18 Q. How long did you remain in Benguema barracks?

19 A. Well, we were there - after the junta - when the AFRC
13:08:03 20 government invited Mosquito to that after they would have formed the
21 government they would want Mosquito to serve in the government,
22 but Mosquito said that he was not going to work with the
23 government. So from there Mosquito returned to Kenema.

24 Q. And what did you do when Mosquito returned to Kenema?

13:08:33 25 A. I went along with him. We went together.

26 Q. And what were your duties when you were with Sam Bockarie
27 in Kenema?

28 A. Well, at that time Mosquito knew that I was a Black Guard,
29 so I was with him to keep security and to report whatever that

1 was taking place to him.

2 Q. And what happened after you went to Kenema?

3 A. When we got to Kenema he said that we should attack Tongo,
4 Tongo Field, because the Kamajors were there. So we went and
13:09:18 5 attacked Tongo. All of us went, together with Mosquito. We
6 captured Tongo and later he returned to Kenema.

7 Q. And did he tell you why he wanted to capture Tongo Field?

8 A. Yes, he said because it was a diamond area. We should not
9 go - we should not just go and stay there, we should capture it.

13:09:45 10 Q. You said that Mosquito returned to Kenema. What did you
11 do?

12 A. I stayed in Tongo.

13 Q. And what were your duties in Tongo?

14 A. I was there to - just so that if I got any information, I
13:10:12 15 was to send that information to Mosquito as security.

16 Q. While you were in Tongo, what activities were going on in
17 Tongo?

18 A. Before Mosquito returned he appointed one person, whom they
19 called Chairman, to head the diamond mining in Tongo.

13:10:42 20 Q. Who was this person Chairman?

21 A. This Chairman was a civilian, but that was what they used
22 to call him, Chairman. So after Mosquito - after Mosquito and
23 Eddie Kanneh had organised this mining, he was made head, that
24 any diamond that they got were to be kept by Chairman and when
13:11:13 25 Mosquito came they were to give them to him. But when Mosquito
26 and others returned and when the mining was going on, after they
27 had got some diamonds the Chairman hid. After he had escaped,
28 later Mosquito and others came back to Tongo. When they came
29 back, after Chairman had escaped, Mosquito appointed another

1 person whom they called Mohamed Kanneh who - and Eddie Kanneh
2 appointed one Junior Sheriff. Whatever mining that was going on,
3 these people were to keep the diamonds. Mohamed Kanneh was to
4 give the diamonds to Sam Bockarie and Junior Sheriff was to give
13:12:08 5 the diamonds to Eddie Kanneh. That was what used to happen.

6 Q. How long were you in Tongo?

7 A. I was in Tongo until - I was in Tongo up to - I was in
8 Tongo up to the time that the junta was dislodged from Freetown.
9 So they attacked us there too.

13:12:57 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, Mohamed Kanneh and Eddie
11 Kanneh, are they different or the same person?

12 MS HOLLIS:

13 Q. Mr Witness, you talked about Mohamed Kanneh and who was he?

14 A. Mohamed Kanneh was a security to Sam Bockarie, so he
13:13:19 15 appointed him to become someone who was to receive the diamonds
16 from the miners. So whenever Sam Bockarie came, he was to be the
17 one who would hand over the diamonds to Sam Bockarie. Eddie
18 Kanneh was a big man in the AFRC government. He was assigned to
19 Kenema.

13:13:43 20 Q. Do you know what Eddie Kanneh's job was in Kenema?

21 A. Eddie Kanneh, I understood, was secretary east in Kenema.
22 So that was where he was.

23 Q. Now, during the time you were in Tongo Field was mining
24 going on that entire time?

13:14:19 25 A. Yes, mining was going on.

26 Q. Who was actually doing the mining?

27 A. The mining - soldiers were mining and civilians as well
28 were mining.

29 Q. And these civilians that were mining, how is it that they

1 were mining?

2 A. Well, the civilians, they were mining for soldiers. For
3 instance, they were saying a government mining, so they would
4 take the civilians to do this mining.

13:15:08 5 Q. And tell us what was this government mining?

6 A. This government mining, the diamonds that they called the
7 government mining, whatever diamonds they got from there went
8 straight to Sam Bockarie because he was the head. That was why
9 they called it the government mining.

13:15:33 10 Q. Now, you mentioned that Eddie Kanneh was there as well.
11 Did any diamonds go to Eddie Kanneh, to your knowledge?

12 A. Well, Mohamed Kanneh too got diamonds to be given to Eddie
13 Kanneh, but I was never present when he gave diamonds to Eddie
14 Kanneh. It was only Mohamed Kanneh that I saw giving diamonds to
15 Mosquito.

16 Q. During the time that you were there do you remember the
17 quantity of diamonds that Mohamed gave to Mosquito?

18 A. It happened many times. I can't recall the number.

19 Q. You said that civilians did the government mining. Where
13:16:28 20 did they get these civilians to do the government mining?

21 A. Well, when they were preparing for the mining they would
22 send soldiers around to collect the civilians around Tongo Field,
23 or in the town.

24 Q. And when you say collect the civilians, what do you mean?

13:16:54 25 A. That is they were capturing them forcefully to bring them.

26 Q. What was the treatment of these civilian miners that you
27 observed while you were in Tongo?

28 A. When this mining was going on, guns - the soldiers will be
29 there who manned the civilians. If a soldier who was manning the

1 civilian mining, if he suspected that the civilian had stolen a
2 diamond, if they asked him to present the diamond and he refused,
3 they will kill him. Those were some of the things that took
4 place.

13:17:43 5 Q. And what happened if the civilians refused to work?

6 A. They will force you. They will beat you up. They will
7 force you. You must work.

8 Q. You said that they had soldiers manning the civilians.
9 What do you mean?

13:18:05 10 A. That is when the mining was going on these soldiers were
11 there to watch if the civilian will steal the diamond. So the
12 civilians, the soldiers were there to watch them.

13 Q. And the soldiers that were watching the civilians, were
14 they armed?

13:18:31 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What were the ages of these soldiers watching the
17 civilians?

18 A. There would be small boys among them. Even adults would be
19 there.

13:18:53 20 Q. When you say small boys, can you give us an age range for
21 these small boys?

22 A. From 14 years upwards.

23 Q. And these small boys, were they also armed?

24 A. Yes.

13:19:12 25 Q. Was there any kind of record keeping for the diamonds that
26 were being mined in Tongo?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. And who kept these records?

29 A. Well, Mohamed Kanneh used to keep record. He used to keep

1 record of the mining that was going on. Whatever amount of
2 diamond they got, he would document.

3 Q. And did anyone else keep records of the mining?

13:20:13

4 A. Well, yes. Like for the Black Guard unit, wherever the
5 mining was going on, if there was any Black Guard there you too
6 would be taking record of the diamonds that were got.

7 Q. While you were in Tongo and the mining was going on there,
8 to your knowledge was there mining going on in any other areas?

9 A. Yes, mining was going on in Kono.

13:20:41

10 Q. And how did you know that?

11 A. Well I knew because among us, the Black Guards, Mosquito
12 assigned one Black Guard called Moriba Koroma to be assigned
13 there so that he will be his representative there.

14 Q. Who was in charge of the mining that was going on in Kono?

13:21:18

15 A. Well the mining that was taking place in Kono I did not
16 know who the commander was there, but they were mining for Johnny
17 Paul Koroma.

18 Q. And do you know what areas in Kono the mining was going on?

19 A. No, because I was not there.

13:21:44

20 Q. Now, at Tongo Field do you know what areas in Tongo Field
21 were being mined?

22 A. We were mining at a place call Sand Sand. That is the NDMC
23 mining, Sand Sand area. The other place we called Cyborg Ground.
24 Those are the areas we got diamonds from.

13:22:15

25 Q. And this first area, what did you say the name of the first
26 area was?

27 A. Sand Sand area. That is the place where at first NDMC was
28 mining and the sand that came as a residue, because they said
29 during that time when they were washing the gravel diamonds used

1 to escape and so when we went that was the place we were mining.

2 Q. So this place you're talking about is Sand Sand? Is that
3 the place?

4 A. Yes.

13:23:03 5 Q. Now, you testified that you were in Tongo Field until the
6 junta was used out. Now, while you were in Tongo Field did you
7 ever travel to any other location?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Where did you go?

13:23:17 10 A. I used to travel to come to Kenema.

11 Q. And why did you come to Kenema?

12 A. When I was in Tongo I too used to mine on my own, so
13 whenever I got diamonds I would come to Kenema to sell, or
14 sometimes I would come to visit Sam Bockarie. That was what I
15 was doing.

16 Q. And when you visited Sam Bockarie, were there other people
17 with Sam Bockarie?

18 A. Yes, I can remember at one time when I went to visit him I
19 met someone with him who they called Jungle, that is Daniel

13:24:08 20 Tamba. I knew him since 1992. So I asked him what had happened
21 and so he told me that the Pa had sent him; that is

22 Charles Taylor. He said that he had sent him to Mosquito and had
23 told him not to be involved that much in the AFRC government. So
24 when he said that Mosquito looked at him in a way, so from then
25 on he did not speak any more.

13:24:46

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

28 A. Well, it happened during the time when Foday Sankoh and I
29 were going to Gbarnga, I knew him. He was at Charles Taylor's

1 Mansion Ground. He was in a group called SBU. That was the time
2 I knew him. That was the time I knew him.

3 Q. While you were in Tongo Field, what communications
4 capability did you have in Tongo Field?

13:25:43 5 A. We had a radio set, long range radio.

6 Q. What do you mean when you say "long range radio"?

7 A. That is long range communication radio.

8 Q. And with whom did you communicate?

9 A. In the RUF where the junta were, we used to communicate
13:26:17 10 with them there.

11 Q. Do you remember the names of any of the radio operators
12 with whom you communicated?

13 A. I can recall at that time Mosquito was in Kenema his
14 operator was with him, Ebony Prince was with him. He had another
13:26:50 15 operator, Waco-Waco, and others that I cannot recall were there.

16 Q. This visit of Jungle to Sam Bockarie in Kenema, do you
17 remember when that visit occurred?

18 A. It happened in - at the end of 1997.

19 Q. Now, you testified that you stayed in Tongo Field until the
13:27:33 20 junta was pushed out. Where did you go when the junta was pushed
21 out?

22 A. We pushed - they pushed the junta from out of Freetown. At
23 that time we too - the Kamajors had dislodged us from Tongo and
24 we had gone to Kenema. In Kenema it was not long when Mosquito
13:28:06 25 said - he spoke to the soldiers that he has named an operation
26 called Operation Pay Yourself.

27 Q. Now, what was this Operation Pay Yourself?

28 A. It meant in RUF we were not being paid and as long as the
29 junta continued to push us into the bush he told the soldiers

1 whatever anybody had, that person should take along. That was
2 how he passed the order and we implemented the order.

13:29:01 3 Q. Now, you said as long as the junta is pushing us into the
4 bush you should do this. What do you mean when you say the junta
5 pushing you into the bush?

6 A. The ECOMOG and the SLAs who were under Tejan Kabbah at that
7 time, they were the ones who were pushing us, and the Kamajors.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Sorry, Ms Hollis, I'm sorry to interrupt
9 again. The witness said that when he met Jungle, Jungle said to
13:29:34 10 him - and I'm reading at page 87 where he said that Jungle told
11 him that he was not supposed to be involved that much in the AFRC
12 government. It's not clear was it Jungle who was not supposed to
13 be involved, or was it Mosquito was not supposed to be involved?

14 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Justice Sebutinde. Let me clear
13:30:04 15 that up:

16 Q. When you were talking about Jungle meeting with Mosquito,
17 you said that Jungle told you that the Pa, Charles Taylor, had
18 sent him. He said that he had sent him to Mosquito and had told
19 him not to be involved that much in the AFRC government. So who
13:30:28 20 was not to be involved so much in the AFRC government?

21 A. He said Mosquito was not to be involved that much in the
22 AFRC government.

23 Q. And who was it who said that Mosquito should not be
24 involved that much in the AFRC government? Who said that?

13:30:49 25 A. Jungle said that.

26 Q. And did Jungle explain why he was saying that?

27 A. Well, he did not go further than that. As he was saying
28 that, Mosquito looked at him in a way and so he stopped talking.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, if you've finished that

1 clarification I note the time. If it's appropriate, we will take
2 the lunchtime adjournment now.

3 MS HOLLIS: This is appropriate, thank you.

13:31:20

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, this is the time now when we
5 adjourn for lunchtime. We take one hour's break. We will be
6 resuming court again at 2.30. Please adjourn court until 2.30.

7 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

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

9 [Upon resuming at 2.32 p.m.]

14:26:10

10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, I note a change of
11 appearance on your Bar.

12 MR GRIFFITHS: I am grateful to your Honours, yes. Madam
13 President, your Honours, yes, we are now joined by Elizabeth
14 Nahamya, the Principal Defender.

14:32:23

15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Griffiths. We welcome
16 Ms Nahamya to the Court. It is, I think, your first time here.
17 When you are ready Ms Hollis, please proceed.

18 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Madam President:

14:32:44

19 Q. Mr Witness, before we go back to discussing how you
20 implemented this Operation Pay Yourself, I want to go back to
21 Jungle's visit to Sam Bockarie in Kenema. Now, you testified
22 that Jungle told you that he had been sent by Pa, who was Charles
23 Taylor. Did Jungle tell you why Charles Taylor had sent him to
24 Kenema to Sam Bockarie?

14:33:16

25 A. He was trying to talk to me, saying that Charles Taylor
26 sent him from Liberia to tell Sam Bockarie that he shouldn't
27 involve himself too much in the AFRC governance. But he wanted
28 to continue talking, but the way Sam Bockarie watched at him, he
29 stopped talking.

1 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you had said that Sam Bockarie ordered an
2 Operation Pay Yourself and that you implemented that operation.
3 What did you do when you implemented that operation?

4 A. Well, those of us, the soldiers who were under
14:34:09 5 Sam Bockarie, we looted vehicles. We took - we opened shops and
6 collected properties from there, we took civilians and we went to
7 Segbwema and we went to Daru, Pendembu, Kailahun, up to Buedu.
8 That was what we did.

9 Q. And when you say that you took civilians, what do you mean?

14:34:46 10 A. Well, when Sam Bockarie passed the order whilst we were
11 retreating, the civilians who were in Kenema township, we took
12 some of them and we went with them.

13 Q. And did these people go with you voluntarily?

14 A. Some of them went with us willingly, but some of them were
14:35:16 15 forced.

16 Q. And when you went on this route from Kenema to Buedu, what,
17 if anything, did these civilians do?

18 A. The civilians did not do anything. They joined us and we
19 went.

14:35:41 20 Q. These civilians that were with you and went to Buedu, can
21 you tell us the ages of these civilians?

22 A. Well, amongst the civilians there were children, there were
23 women, there were boys, girls, men and women.

24 Q. Can you tell us about how many civilians were taken from
14:36:13 25 Kenema to Buedu?

26 A. They were many. I can't recall the number of civilians
27 that went with us.

28 Q. As you went along this route that you have described to
29 Buedu, did you continue to implement Operation Pay Yourself?

1 A. After we had left Kenema, whilst we were going we did not
2 loot in the other towns because all of those areas were already
3 RUF controlled zones and so there were no properties there.

4 Q. Why were there no properties there?

14:37:11 5 A. Because RUF had been there for a long period of time and
6 they had already taken all the properties from the people, so
7 there was nothing left to be taken.

8 Q. What happened when you arrived in Buedu?

9 A. When we arrived in Buedu I told Sam Bockarie that I wanted
14:37:46 10 to go and settle in Balahun, so that I will serve as security for
11 him at that place, because I was not happy in mind to stay with
12 him there because of some of the bad things that he did
13 sometimes.

14 Q. Now, when you say you weren't happy to stay with him

14:38:10 15 because of some of the bad things he did sometimes, what are you
16 talking about? What bad things?

17 A. Well, I knew, and other soldiers were saying it,
18 Sam Bockarie was somebody that was quick to go to anger and he
19 used to kill other soldiers. That is what I mean.

14:38:35 20 Q. And what were you to do in Balahun?

21 A. I was in Balahun as security. When soldiers came from the
22 front line, I would be there to arrest the soldiers and inform
23 Sam Bockarie so he will give me the order to send them back to
24 the front line.

14:39:06 25 Q. And why would you arrest these soldiers who came from the
26 front line?

27 A. Because they would come from the front line without
28 informing their commanders.

29 Q. How long did you remain in Buedu before you went to

1 Balahun?

2 A. I spent four days before going to Balahun.

3 Q. And can you tell the Court where Balahun is located?

4 A. Balahun is between Kailahun and Buedu.

14:39:59 5 Q. How long did you remain based at Balahun?

6 A. I was in Balahun up to September 1998.

7 Q. Now, in addition to the Balahun area, to your knowledge to
8 what other areas did Sam Bockarie deploy manpower?

9 A. Sam Bockarie assigned people in Segbwema. He assigned
14:40:44 10 people in Jojoiima and the Mobai area, Daru. Those were the areas
11 he assigned people.

12 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, I believe the spelling of Jojoiima
13 is J-0-J-0-I-M-A and Mobai is M-0-B-A-I:

14 Q. Now, while you were at Balahun did you have any
14:41:23 15 communications capability there?

16 A. I did not have anything in Balahun for communication.

17 Q. And how did you get information or pass information while
18 you were in Balahun?

19 A. If I wanted to get information, I will walk to Buedu to get
14:41:49 20 information.

21 Q. And how often would you go to Buedu to get information?

22 A. It happened many times. At any time whilst I was in
23 Balahun when I needed information I will walk to go there.

24 Q. When you went to Buedu, what groups were in Buedu?

14:42:23 25 A. When I went to Buedu, after we had arrived in Buedu, myself
26 and Mosquito and others. And after I returned to Balahun I met
27 Johnny Paul Koroma, Leather Boot, Mosquito and other people whose
28 names I can't recall now.

29 Q. And who was Johnny Paul Koroma?

1 A. Johnny Paul Koroma was the leader of the AFRC government.

2 Q. And who was Leather Boot?

3 A. Leather Boot also was a member of the AFRC government.

4 Q. Did you know him by any other name?

14:43:36 5 A. Yes, his name is Idrissa Kamara.

6 Q. And are you saying Idriss or Idrissa Kamara?

7 A. Idrissa Kamara.

8 Q. How did it happen that you went to Buedu and met JPK,
9 Johnny Paul Koroma, there?

14:44:07 10 A. Well, it was Mosquito who called for a meeting and so
11 during the meeting he said as long as we had gone and joined our
12 brothers, the AFRC, and we had worked with them, since we have
13 now come back to the bush now we had formed our - we have been
14 together with the AFRC, he said we should work with them. That
14:44:37 15 was what he said.

16 Q. Now, who was at this meeting when Sam Bockarie was saying
17 this?

18 A. Mike Lamin was present in the meeting. Mike Lamin was
19 there, Rashid Sandy was there, Leather Boot was there, SYB Rogers
14:45:12 20 was there, Johnny Paul Koroma was there, together with some other
21 people whose names I can't recall now.

22 Q. And who was Mike Lamin?

23 A. Mike Lamin was one of the Special Forces who trained
24 together with Pa Sankoh in Libya.

14:45:43 25 Q. And who was Rashid Sandy?

26 A. Rashid Sandy was the general adjutant in Buedu.

27 Q. Do you know where Rashid Sandy trained?

28 A. Rashid Sandy was trained in the Pujehun area.

29 Q. What were Rashid Sandy's duties as the general adjutant?

1 A. Well, he was with General Sam Bockarie and he was
2 responsible for taking record of everything that happened
3 according to the orders given to him by Sam Bockarie.

14:46:50 4 Q. In addition to Rashid Sandy were there other adjutants in
5 the RUF?

6 A. Yes, there were other adjutants in the RUF.

7 Q. And what were the duties of these other adjutants?

8 A. Other adjutants who were under commanders, the adjutant was
9 to take a record of any activity that was to take place under a
14:47:37 10 command structure.

11 Q. And when these adjutants took records of these activities,
12 what did they do with those records, if you know?

13 A. Well, the commanders reported - the commanders will take
14 these documents to Sam Bockarie, because he was in charge at that
14:48:07 15 time.

16 Q. What did you do after this meeting?

17 A. I returned to Balahun.

18 Q. While you were in Balahun did you receive information about
19 what was happening in other areas under RUF and AFRC control?

14:48:44 20 A. Yes, whilst I was in Balahun I understood from some
21 soldiers who were coming from the Kono area and who will pass
22 through us, they told us that SLAs had burned down Kono. That
23 was the information I had.

24 Q. And when you say they had burned down Kono, what location
14:49:10 25 are you talking about?

26 A. That was in Koidu Town.

27 Q. And do you know why they burned down Koidu Town?

28 A. They said it was because the soldiers will not be able to
29 be based there, so that any time we attack the place we will be

1 able to capture the place easily.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, the witness has said SLA which
3 is, as I understand it, Sierra Leone Army and there are two
4 factions, there is the Loyals and there is the AFRC, and I am not
14:49:54 5 clear which one he is referring to.

6 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Madam President:

7 Q. Mr Witness, you have said that the SLA burned down Koidu
8 Town. Now when you say SLA, who do you mean?

9 A. Those were the SLAs who were part of the AFRC government.
14:50:26 10 Those were the ones I was trying to refer to.

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

12 A. The other trip I made to Buedu, other soldiers were passing
13 by who gave me information that Jungle had come to Buedu and so I
14 went there. When I went to Buedu I saw Jungle. What Jungle told
14:51:01 15 me was that Charles Taylor sent him to Mosquito and that Charles
16 Taylor had known that the juntas had retreated from Freetown, so
17 that was the reason why he sent him to come and call Mosquito for
18 him to go and meet him in Monrovia. That was what he told me.

19 Q. What happened after you had this conversation with Jungle?

14:51:37 20 A. Later I returned to Balahun.

21 Q. Now while you were in Buedu this time, did you attend any
22 meetings in Buedu?

23 A. Yes, whilst I was there I attended a meeting in which
24 Sam Bockarie, Issa Sesay and other people were present. During
14:52:01 25 this meeting Sam Bockarie did say that the Papay, that is Charles
26 Taylor, sent Jungle to meet him and he said he had known that we
27 have retreated to this area and he said he should go and see him.
28 So he, Mosquito, left Issa as the commander for him to be able to
29 go. After that I returned to Balahun.

1 Q. Did you learn whether Sam Bockarie actually went to see
2 Charles Taylor?

3 A. Yes, later I got information that Mosquito and Jungle have
4 gone to see Charles Taylor.

14:52:54 5 Q. While Mosquito had gone to see Charles Taylor and Issa
6 Sesay was in charge, what happened?

7 A. Later after two weeks I went back to Buedu and when I went
8 there I was based with a radio operator called Daf. Later
9 Sam Bockarie returned together with Junior Vandi and Jungle.

14:53:30 10 When they came, I saw Mosquito, Jungle and Issa Sesay entering
11 into Mosquito's room. They were there for a while, but when they
12 came outside later I saw Mosquito was angry and he said that Issa
13 Sesay was not supposed to have taken such an action in his
14 absence. He said he was supposed to have waited for him.

14:54:07 15 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness slow down
16 and repeat the last bit from where I stopped.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are going a bit too
18 quickly for the interpreter who has to interpret as you talk.

19 Can you go back to where you were saying, "He said he was
14:54:23 20 supposed to have waited for him" and continue your answer from
21 there and pause at the end of each sentence for a moment. Is
22 that clear?

23 THE WITNESS: He, Mosquito, when he was coming out of the
24 room, he was saying that Issa Sesay was supposed to have waited
14:54:48 25 for him. He said he was not supposed to have taken such an
26 action. He said he was not supposed to have taken Johnny Paul
27 Koroma's wife from him, and the diamonds.

28 MS HOLLIS:

29 Q. Now, when you say that Mosquito said Issa Sesay was

1 supposed to have waited for him, who is the "him" you are talking
2 about?

3 A. Mosquito said that Issa Sesay should wait for him before
4 taking such an action.

14:55:25 5 Q. Wait for who?

6 A. To wait for Mosquito.

7 Q. Did you learn what this action was that Sam Bockarie was
8 talking about?

9 A. That was the taking of the diamonds and the taking of
14:55:54 10 Johnny Paul Koroma's wife from him. That was what he was talking
11 about.

12 Q. How did you learn this?

13 A. That happened after Mosquito had returned and when that
14 happened it was when he was blasting at him and whilst he was
14:56:26 15 talking in his sitting room. That was the moment I heard it.

16 Q. And when you say that he shouldn't have taken the action
17 regarding the diamonds, what are you talking about?

18 A. That he shouldn't have undertaken such an operation in his
19 absence. He, Mosquito, was supposed to be around before he could
14:56:56 20 take those diamonds and the other thing he did was that he took
21 Johnny Paul Koroma's wife from him for some time and so Mosquito
22 was not happy with that.

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

24 A. Well, after Mosquito had said that, Issa Sesay said that he
14:57:24 25 got information that Johnny Paul Koroma and the other people,
26 like Gullit and Rambo, were trying to escape to go to Liberia
27 with the diamonds, so he said that was the reason why he took the
28 diamonds from them.

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

1 attend any meeting?

2 A. Yes, that was a meeting that was convened by Issa Sesay and
3 that included SYB Rogers, Mike Lamin, Rashid Sandy, together with
4 some other people that I cannot recall, and during that meeting
14:58:19 5 he did say he went to see - he said Charles Taylor called him for
6 him to go and meet with him, but he said before he could arrive
7 there he said Benjamin Yeaten, who was 50, 50, was the person he
8 met and he was the one who took him to Charles Taylor. He said
9 when they got to Charles Taylor, Charles Taylor did say that he
14:59:08 10 was his brother revolutionary. He said Foday Sankoh was his
11 revolutionary brother and so he said he was happy for the action
12 taken by Sam Bockarie in the absence of Foday Sankoh, that he was
13 in control of the RUF up to that moment and so he said he was
14 happy.

14:59:36 15 MR GRIFFITHS: I hesitate to interrupt, your Honour, but I
16 see a passage which reads on my screen, "Mike Lamin, Rashid
17 Sandy, together with some other people that I cannot recall, and
18 during that meeting he did say he went to see - he said Charles
19 Taylor ..." I may have missed something, but I cannot identify
14:59:58 20 who that "he" is.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, we do have a few "he"s in
22 there and "him"s.

23 MS HOLLIS: We do indeed:

24 Q. Now, when you said that at this meeting he said he went to
15:00:13 25 see Charles Taylor, who said he went to see Charles Taylor?

26 A. It was Mosquito who was addressing the meeting. He said
27 he, Mosquito, went to Monrovia to see Charles Taylor.

28 Q. And then you said, "He said that when they got to Charles
29 Taylor, Charles Taylor did say that he was his revolutionary

1 brother." Now, who is the "they" who got to Charles Taylor?

2 A. Mosquito went to Charles Taylor. He said it was Charles
3 Taylor who told him that Foday Sankoh was his revolutionary
4 brother.

15:01:09 5 Q. Now, you have mentioned a person SYB Rogers. Who is that?

6 A. SYB Rogers, he was one senior person that Foday Sankoh
7 respected. He was a civilian and he was a War Council chairman.

8 Q. At this meeting what, if anything, did Issa Sesay do with
9 the diamonds?

15:01:53 10 A. Issa Sesay gave those diamonds - the diamonds, they were
11 nine - there were nine plastic diamonds that he took from Johnny
12 Paul. They were nine plastics that he gave to Mosquito,
13 Sam Bockarie.

14 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, what are plastic
15:02:22 15 diamonds?

16 THE WITNESS: Well, there is a plastic that they normally
17 put tablets in. That is what I am referring to.

18 MS HOLLIS:

19 Q. So when you say "nine plastic diamonds", what are you
15:02:43 20 telling us?

21 A. The diamonds were in the plastic, up to nine plastics.

22 Q. Now, you said that Issa Sesay gave Sam Bockarie the
23 diamonds he had taken from Johnny Paul Koroma and I think you
24 mentioned two other people. Who were these other people?

15:03:17 25 A. Those other people were also soldiers under Johnny Paul
26 Koroma. They were called Gullit and Rambo. He was a security to
27 Johnny Paul Koroma.

28 Q. Who was a security to Johnny Paul Koroma?

29 A. It was Rambo.

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

2 A. No.

3 Q. After Issa Sesay gave these diamonds to Sam Bockarie, what
4 did Sam Bockarie do?

15:04:01 5 A. Sam Bockarie said that he was going to take those diamonds
6 to Charles Taylor for safekeeping until the return of Foday
7 Sankoh from prison.

8 Q. Now, what did you do after this meeting?

9 A. I went back to Balahun.

15:04:30 10 Q. And when did you next go to Buedu?

11 A. I was there for some time and later I went back to Buedu,
12 but this time round I met Jungle again and I met Mosquito who had
13 returned with Jungle, his bodyguard Foday, JR, together with some
14 other Liberian securities like Zigzag Marzah and JR and others.

15:05:16 15 Q. Now, you said that you met Foday there who was his
16 security. Whose security was Foday?

17 A. Foday was a security to Mosquito.

18 Q. Do you know Foday's last name?

19 A. I can't remember that.

15:05:42 20 Q. And you mentioned a person you called JR. Who was this?

21 A. That is Junior Vandil. He was one of the Black Guards.

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

23 A. Well he, Sam Bockarie, introduced the Liberian brothers,
24 that is Zigzag Marzah and others, and he said, "These are the
15:06:23 25 Liberian brothers sent by Charles Taylor."

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

28 A. So I heard Mosquito say that they should unload the vehicle
29 in which they brought the ammunition and Mosquito said they

1 should unload the ammunitions and I saw that it was Zigzag Marzah
2 who was driving the vehicle, and later Mosquito advised them to
3 return that particular night for security reasons.

15:07:21 4 Q. You said that you heard Mosquito say that they should
5 unload the vehicle in which they had brought the ammunition. Who
6 is the "they" you are referring to?

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

9 Q. And who unloaded the vehicle, if you know?

15:07:51 10 A. Soldiers who were under Sam Bockarie.

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

13 A. I saw RPG boxes and AK rounds.

14 Q. And you also said that Mosquito advised them to return that
15:08:16 15 particular night for security reasons. Who was he telling to
16 return that night for security reasons?

17 A. He was trying to tell Jungle and Zigzag Marzah that they
18 should go back. He said he did not want them to be there until
19 day break, so that that would prevent other civilians from
15:08:45 20 knowing about the mission they were running.

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

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

24 Q. These Liberians that were there, Zigzag and others, do you
15:09:18 25 recall what they were wearing?

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

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

29 A. Well, later I understood that SOD was a police branch that

1 was serving directly under Charles Taylor and they were called
2 Special Operations Division.

3 Q. And how did you learn this?

4 A. It was Jungle who told me.

15:10:14 5 Q. You said that you went back to Balahun. Did you go back
6 that night, or later?

7 A. It was later that I returned.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, it would be helpful if we had
9 some indication of when this second visit to Buedu happened when
15:10:33 10 he saw Zigzag Marzah and others.

11 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, your Honour:

12 Q. Mr Witness, can you tell us when it was that you saw Zigzag
13 Marzah and the others in Buedu?

14 A. I did not get that clearly. Do you mean the time I
15:10:57 15 returned to Buedu? Is that what you are trying to talk about?

16 Q. The time that you were in Buedu and you saw Zigzag Marzah
17 and the other Liberians in these SOD uniforms, can you tell us
18 when that was?

19 A. Yes, that happened at the time that Issa Sesay had handed
15:11:29 20 over the diamonds to Mosquito, when he went to Monrovia and when
21 he returned, and it was that time that I saw Zigzag Marzah and
22 the others.

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

24 A. I can't recall the month.

15:11:54 25 Q. Before you returned back to Balahun, did you attend any
26 meetings in Buedu?

27 A. I can't recall that.

28 Q. After this time did you ever see these Liberians in Buedu
29 again?

1 A. Yes, I used to see them there again.

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

3 A. Well, at that time I was no longer based in Buedu. I was
4 in Balahun. I will go there and return. Sampson, Jungle and

15:12:54 5 others used to come and the time they used to come, according to
6 what they told me, they used to come with a truck that contained
7 arms and ammunition, food and other things that were in there.

8 They said they will normally stop the truck at Voinjama and then
9 they will use small vans to transport the arms and ammunition

15:13:16 10 together with the other items to Buedu, or sometimes if the road
11 condition was better the truck will come as far as Buedu.

12 Q. Did they tell you who they received these arms and
13 ammunition from?

14 A. Well, Jungle and others were saying that it was the Papay,
15:13:45 15 Charles Taylor, who used to give the arms and ammunition.

16 Q. Did you ever see the trucks that were used to bring the
17 arms and ammunition to Buedu?

18 A. At one time I saw a military truck come to Buedu.

19 Q. And how big was this truck?

15:14:21 20 A. It was - it was a ten-tyred truck. It had two in front,
21 two in the middle and then - two in front, four in the middle and
22 then two at the back.

23 Q. While you were based in Balahun, to your knowledge how many
24 times did Sam Bockarie go to Liberia?

15:15:20 25 A. I understood that he came there three times.

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

27 A. He went with Jungle. And the other time, according to he,
28 Mosquito, because I was not there, what he told me was that
29 Varmuyan Sherif at a point in time came to him, so the two of

1 them went. That was what he told me.

2 Q. Did he tell you what Varmuya Sherif was?

3 A. Well, he told me that Varmuyan Sherif was sent by the Papay
4 to come and see him so that the two of them will go.

15:16:21 5 Q. Did you ever meet Varmuya Sherif?

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

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

9 A. Yes, I met him in Monrovia.

15:16:49 10 Q. You have testified that soldiers passing through Balahun
11 told you about the SLA burning Koidu Town. Now while you were
12 stationed in Balahun, did you get information about any other
13 attempt to retake Koidu Town?

14 A. Well, yes.

15:17:25 15 Q. And what information did you receive?

16 A. I got information that Superman had organised troops who
17 called themselves Fitti-Fatta and that he had tried to re-attack
18 Koidu Town, but that during that attack they did not succeed so
19 people died and people got wounded.

15:17:59 20 Q. Did you learn where Superman got the materials for this
21 attack on Koidu Town?

22 A. Mosquito gave him the arms and ammunition.

23 Q. At the time of this Fitti-Fatta attack, to your knowledge
24 where was Superman based?

15:18:26 25 A. Superman was based in the Koidu area, which was called
26 Superman Ground, close to Koidu Town.

27 Q. At this time to your knowledge were there AFRC or RUF in
28 any other areas in Kono District?

29 A. Yes, Akim Turay also was a commander who was also based

1 around that same Kono area, but he was around the Woama area.

2 Q. And who is Akim Turay?

3 A. Akim Turay was in the AFRC government.

4 Q. What happened after this failed Fitti-Fatta attack on Koidu
15:19:46 5 Town?

6 A. After the failure of Fitti-Fatta, Mosquito told Superman -
7 he gave instruction to Superman for him to go to another area.

8 Q. And what other area was he to go to?

9 A. He told him to go to the northern area. I can't recall the
15:20:27 10 name of the town now.

11 Q. Do you recall the district?

12 A. He told him to go to Koinadugu area.

13 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, the town that the witness
14 mentioned, Woama, is W-O-A-M-A:

15:20:53 15 Q. Now you have testified that you were based in Balahun until
16 September of 1998. Where did you go after that?

17 A. After that time Mosquito appointed me to serve as the
18 [Redacted]
19 Superman Ground.

15:21:24 20 MS HOLLIS: Your Honour, I would ask that that be redacted,
21 [Redacted]
22 from the public record.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Any comment from the Defence counsel on
24 that application?

15:21:37 25 MR GRIFFITHS: I have no problem with that, your Honour.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. The line on page 111, line
27 10, where the witness describes his appointment should be
28 redacted from the record. That's line - I don't want to repeat
29 it out loud, but I notice my learned brother says he has got a

1 different line. I have - it ends "and he sent me to Superman
2 Ground". Is that the portion you are referring to?

3 MS HOLLIS: Is that referring to the position?

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. It is the same sentence then.

15:22:23 5 MS HOLLIS: And it is just before "and he sent me". I
6 would give the line, but I don't think our lines are the same for
7 some reason.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Attendant has it in hand.

9 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Madam President:

15:22:45 10 Q. Mr Witness, when you went to Superman Ground, why did you
11 go there?

12 A. It was an order given to me by Sam Bockarie for me to go
13 there and join Issa Sesay.

14 Q. What were your duties at Superman Ground?

15:23:11 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, when you answer the question
16 be careful not to say what the title of your job was. Just
17 describe the work.

18 THE WITNESS: Yes.

19 MS HOLLIS:

15:23:28 20 Q. Could you tell us what your duties were when you went to
21 Superman Ground?

22 A. Well, whilst I was there I was doing the Black Guard job.
23 When I was there I was taking records of things that were
24 happening.

15:23:56 25 Q. And when you say you were taking records of things that
26 were happening, what kinds of things were you taking record of?

27 A. I was taking records of missions that went on. If
28 materials were captured I would talk to the soldiers about the
29 things that I had told you earlier that Foday Sankoh had taught

1 us. That was what I was doing.

2 Q. And what would you do with these records?

3 A. I will send them to the person who was above me.

4 Q. You said that you went to Superman Ground to work with Issa
15:24:57 5 Sesay. What was Issa Sesay's position at this time?

6 A. At that time Issa Sesay, we used to call him BFI.

7 Q. What did BFI mean?

8 A. BFI means that he was appointed by Mosquito to serve as the
9 commander in the field.

10 Q. At the time that you went to Superman Ground, can you tell
11 us what the command structure was in Kono District?

12 A. Yes, when I went to Superman Ground Issa Sesay was there as
13 the overall - Boston Flomo, Rambo, was there; Morris Kallon was
14 there; Banya was there; and Peter Vandi too was there as advisor
15:25:58 15 in the area. Those are some of the people who were there.

16 Q. Now, you said --

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry to interrupt, Ms Hollis, but we are
18 just signing that redaction order and I would like to do what I
19 normally do and address the monitors and any persons that are in
20 the public gallery. The name of a position held by the witness
15:26:42 21 has been mentioned in the course of his evidence and it is not to
22 be repeated outside the precincts of the court, or published in
23 any other way. Sorry to interrupt, but I wanted to do it when it
24 was still --

15:27:00 25 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Madam President:

26 Q. Now, you mentioned Boston Flomo. Who was that?

27 A. Boston Flomo was a Liberian.

28 Q. And do you know where he trained?

29 A. Well, we understood that he was trained in the NPFL, but

1 Later he joined the RUF.

2 Q. You mentioned Rambo. Who was that?

3 A. He is the Boston Flomo.

4 Q. You also mentioned someone you called Banya. Who was that?

15:28:07 5 A. Banya was an AFRC SLA.

6 Q. You mentioned Peter Vandí, who was an advisor. Who was
7 Peter Vandí?

8 A. Peter Vandí was an RUF vanguard.

9 Q. You also mentioned Morris Kallon. Now, you have told us
15:28:34 10 earlier there were two Morris Kallons, so which Morris Kallon are
11 you referring to here?

12 A. Well, at that time the Morris Kallon who had gone to
13 Liberia had returned and he was the RUF Morris Kallon.

14 Q. And where had he trained, this Morris Kallon?

15:29:02 15 A. He was trained at Camp Naama in Liberia.

16 Q. Now, you have given us the names of people in Kono at that
17 time. You said that Issa Sesay was the overall commander. Who
18 was next below him?

19 A. In Kono it was Morris Kallon who was next to Issa.

15:29:35 20 Q. And what was Boston Flomo's position in Kono?

21 A. Boston Flomo was the brigade commander there.

22 Q. So under Morris Kallon, who came next?

23 A. It was Boston Flomo who was next to Morris Kallon and Banya
24 was next to Boston Flomo. That was how the promotions were.

15:30:20 25 Q. You said that Peter Vandí was an advisor. An advisor to
26 whom?

27 A. He was advisor in that brigade.

28 Q. In which brigade is that?

29 A. They call the brigade the second brigade.

1 Q. What happened after you went to Superman Ground?

2 A. When I had been at Superman's ground, later Sam Bockarie
3 called Issa to go to Buedu, so I joined Issa Sesay and the two of
4 us went to Buedu. He said we should try to recapture Koidu Town,
15:31:18 5 so he was trying to go to Monrovia to meet the Pa, that is
6 Charles Taylor, and that Issa Sesay was to stay in charge when he
7 went. So we waited there until Mosquito went to Monrovia.

8 Q. Can you tell us when this was that Mosquito went to
9 Monrovia?

15:32:00 10 A. This happened in October.

11 Q. Can you tell us what year this is?

12 A. It happened in 1998.

13 Q. You said that you went to Buedu with Issa Sesay. How long
14 were you in Buedu?

15:32:29 15 A. We spent up to two months.

16 Q. And what happened then?

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

18 Q. And what happened after he came with a lot of ammunition?

19 A. After he had come with these ammunition he said that the
15:32:57 20 Pa, that is Charles Taylor, had told him that we should try and
21 capture Kono. He said we should try and capture Kono and other
22 mining areas, so that we will be able to get diamonds and hence
23 get more arms and ammunition. So he handed over these materials
24 to Issa Sesay. Since then we moved to Koidu Town. Sorry, to
15:33:31 25 Superman's ground.

26 Q. You said he came back with a lot of ammunition. What kinds
27 of ammunitions did he come back with?

28 A. He came with RPG bombs, he came with AK rounds, he came
29 with GPMG rounds, he came with camouflage, he came with guns and

1 others that I cannot recall.

2 Q. When you say he came with camouflage, what do you mean?

3 A. That is the clothes that a soldier puts on. That is
4 combat.

15:34:34 5 Q. How was this ammunition and the camouflage and the other
6 things, how was it brought to Buedu?

7 A. It was a vehicle that brought them.

8 Q. And can you tell us the size of this vehicle?

9 A. At that time they were brought in a pick-up.

15:35:08 10 Q. You said that Mosquito gave Issa Sesay these materials.
11 Why did he give Issa Sesay these materials?

12 A. He said we should try and capture Koidu Town and the other
13 areas which were mining areas, because the Pa, Charles Taylor,
14 had said we should try and get these areas in order to get more
15 diamonds.

16 Q. And what was Issa Sesay's role in this operation?

17 A. Issa Sesay was to go and organise commanders. He was to
18 become the commander to organise - to organise so that they can
19 fight and capture these areas.

15:36:15 20 Q. And you said you took these materials to Superman Ground.
21 How did you transport the materials to Superman Ground?

22 A. Well, Sam Bockarie ordered - captured some civilians around
23 Buedu and the surrounding villages to carry these arms and
24 ammunition, so that was what they did before we departed.

15:36:53 25 Q. What happened when you arrived back in Superman Ground?

26 A. When we got to Superman's ground, Issa Sesay called a
27 meeting. At this meeting he called, Morris Kallon was at this
28 meeting, Akim Turay was at this meeting, Banya was at this
29 meeting, Gassama Mansaray was at this meeting, and other people

1 whose names I can't recall now. During this meeting he, Issa
2 Sesay, said that master had come, that is Mosquito. He said so
3 he had gone and met with the Pa, that is Charles Taylor. He said
4 he had given a lot of arms and ammunition for us to capture Koidu
15:38:06 5 Town and for us to capture the other areas; those areas that were
6 mining areas. He said that Charles Taylor had said that - he
7 said Mosquito said Charles Taylor had said that if we did not
8 capture these mining areas he said he will not supply us arms and
9 ammunition any more. He said so we should try very hard to
15:38:37 10 capture these areas. So at this meeting he organised the
11 commanders as to how they were to carry out the mission. He
12 appointed Rambo, that is Boston Flomo, that he should be the head
13 for the mission and Morris Kallon, he was to go - he was to go
14 and mount an ambush in the Gol town area. So Akim Turay was to go
15:39:25 15 to the other area to attack, while Rambo was to go to the
16 Five-Five Spot that is in Koidu Town. He said after we had
17 captured Koidu Town, the mission - Akim Turay was to take troops
18 to go towards Tongo Field, while Boston Flomo was to go towards
19 Makeni.

15:39:55 20 Q. Can I stop you there for a moment. This meeting, when you
21 held this meeting where was Boston Flomo?

22 A. We were all in the meeting with Boston Flomo.

23 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, the witness mentioned Gassama
24 Mansaray:

15:40:17 25 Q. Is that correct, Mr Witness?

26 A. Yes.

27 MS HOLLIS: G-A-S-S-A-M-A. Mansaray would be the regular
28 spelling, M-A-N-S-A-R-A-Y:

29 Q. Mr Witness, you mentioned a town - that Morris Kallon was

1 to go toward a town and lay an ambush or mount an ambush. What
2 town was that that you mentioned?

3 A. That town is behind the Sewafe bridge. When you go across
4 the bridge they called it Gol town.

15:41:00 5 Q. Now can you spell that for us, this town?

6 A. G-O-L-T-O-W-N, Gol town.

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, whilst we are on this
8 particular area, the witness mentioned a consignment of arms and
9 ammunition that arrived I believe in Buedu whilst the witness was
10 with Issa Sesay. Now he has stated that he was in Buedu at this
11 period for two more months and that appears to take us to sort of
12 the end of 1998. Could we have a little more clarity exactly
13 when these arms and ammunition were brought?

14 MS HOLLIS: I will try that, your Honour:

15:41:55 15 Q. Mr Witness, you said that you went to Buedu, you and Issa
16 Sesay, in about October and that Sam Bockarie left and was gone
17 for about two months and he came back with a lot of ammunition.
18 Can you tell us when it was that he came back to Buedu?

19 A. It was in December 1998 that he returned.

15:42:21 20 Q. Now when you were telling us about the plan to attack Koidu
21 and then go to other areas, you said that Akim Turay was to go to
22 the other area. What area do you mean?

23 A. It was the way Issa Sesay etched out the plan, these groups
24 that he had spoken about were all to come together to attack
15:42:52 25 Koidu Town from other areas. That after we had taken this town
26 it was from there that Akim Turay was to go to Tongo Field while
27 Boston Flomo would use another route to go to Makeni, but Koidu
28 Town was to be attacked by the whole group. That was how the
29 plan was etched out.

1 Q. And you indicated that the group you were in was to attack
2 the Five-Five area. Where was the Five-Five area?

3 A. The Five-Five area is in Koidu Town. It was an area where
4 the ECOMOG base was. They had heavy weapons there. So Boston
15:43:46 5 Flomo's group was to attack that particular place. That was the
6 group I was in.

7 Q. At the time of this meeting in Superman Ground, where was
8 Superman?

9 A. Superman was still in the Koinadugu area. Well, Superman
15:44:06 10 too when - when he too - Mosquito instructed him when we had -
11 when we would have captured Koidu and advancing on Makeni, he too
12 was to come from Koinadugu so that we can all come together in
13 Makeni.

14 Q. So what happened after this meeting?

15:44:41 15 A. After the meeting, we took - we undertook the mission, but
16 the very day that we launched the attack we did not succeed. It
17 was the following day that we captured Koidu Town. After we had
18 captured Koidu Town, Akim Turay took along his own group in order
19 to attack Tongo Field whilst Rambo went towards Makeni.

15:45:17 20 Q. Now when you captured Koidu Town, did you capture anything
21 in Koidu Town?

22 A. We captured materials, that is arms and ammunition. We
23 also captured the Nigerian soldiers that were there. We captured
24 them.

15:45:47 25 Q. And who were these Nigerian soldiers?

26 A. That was the ECOMOG that were deployed there.

27 Q. Now tell us again, you have said that ECOMOG was in Koidu
28 Town when you attacked. Were there any other forces in Koidu
29 Town when you attacked?

1 A. Well, the SLA troops who were under Tejan Kabbah's
2 government were there together with some Kamajors.

3 Q. Can you tell us how many of these Nigerian troops you
4 captured?

15:46:38 5 A. I can't recall their number. They were many.

6 Q. And what did you do with them after you captured them?

7 A. Issa Sesay sent all of them to Buedu to Mosquito.

8 Q. What happened to the civilians in Koidu after the attack?

9 A. After we had attacked I used to see some of the corpses of
15:47:10 10 civilians.

11 Q. And did you see how the RUF and AFRC forces treated the
12 civilians after the attack?

13 A. That used to happen. Some soldiers took civilians
14 forcefully, they took women and forced them. That used to
15:47:43 15 happen.

16 Q. Now you said after the attack --

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, forced the women to do what?

18 MS HOLLIS:

19 Q. When you say "forced the women", what do you mean?

15:48:03 20 A. Well, they will force them to have sex with them.

21 Q. Now you have said that after this attack Akim Turay went
22 towards Tongo and that Boston Flomo went toward Makeni. Now what
23 did you do after this attack?

24 A. After that attack, we went to Makeni. When we got there
15:48:35 25 Superman too came from his end and all of us captured Makeni. So
26 we were in Makeni when we were made to understand on the radio
27 that the other brothers had entered - that is the other SLA
28 brothers had entered Freetown.

29 Q. Now, let me ask you before you left Koidu Town, going

1 toward Makeni, are you aware of any communications that occurred
2 after the capture of Koidu Town?

3 A. Yes, communication took place at Buedu and another
4 communication took place in Monrovia where the operator who was
15:49:36 5 in Monrovia who was with Benjamin Yeaten called Sunlight -
6 communication took place there when the operator was trying to
7 tell the other operators how we had captured Koidu, how we had
8 captured arms and ammunition, how we had captured all the
9 Nigerian soldiers. That communication took place.

15:50:11 10 Q. And tell us again who was Sunlight?

11 A. Sunlight was a radio operator who was with Benjamin Yeaten.

12 Q. How do you know about these communications?

13 A. I was in the radio room when the communication was going
14 on.

15:50:40 15 Q. Now once you had captured Makeni, what forces were in
16 Makeni?

17 A. In Makeni too the ECOMOG troops were there together with
18 the SLAs. We attacked them.

19 Q. And once you captured them and had the town, what forces
15:51:03 20 were in Makeni?

21 A. That was we, the RUFs, and the AFRC troops, we were there.

22 Q. Can you tell us when it was that you captured Makeni?

23 A. That happened in 1999.

24 Q. And do you recall the month?

15:51:39 25 A. It happened in January. January 1999.

26 Q. How long did you stay in Makeni?

27 A. After we had received that information that our brothers
28 had entered Freetown, Mosquito sent a message to Issa Sesay that
29 he should try and connect with his brothers in Freetown whereby

1 Gullit was the commander. So Issa Sesay instructed Boston Flomo
2 to go and meet the brothers. At that time we were still in
3 Makeni.

15:52:48 4 Q. And do you recall when it was that you got the message that
5 the brothers had captured Freetown?

6 A. Yes, it was in January 1999. I can't recall the date.

7 Q. And when Boston Flomo was ordered to move toward Freetown,
8 where was Superman?

9 A. Superman was in Makeni.

15:53:18 10 Q. And what happened with Superman?

11 A. Superman was still in Makeni when Boston Flomo went on the
12 mission.

13 Q. And how long did Superman remain in Makeni?

14 A. Well, later, after Boston Flomo had gone to the Waterloo
15:53:49 15 area, Superman went and based in Lunsar.

16 Q. Now, how long did you remain in Makeni?

17 A. I was in Makeni with - I stayed long there a little with
18 Issa Sesay.

19 Q. And what were your duties there in Makeni with Issa Sesay?

15:54:36 20 A. I was there. Wherever Issa was going, I used to go with
21 him where the order - I was with him there as security, so
22 whatever information that was around, I was to be informed as
23 well.

24 Q. When Boston Flomo went toward Freetown, did you receive any
15:55:09 25 communications from him?

26 A. Boston Flomo said that he had gone up to Waterloo, he had
27 gone up to Jui bridge and had encountered a resistance there from
28 the enemy. That was the message he sent to Issa Sesay.

29 Q. And did he tell Issa Sesay where he was basing?

1 A. He told him that he was based in Waterloo.

2 Q. Now, you said that you based in Makeni for some time.

3 Where did you go after Makeni?

4 A. After I had left Makeni I went back to Kono.

15:56:22 5 Q. And where did Issa go?

6 A. Issa was in Makeni.

7 Q. And did you get any additional reports about what was
8 happening in Freetown?

9 A. Yes.

15:56:49 10 Q. And what reports did you get?

11 A. On the day that I came back - on the day that I went back
12 to Kono, I heard from the radio - I heard from the communication
13 radio people that Superman and Issa Sesay, that there was an
14 infighting between them. That was the message I got.

15:57:22 15 Q. Now, do you recall when this was?

16 A. This was - this happened in '99.

17 Q. And when this happened, do you recall were Gullit's troops
18 still in Freetown?

19 A. No, at that time Gullit's troops had left Freetown and they
15:57:53 20 were now in Waterloo.

21 Q. And what happened when Gullit's troops were in Waterloo?

22 A. Well, when they were in Waterloo, at that time I was now
23 again with Issa. I and Issa went to Waterloo. When we went to
24 Waterloo we met Gullit's group had withdrawn - all of them had
15:58:27 25 withdraw back to Waterloo, so when Issa met Gullit, Gullit was
26 trying to be - was getting angry. He was trying to say that,
27 "Issa Sesay, I was in Freetown asking for manpower and you
28 refused to send the manpower hastily. That was why I refused" --

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

1 whole bit.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause, Mr Witness. The
3 interpreter is having trouble keeping up with you. Can you go
4 back to your answer and start again from the point where you
15:59:09 5 said, "I was in Freetown asking for manpower," this is Gullit
6 speaking, "and you refused to send the manpower hastily. That
7 was why I refused", and continue from there, please.

8 THE WITNESS: Gullit was trying to blame Issa Sesay that,
9 "Issa Sesay, the reason I withdrew was that you failed to send
15:59:38 10 manpower immediately. That was why I retreated." So Issa Sesay
11 too responded to Gullit, saying that it was not his fault, he had
12 sent the manpower, but that it was due to the enemy forces at the
13 bridge. So later they said that they should forget about the
14 argument and try to organise in order to attack the area, so that
16:00:08 15 they can get back into Freetown. So that was what was organised.

16 MS HOLLIS:

17 Q. Could I just ask you a question here? You said that,
18 "Later they said that they should forget about the argument. Who
19 is the "they" that you are referring to?

16:00:31 20 A. Issa Sesay told Gullit that they should forget about that
21 argument and that they should sit together and organise and plan
22 how they were to attack and get back into Freetown.

23 Q. Now, to your knowledge did they try to carry out this
24 attack to get back into Freetown?

16:00:59 25 A. Yes, they tried, but they were - they did not capture the
26 place.

27 Q. And who was it who was trying to get back into Freetown?
28 What groups?

29 A. It was the RUF and the AFRC.

1 Q. How long did you stay in Waterloo?

2 A. We spent some time there. I can't remember the time now,
3 but we withdrew later.

4 Q. While you were in Waterloo, what were your duties there?

16:02:02 5 A. I was with Issa. Any report that came from the other
6 securities with whom we were working, I will be there to see that
7 report.

8 Q. And did you receive reports from other securities with whom
9 you were working?

16:02:32 10 A. Yes, since the time I was there I saw a report which the
11 commander had sent to Issa Sesay. That is the IO commander who
12 was there.

13 Q. And who was the IO commander at that time?

14 A. It was Christ A Manneh. He was the adjutant who was under
16:03:07 15 him --

16 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat the name
17 slowly, the adjutant who was under him.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat the name that
19 you have just given us for the adjutant that was under you. The
16:03:24 20 interpreter did not hear it clearly.

21 THE WITNESS: Raymond Katewo.

22 MS HOLLIS:

23 Q. And who was this adjutant? He was an adjutant for whom?

24 A. He was a Black Guard, but IO Black Guard. All of them - we
16:04:08 25 all used to work together.

26 Q. Now I am going to ask you for some assistance, if you can
27 give it. Can you tell us how to spell this Black Guard
28 adjutant's name?

29 A. No.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, we have had IO explained by
2 other witnesses, but I am not sure if this witness is using the
3 same terminology.

4 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Madam President:

16:04:41 5 Q. Now, you said that you got a report from the IO commander.
6 Can you tell us what you mean by IO?

7 A. The IO from - Foday Sankoh told us that the IO is an
8 intelligence officer who was also to be on the field working
9 together with the Black Guards to send reports to him.

16:05:17 10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, this IO commander was Chris A
11 Manneh? Is that the name?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes.

13 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, that would be C-H-R-I-S-T, middle
14 initial "A", last name M-A-N-N-E-H.

16:05:44 15 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: And this adjutant was Raymond Katewo, or
16 something like that.

17 MS HOLLIS:

18 Q. Can you tell us that name again, Mr Witness?

19 A. Raymond Katewo.

16:05:59 20 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, I would take a chance at
21 phonetics at K-A-T-E-W-O:

22 Q. Now, in addition to this report from the IO commander and
23 the Black Guard adjutant, did you receive any other information
24 while you were there with Issa?

16:06:32 25 A. That was the only report I saw.

26 Q. While you were there in Waterloo, did you receive any
27 communications from Buedu, or other areas in Sierra Leone?

28 A. Yes, when we were in Waterloo, when Issa Sesay was there,
29 after Gullit's group had come, Issa Sesay saw one other commander

1 who they called Gibril Massaquoi. He told Mosquito that Gullit's
2 group had come, but that he saw Gibril Massaquoi among them and
3 so Mosquito returned a message to Issa Sesay saying that he
4 should try and arrest Gibril Massaquoi in order for him to send
16:07:30 5 him to him in Buedu. That was the message that came.

6 Q. And who was Gibril Massaquoi?

7 A. Gibril Massaquoi was one of the commanders in the RUF.

8 Q. And do you know where he trained?

9 A. He was trained in Pujehun.

16:08:03 10 Q. Did Sam Bockarie say why Issa Sesay should try to arrest
11 Gibril Massaquoi?

12 A. Well, he said that he, Gibril Massaquoi, had disobeyed him.
13 That was what he said.

14 Q. What happened after you got this communication?

16:08:43 15 A. After that Issa Sesay wanted to arrest Gibril Massaquoi,
16 but at that time Superman too was in Waterloo. When Issa - when
17 Gibril Massaquoi refused Issa to arrest him, Superman too
18 intervened saying they should not arrest Gibril Massaquoi. So
19 some SLAs who were loyal to Superman and Gibril Massaquoi, all of
16:09:16 20 them supported him.

21 Q. Now, can you tell us what month this was happening in?

22 A. I can't recall the month, but it was in 1999 that it
23 happened.

24 Q. And was Issa able to arrest Gibril Massaquoi?

16:09:44 25 A. No.

26 Q. Can you tell us how long you and Issa Sesay remained in
27 Waterloo?

28 A. When we were in Waterloo, Issa Sesay planned another attack
29 on - to attack Tombo. So we were there when that attack was

1 I launched, but we were unable to capture the area, so we returned
2 to Waterloo.

3 Q. And Tombo, where was that?

16:10:49

4 A. Tombo was an area - was a route from Waterloo when you use
5 the peninsula going to Freetown.

6 Q. Why did you plan to attack Tombo?

7 A. Issa wanted us to try to get back to Freetown.

8 Q. Who took part in this attack on Tombo?

9 A. Gullit's group and Issa Sesay's group. They took part.

16:11:37

10 Q. And again how long did you remain in Waterloo after this
11 attack on Tombo?

12 A. From that I had to return to Makeni in that same 1999, but
13 I can't recall the month.

14 Q. And, if you know, when did Issa Sesay leave Waterloo?

16:12:21

15 A. All of us returned to Makeni. I can't recall the month.

16 Q. When you say, "All of us returned to Makeni", who do you
17 mean?

18 A. I, Issa Sesay and others.

16:12:44

19 Q. How long did you remain in Makeni after you returned back
20 to Makeni?

21 A. I took one month in Makeni. Later I went to Kono.

22 Q. During this one month that you were in Makeni, what were
23 your duties?

24 A. I was with Issa Sesay. I was a security.

16:13:21

25 Q. You said that you then went to Kono. Where did you go in
26 Kono?

27 A. I went to Koidu Town.

28 Q. To your knowledge, after RUF and AFRC had recaptured Koidu
29 Town, were there mining operations going on?

1 A. Yes, mining was going on.

2 Q. And do you know where this mining was going on?

3 A. Mining was going on in the Tombodu area.

4 Q. And where is Tombodu in relation to Koidu?

16:14:17 5 A. Tombodu is not far away from Koidu Town.

6 Q. How did you know about this mining that was taking place in
7 Tombodu?

8 A. I knew. When I came - came to Koidu Town, when I was there
9 the mining commander who was there called CO Lion, I used to see
16:14:50 10 him organising the civilians to do the mining. I used to see how
11 they were going around the township and the surrounding villages,
12 how they brought those civilians to carry out the mining.

13 Q. And how did they get these civilians to do the mining?

14 A. They captured them around. It was not that they were
16:15:19 15 willing to come. They used to capture them around. They were
16 capturing them forcefully.

17 Q. To your knowledge was mining going on in any other areas
18 other than Tombodu at this time?

19 A. Yes, at that time mining was going on in Tongo as well.

16:15:44 20 Q. And who was there in Tongo?

21 A. Akim Turay was there and other RUF members were also there.

22 Q. How did you know about this mining going on in Tongo?

23 A. Well, I knew when Issa Sesay came from Makeni and when he
24 came to Kono Town I used to see him sending mining materials
16:16:23 25 there. I used to see that.

26 Q. When you say "mining materials", what was he sending there?

27 A. He used to buy shakers, petrol for the machines and food to
28 send them there.

29 Q. And these shakers that he would buy, what were these

1 shakers?

2 A. That's where the gravel is washed.

3 Q. What kind of machines was he buying the petrol for?

4 A. Bailing machine to pump water.

16:17:12 5 Q. To your knowledge in Tongo who was actually doing the
6 mining?

7 A. Issa Sesay used to replace the commanders. At first, at
8 the time that Akim Turay was there, he sent one person whom they
9 called Peleto to the mine.

16:17:59 10 Q. Who was Peleto?

11 A. He was called Amara Peleto. He was in control of the
12 mining.

13 Q. What was his nationality?

14 A. He is a Sierra Leonean.

16:18:13 15 Q. And to what group did he belong?

16 A. He underwent his training in Sierra Leone. He was a junior
17 commando.

18 Q. Of what group?

19 A. The RUF group.

16:18:32 20 Q. You said that Peleto controlled the mining. Who actually
21 did the mining of the - and what were they mining in Tongo?

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: You have got two questions there,

23 Ms Hollis. Take them one at a time, please.

24 MS HOLLIS:

16:18:50 25 Q. What were they mining in Tongo?

26 A. They were mining for diamonds in Tongo.

27 Q. And who was actually doing the mining itself?

28 A. Civilians were captured - soldiers were just there to
29 control the civilians, but it was the civilians who were doing

1 the mining.

2 Q. And how did they get these civilians to do the mining?

3 A. Just like they used to do in Kono; they went around to
4 capture the civilians.

16:19:34 5 Q. Now, you said that it was the soldiers who were there to
6 control the civilians. What do you mean by that?

7 A. That is they just sat by to watch over them as they did
8 what they were doing. They did not partake in the mining, for
9 instance to take up a shovel or a pickaxe to do the mining. They
16:20:03 10 just sat by to watch them over.

11 Q. And when you say "watch over them", why were they watching
12 over them?

13 A. So that they will not escape or steal the diamonds.

14 Q. To your knowledge were there any records being kept of the
16:20:23 15 diamond mining going on?

16 A. Yes, wherever mining was taking place there was someone who
17 took record.

18 Q. And who would be taking these records in Tombodu?

19 A. In Tombodu it was CO Lion who was taking record - records.

16:21:05 20 Q. Was there anyone else taking records in Tombodu?

21 A. In Tombodu there was another Black Guard whom they called
22 Gassama Mansaray, he too took record. And Joseph Bakundu. He
23 too was a Black Guard. He used to take records.

24 Q. Can you tell us Joseph's last name again, please?

16:21:33 25 A. Bakundu.

26 MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, I believe that is B-A-K-U-N-D-U:

27 Q. Now, tell us again who was CO Lion?

28 A. CO Lion, he was a Liberian RUF vanguard.

29 Q. And who was Joseph Bakundu?

1 A. He was an RUF junior commando.

2 Q. How long did you stay in Koidu Town?

3 A. I was there for a long time.

4 Q. And what were you doing there in Koidu Town?

16:22:55 5 A. I was just there. I was not doing anything.

6 Q. And did there come a time when you left Koidu Town?

7 A. Yes, it came to a time when I went to the radio room. At
8 one time the radio operator - the radio man told me that the
9 leader, Foday Sankoh, was going to talk to the commanders.

16:23:34 10 Q. And what did you do after you were told this?

11 A. Later I too - he told me the time, he said 11 o'clock, so I
12 ensured that at that time I was at the radio office. So I met, I
13 heard Pa Sankoh talking to the RUF commanders. He was talking to
14 Sam Bockarie. He told Sam Bockarie that he should try and

16:24:08 15 organise 15 to 17 people who were to meet him in Lome for the
16 peace talks. So through these talks that were taking place I
17 intercepted Foday Sankoh.

18 Q. And please don't use your name, please.

19 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Hollis, I am not sure where this is
16:24:32 20 taking place because you asked the witness did there come a time
21 when he left Koidu Town and he said yes. And then where did he
22 go? He said to the radio room. Where is this radio room?

23 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Justice Sebutinde:

24 Q. Can you tell us, please, this radio room that you went to,
16:24:52 25 where was it?

26 A. It's in Koidu Town. That was where the radio room was.

27 Q. Now, you were telling us that Foday Sankoh was speaking to
28 Sam Bockarie and that at some point you intercepted. What do you
29 mean?

1 A. After Foday Sankoh had spoken to Sam Bockarie, I
2 intercepted. I told Foday Sankoh that I was the one talking, so
3 later he told Sam Bockarie that he wanted me to join that same
4 group that was to meet him in Lome. He said he would like me to
16:25:41 5 be among them. So later I met Sam Bockarie in Buedu to go.

6 Q. Now, how long did you stay in Buedu before you left for the
7 peace talks?

8 A. I was there for a long time.

9 Q. And why were you waiting there for a long time?

16:26:14 10 A. When we got to Buedu we had meetings. Mosquito called a
11 meeting where he told the people who were at that meeting, he
12 said that the leader, who was Foday Sankoh, had told him that he
13 should organise 15 to 20 people to go and meet him in Lome for
14 the peace talks, so he said he was to appoint these people to go
16:26:46 15 and meet him. So at this meeting Mosquito appointed the people
16 who were to go and meet Foday Sankoh in Lome. He appointed SYB
17 Rogers, who was to head this delegation. Mike Lamin was to be
18 among. Leather Boot too was to be among. He was to go there to
19 represent the SLAs. Lawrence Womandia was among them. There was
16:27:30 20 a woman, Agnes, Mosquito said she was to go to become a secretary
21 to Pa Sankoh. Junior Vandi, a Black Guard, was there. Daf was
22 there, Dauda Fornie, who was the radio operator who was to take
23 the radio along. Jalloh, an SLA, and Rashid Sandy who was the
24 adjutant general and some other people whose names I cannot
16:28:03 25 recall.

26 Q. And who was Lawrence Womandia?

27 A. Lawrence Womandia was one of the vanguards who trained in
28 Camp Naama in Liberia.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, I am afraid we have been

1 alerted to the time. The tape is about to run out and so I hope
2 this is a convenient point to adjourn the witness's evidence.

3 MS HOLLIS: We will make it a convenient point.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we are now going to adjourn
16:28:41 5 for the day. We finish at this time. However, I wish to remind
6 the parties that tomorrow the judges will be attending the
7 International Criminal Court conference, so there will be no
8 sitting tomorrow. Mr Witness, we are adjourning now until Friday
9 morning at 9.30. I must tell you that now that you have taken
16:29:04 10 the oath you are not to discuss your evidence with any other
11 person until all your evidence is finished. Do you understand
12 this?

13 THE WITNESS: I have heard, thank you.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. Please adjourn court until
16:29:20 15 Friday at 9.30.

16 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.30 p.m.
17 to be reconvened on Friday, 4 July 2008 at
18 9.30 a.m.]

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