



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

FRIDAY, 30 JULY 2010
9.00 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Ms Erica Bussey

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura
Ms Zainab Fofanah

For the Prosecution:

Mr Nicholas Koumjian
Ms Maja Dimitrova
Mr Nathan Quick

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Courtenay Griffiths
Mr Silas Chekera
Ms Logan Hambriek

1 Friday, 30 July 2010

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.00 a.m.]

09:05:03 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. We'll take the
6 appearances, please.

7 MR KOU MJIAN: Good morning, Madam President. Good morning,
8 your Honours, and counsel opposite. For the Prosecution this
9 morning, Nathan Quick, Maja Dimitrova and Nicholas Koumjian.

09:05:21 10 MR GRIFFITHS: Good morning, Madam President, your Honours,
11 counsel opposite. For the Defence today, myself, Courtenay
12 Griffiths, with me, Mr Silas Chekera, Ms Logan Hambrick and
13 Ms Fatmatu Jalloh.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. I don't remember hearing
09:05:39 15 Mr Quick's name before.

16 MR KOU MJIAN: I believe he has been here on one or two
17 occasions previously.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. In any event, he's welcome to
19 the Court. Mr Griffiths, is there something before I --

09:05:58 20 MR GRIFFITHS: No, there isn't.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Okay.

22 Good morning, Mr Sesay. This morning we continue with your
23 evidence-in-chief, and please remember that you're under oath to
24 tell the truth. Please continue.

09:06:10 25 WITNESS: DCT-172 [On former oath]

26 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, unhappily, we will have to
27 return to private session in order to conclude the evidence of
28 yesterday.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, indeed. Yesterday at the close of

1 the day we were dealing with the evidence of a protected witness
2 who testified previously in closed session, and we will have to
3 return to private session for that regard, Madam Court Officer.

4 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
5 the transcript, pages 45090 to 45092, was
6 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
7 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

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

3 MR GRIFFITHS:

09:12:17

4 Q. Mr Sesay, the trip you made in October 2000 to Monrovia,
5 did you take diamonds with you?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Why did you take diamonds with you?

09:12:44

8 A. Well, I had diamonds, before the trip. Ibrahim Bah called
9 me and he said he had called for Louis and Michel and that they
10 were with him in Monrovia at Hotel Boulevard. So if I had
11 diamonds, I should go with them and we should sell them to them.
12 So that was why I sent to sell diamonds to them.

13 Q. Where did the diamonds come from?

14 A. From the mining that we did.

09:13:02

15 Q. And where did you meet up with Louis and Michel in
16 Monrovia?

17 A. Well, they were at the Hotel Boulevard, together with
18 Ibrahim Bah.

09:13:23

19 Q. And the Hotel Boulevard is located in which city and
20 country?

21 A. Monrovia, Liberia.

22 Q. And how much did you obtain for the sale of those diamonds?

23 A. The diamonds were valued at \$95,000.

09:13:53

24 Q. Did you receive that \$95,000 immediately from Louis and
25 Michel?

26 A. No, they did not give me the money immediately. They said
27 when they would go, they would send the money to Ibrahim Bah. So
28 they sent the money to Ibrahim Bah, and I told Ibrahim Bah that
29 whenever he got the money he should give it to Gibriil Massaquoi.

1 So Ibrahim Bah gave \$35,000 to Gibri I Massaquoi. And that was
2 what Gibri I sent to me.

3 Q. And what about the remaining \$60,000?

09:14:32

4 A. Ibrahim Bah was dodging. He did not give the money, up to
5 this day.

6 Q. Now, on that occasion that you visited Monrovia, Mr Sesay,
7 did you see Charles Taylor?

8 A. Yes, I saw him.

9 Q. Where did you see him?

09:14:56

10 A. I saw him at Flower House the day after we arrived. He
11 invited me to the Flower House and I went there. He sent for me,
12 and he told me about the delegation that was to prepare to travel
13 the following day to Abuja, that he had got information from
14 President Obasanjo. So I saw him on that day and I returned.

09:15:25

15 And I told him goodbye again at Flower House, and he gave me a
16 satellite phone.

17 Q. That was in October 2000, yes?

18 A. Yes.

09:15:40

19 Q. And for how long did you see him at Flower House, as you
20 describe it, on that occasion?

21 A. Well, the first time was about 30 minutes, and the second
22 one was about 20 to 25 minutes, when he gave me the satellite
23 phone.

09:15:59

24 Q. Did you, on either of those two occasions that you saw
25 Charles Taylor, give him any diamonds?

26 A. No, I did not give him the diamonds. The diamonds that I
27 went with were the ones I sold to Michel and his colleague - and
28 Louis.

29 Q. On that occasion, when you transacted that sale with Michel

1 and Louis, did Benjamin Yeaten or any member of the Liberian
2 state have any involvement?

3 A. No. They did not take part. Benjamin Yeaten himself did
4 not take part.

09:16:36 5 Q. Now, you told us about a second occasion in 2001 when you
6 went to Liberia carrying diamonds; do you recall that?

7 A. Yes, I do recall.

8 Q. And you told us that it was in February or March of 2001;
9 is that correct?

09:16:56 10 A. Yes, that is how it happened.

11 Q. On that occasion, Mr Sesay, who arranged for you to go to
12 Monrovia?

13 A. It was Ibrahim Bah. He was the one who sent his pick-up
14 with Eddie Kanneh to collect me in Kailahun through Bomi Hills,
09:17:21 15 Lofa Bridge, and came to Vahun and Bomaru, and they met me in
16 Pendembu.

17 Q. And did you return to the Hotel Boulevard on this occasion?

18 A. Yes, I went there.

19 Q. And who did you meet at the hotel?

09:17:39 20 A. I met Ibrahim Bah and a Lebanese man called Sammy, Gibri
21 was there, myself and Eddie Kanneh.

22 Q. On this occasion, what was the value of the diamonds that
23 were sold?

24 A. It was \$137,000.

09:18:03 25 Q. Now, help us: You told us yesterday that that parcel of
26 diamonds included a large diamond; is that right?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. But that the last --

29 A. I said it --

1 Q. -- diamond had a fault in it and Sammy was only prepared to
2 pay \$1,000 a carat; is that right?

3 A. Yes, because the diamond had a black spot in it and it was
4 split inside of it.

09:18:35 5 Q. And that particular diamond, how many carats was it?

6 A. It was 52 carats.

7 Q. And so how much did you get for that diamond?

8 A. \$52,000.

9 Q. And the dollars we're talking about, both in October and
09:18:58 10 in February/March, are they US dollars?

11 A. Yes, yes.

12 Q. And Mr Sesay, the remaining diamonds that you took
13 in February/March which you sold to Sammy, how much did you get
14 for them?

09:19:14 15 A. The total amount was \$137,000.

16 Q. So help us: Putting the large diamond to one side, how
17 much did you get for the remaining diamonds?

18 A. \$85,000.

19 JUDGE DOHERTY: That arithmetic sounds correct to me,
09:19:47 20 Mr Griffiths.

21 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well.

22 Q. Now, apart from those two occasions, on how many other
23 occasions did you take diamonds to Monrovia, Mr Sesay?

24 A. Those are the two times, except the other time
09:20:04 25 in April '98, when I lost those diamonds.

26 Q. And in April '98, when you lost those diamonds, who was
27 destined to receive those diamonds?

28 A. It was General Diendere that I was to take the diamonds to.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: General who? Mr Interpreter?

1 THE INTERPRETER: Di endere.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Di endere.

3 THE INTERPRETER: Well, your Honours, that's the way he
4 pronounced it.

09:20:50 5 MR GRIFFITHS:

6 Q. Where is this individual based, Mr Sesay?

7 A. Burkina Faso.

8 Q. And is it General Di endere?

9 A. Yes, that's the man.

09:21:18 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: This name is on the record previously.

11 MR GRIFFITHS: On a number of occasions. Very well.

12 Let's go back to the transcript of 29 January 2008, please.

13 And I think we ought to go back into private session now.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Manager, organise a private
09:21:52 15 session, please.

16 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
17 the transcript, pages 45098 to 45106, was
18 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
19 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

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

3 MR GRIFFITHS:

4 Q. Does the name Martin George mean anything to you, Mr Sesay?

09:42:21 5 A. Yes, he too went to Liberia.

6 Q. And when they went to Liberia, Mr Sesay, what did they do?

7 A. Well, those were fighters. And even Sam Kollah told me -

8 when I went to Kailahun to disarm Kailahun he told me that he had

9 got information at the border that CO Lion died during an attack

09:42:53 10 in Kolahun against the LURD rebels. So I understood later that

11 they were fighting alongside the Liberian army against the LURD

12 rebels, because even when - because even when I had been arrested

13 and I was in the detention, one of Kailondo's girlfriends visited

14 me who told me that he went to Liberia and he met Kailondo there

09:43:23 15 and that Kailondo was with the Liberian forces. And he said that

16 was where he was until the end of the war in Liberia, and I

17 suppose he is still in Liberia.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause. The record shows that CO

19 Lion died during an attack in Kailahun against the LURD rebels.

09:43:45 20 The witness actually said Kolahun, it's K-0.

21 MR GRIFFITHS: I'm grateful to your Honour:

22 Q. Now, just dealing with this movement of former RUF

23 combatants into Liberia, help me: Where was ULIMO formed?

24 A. ULIMO - it was in 1991 that they formed ULIMO in

09:44:26 25 Sierra Leone.

26 Q. And the people who made up ULIMO formed in Sierra Leone,

27 where did they come from?

28 A. From Liberia.

29 Q. And who assisted them in forming into ULIMO in

1 Sierra Leone, if anyone?

2 A. Well, at first it was the Government of Sierra Leone at
3 that time in 1991. And after the government was overthrown in
4 '92 the NPRC too continued to encourage and incorporate the
09:45:04 5 ULIMOs who fought alongside with them and they stayed in
6 Sierra Leone until the May coup in '97 because we met them in
7 Freetown, like General Bropleh, who was the ULIMO commander,
8 because at this time the name had been changed to Special Task
9 Force and we were staying very close to each other at Hill
09:45:29 10 Station in '97.

11 Q. And the Special Task Force, the people who made up that
12 force, where did they come from?

13 A. They were from Liberia.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm sorry, I don't understand. When he
09:45:46 15 says the name had been changed to Special Task Force, from what?
16 It was changed from what to Special Task Force?

17 THE WITNESS: When the SLPP took power - when President
18 Kabbah became President of Sierra Leone in '96, that was the time
19 the name was changed to Special Task Force.

09:46:11 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Changed from what?

21 THE WITNESS: From ULIMO, ma'am.

22 MR GRIFFITHS:

23 Q. The people who made up the Special Task Force, Mr Sesay,
24 had they, prior to joining the Special Task Force, belonged to
09:46:30 25 any armed combatant group?

26 A. Yes. This was the ULIMO Roosevelt Johnson that were based
27 there. Because you had the ULIMO Roosevelt Johnson and the
28 ULIMO-K which was the ULIMO-Kromah. So those who were in
29 Sierra Leone were the ULIMO - ULIMO - what's the name of the man

1 in fact? I have forgotten. Because you had the ULIMO-J, these
2 were the ULIMO-J, and you had the ULIMO-K too but those were the
3 ones who were in Lofa in Liberia. Those were the ones who
4 changed to Special Task Force, the ULIMO-J.

09:47:18 5 Q. And the Kamajors against whom you fought, Mr Sesay, were
6 they all Sierra Leoneans?

7 A. Well, for the Kamajors in '96 up to the overthrow in '97
8 they were Sierra Leoneans. But after the overthrowing of the
9 SLPP, starting from May - so from mid-96, mid-97 to the time of
09:47:55 10 the intervention in February '98, they had incorporated some
11 ULIMO in Liberia, and both the ULIMO-K and ULIMO-J had joined the
12 Kamajors and they came through the Mano River Bridge and they
13 fought alongside the Kamajors when they captured Kenema, Bo, and
14 they were in fact among the Kamajors who blocked us at Koidu
09:48:26 15 Gieya.

16 MR GRIFFITHS: I think we've had that name before.

17 Q. Now, so those former members of the RUF who crossed into
18 Liberia during disarmament, Mr Sesay, were they sent there as an
19 organised group by the RUF?

09:48:49 20 A. No, I did not send anybody there as an organised group.
21 When I said we should disarm, especially when I said we should
22 disarm in Kono - but there were some hiccups actually because I
23 would give instructions and they would not obey and it was when
24 General Opande came when I told all of them that this date that I
09:49:19 25 am setting down now, if anybody refused to disarm on that day I
26 would declare you as a criminal.

27 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
28 to repeat where from where I stopped, and slowly, please.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause, Mr Sesay. You're on your

1 own. The interpreter lost you ages ago, because you're going too
2 fast. Start where you said, "I told them that if anybody refused
3 to disarm, I will declare you as a criminal." That's where you
4 stopped. Now continue from there, please, slowly.

09:49:54 5 THE WITNESS: Yes. So when I gave that order that day in
6 the presence of Kailondo I then packed up my things from Kono and
7 I drove to Makeni. And the following day when I came back from
8 Makeni to Kono I met that - I saw that up to 1,000 people had
9 disarmed. And when I came I asked for Kailondo and they told me
09:50:22 10 they had gone to Kailahun together with their bodyguards.

11 MR GRIFFITHS:

12 Q. So can you give us an idea, Mr Sesay, of the numbers of
13 former RUF fighters who went over into Liberia during the LURD
14 incursion? Just a rough idea.

09:50:45 15 A. Well, I am unable to tell the number because these ones
16 that I'm referring to, they were vanguard commanders and they had
17 their bodyguards with them. So I did not make a head count of
18 them. I did not know the exact number. I did not tell anyone to
19 cross over into Liberia. I told them to disarm. So those ones
09:51:08 20 went against my instruction, so I did not follow up to get a
21 correct figure.

22 MR GRIFFITHS: Thank you. Now I think it might be wise for
23 us to go back into private session.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Manager, please.

25 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
26 the transcript, pages 45111 to 45115, was
27 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
28 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

2 MR GRIFFITHS: Can I just check something a moment, please?

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

4 MR GRIFFITHS: Could I have a moment, please, Madam

10:04:11 5 President?

6 Q. I'm going to ask you about - I'm going to ask you about
7 some testimony given to this Court by a witness bearing the TF1
8 number 597.

9 Now, can we go, please, to the transcript of 21 May 2008,
10:04:59 10 at page 10441.

11 Now, whilst we're finding that reference, Mr Sesay, as far
12 as you're aware, was Foday Sankoh, during the junta period, in
13 direct communication with Foday Sankoh - was Foday Sankoh in
14 direct communication with Johnny Paul Koroma?

10:05:40 15 A. Yes. Between the first three to four days, yes, after
16 the May 25 coup, between the first three to four days, he
17 communicated with Mr. Sankoh because he communicated with him,
18 and Johnny Paul Koroma and others played the tape on the SLBS
19 radio.

10:06:08 20 Q. And how did he communicate with Johnny Paul Koroma?

21 A. When I came to Freetown, Johnny Paul said they called
22 Mr Sankoh at the hotel where he was in Abuja. So they spoke to
23 him; that was the time it was recorded.

24 Q. Page 10441, please:

10:06:35 25 "Q. Sir, you indicated that Johnny Paul Koroma called
26 Foday Sankoh. How do you know that?

27 A. We were in the office. All of us were in the office,
28 because at that time we were the security to him. We did
29 not trust anybody to be closer to him because when we

1 released him he was the most senior officer among us. We
2 were in the office when he called. After calling, they
3 were talking on the phone, because it was a land line.
4 From there, he said he got Pa Sankoh and Pa Sankoh had
10:07:06 5 promised the RUF would come and join us and he would send
6 somebody to come and meet us.

7 Q. Where was the office with the land line where you heard
8 the call?

9 A. At that time, it was in the office of the late Hassan
10:07:22 10 Conteh, who was the chief of the defence staff at that
11 time."

12 And then he goes on to describe where that office was.

13 And then he goes on, line 29: "After the telephone
14 conversation, that is Johnny Paul Koroma calling Sankoh, he told
10:07:44 15 us that he had spoken to Foday Sankoh and said Foday Sankoh had
16 said he would send somebody who will come to meet us, then the
17 RUF would eventually come and join us. So within 72 hours -
18 within 48 hours, the person whom he said came and met us, Gibri I
19 Massaquoi, he brought with him telephone numbers, and the RUF
10:08:09 20 came and joined us."

21 And then when we go to line 20:

22 "Q. You mentioned that he came with phone numbers. Did
23 you ever see the phone numbers or the names associated with
24 those phone numbers?

10:08:30 25 A. No, we did not ever see the numbers, but he was
26 explaining, when he had given the numbers to Johnny Paul,
27 he said that was the number of Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor,
28 the number of Mainassara from Niger, and the number of
29 Blaise Compaore from Burkina Faso and the number of Mohamed

1 Gadaffi for Libya."

2 Do you recall Gibril Massaquoi bringing with him telephone
3 numbers, during the junta period when he came to Freetown,
4 Mr Sesay?

10:09:06 5 A. No, he did not bring numbers, he brought letters
6 in June or July of '97.

7 Q. Are you sure about that, Mr Sesay?

8 A. Yes, I'm quite sure.

9 Q. Was it not Gibril Massaquoi who came at Foday Sankoh's - on
10:09:50 10 Foday Sankoh's instruction with a number for Charles Taylor and
11 thereafter Johnny Paul Koroma was in direct contact with Charles
12 Taylor?

13 A. No. As far as I knew, Gibril did not bring any numbers to
14 Johnny Paul that were given to him by Mr Sankoh. I knew that
10:10:17 15 Gibril brought letters to Freetown and the others, he took them
16 to Burkina Faso before he came to Freetown from Nigeria.

17 Q. Okay. Can we go to page 10444.2, please:

18 "Q. Were you present when Johnny Paul Koroma made any
19 attempts to contact, communicate with persons outside of
10:10:45 20 Sierra Leone?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Can you tell us slowly about those attempts to
23 communicate.

24 A. We were in the office, that is Cockerill, the defence
10:10:55 25 headquarters, that was chief of defence staff's office,
26 which he was using, and he ordered his control officer,
27 Banjah Marrah, and gave him a number to dial."

28 Can we continue, please. Line 17:

29 "Q. This conversation that you had begun to tell us about,

1 or this conversation Johnny Paul Koroma ordered Banjah
2 Marrah to dial a number, can you give us an approximate
3 date or tell us how long this was after the 25th
4 of May 1997?

10:11:36 5 A. It was within one to two weeks after the coup when RUF
6 had joined us, when Gibril Massaquoi had brought those
7 numbers.

8 Line 27:

9 "A. It was not even up to 48 hours. It was not even up to
10:12:00 10 48 hours when Gibril Massaquoi joined us from Nigeria.

11 Q. When Banjah Marrah had made the call, he gave the phone
12 to Johnny Paul Koroma in the office and Johnny Paul was
13 explaining, asking for recognition from Mr Charles Ghankay
14 Taylor in Liberia, he was talking to him but we did not

10:12:22 15 hear where the other side was saying. We only heard him
16 saying, 'Yes sir, yes sir, we need a recognition'. He said
17 a lot of things that I cannot recall now. Afterwards the
18 call went off and he said that he had spoken to

19 Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor and he advised us to work

10:12:42 20 together with other brothers who had come to join us. He
21 said in case there were any hiccups we should just give him
22 a call, so that was when he was explaining to us after the
23 telephone conversation with him."

24 Now, taking matters in stages. First of all, this: How

10:13:01 25 long after May the 25th was it before Gibril Massaquoi arrived in
26 Freetown?

27 A. Gibril Massaquoi came around late June or early July in
28 '97.

29 Q. Did Gibril Massaquoi arrive within two weeks of the coup?

1 A. No, no.

2 Q. Did Johnny Paul Koroma ever indicate to you or the council
3 that he was in telephone contact with Charles Taylor?

4 A. No, Johnny Paul never said that at a council meeting.

10:13:52 5 Q. Very well. Can we go to page 10448, please, line 16:

6 "Q. Now, sir, do you recall an incident involving the
7 Iranian embassy? What happened, to your knowledge?"

8 Line 19:

9 "A. On the 1st of January 1998 I was at home with my wife,
10:14:36 10 having my radio handset with me, and I heard Gborie calling
11 Zagalo for reinforcements to come to Murray Town. So I
12 intercepted and I said 'What is the problem around the
13 Murray Town area?' And Zagalo told me to go and reinforce
14 Gborie."

10:15:01 15 And then we go on, over the page:

16 "A. I heard chairman Johnny Paul Koroma talking over the
17 sets saying that all of those who had gone to the Iranian
18 embassy should be arrested."

19 And then he called somebody else who tells him that:

10:15:20 20 "Your colleagues have come and looted here together with
21 some RUF commanders, so the Pa had ordered their arrest and
22 none of them should enter here any more."

23 Go on. Line 12:

24 "A. I led the team. I arrested Papa. We could not get
10:15:41 25 Foday Kallay so we sent a team to arrest Issa Sesay and
26 he resisted, he resisted arrest. There was about to bring
27 infighted when his men deployed from Hill Cot Junction to
28 Uphill Station where his residence was. He refused to be
29 arrested. At that time all of us went to the office,

1 Johnny Paul Koroma's house at Spur Road, and he called
2 Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor. And he told control to call
3 Banjah Marrah. When he called they were talking 'yes sir,
4 yes sir, yes sir'. He was responding after he had
10:16:19 5 explained. When the phone went off, he said he had called
6 Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor. He said they were to set up an
7 inquiry who had gone, who did the looting, and who so ever
8 was involved, action should be taken against that person,
9 or people."

10:16:38 10 And then he goes on to explain that the conversation was
11 over the landline.

12 Before we go on, during the course of that Iranian embassy
13 incident, Mr Sesay, did you attempt to resist arrest?

14 A. Yes, SAJ Musa was the one who stopped me and said I was
10:17:07 15 under arrest. And I said, "What I have I done?" He said because
16 I had gone and looted the Iranian embassy, I was with Gborie and
17 others. And I said, "No, I did not go there, so you cannot just
18 give an order for me to be arrested." So later in the day Johnny
19 Paul invited me and I went to him at his lodge, and he asked me
10:17:29 20 what had transpired and I explained. After my explanation, he
21 said, "If that was - if that is the case, then Zagalo should be
22 called", and Zagalo was called. And Johnny Paul said I should go
23 to my house and later he will call me. And I returned home, and
24 I informed Mosquito in Kenema.

10:17:50 25 And the following afternoon - then the following evening
26 Johnny Paul invited me and I went to his house. And I went
27 there, I was seated there in the waiting room outside up to
28 7 o'clock to 8 o'clock and he said I should be invited inside.
29 One of the guards called me and I entered. And he said, "Issa, I

1 have been investigating this matter." And he said, "Now, I have
2 got your own side of the story and I've got Bomb Blast's own side
3 of the story and Zagalo's own side of the story." And he said,
4 "You are the one that called Gborie. So now you go and call
10:18:33 5 Gborie." Gborie was at Brigadier Mani's house. So I did. And
6 Gborie came, and I explained in Gborie's presence, and he too
7 explained. And Johnny Paul Koroma said, "If that is the case,
8 then it was not Issa who went to the embassy, it was Gborie who
9 gave him the chairs from the embassy." So --

10:18:56 10 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness repeat this
11 area.

12 MR GRIFFITHS: Pause. Pause.

13 Q. He said it was - he said what, it was Gborie who gave him
14 the chairs from the embassy. Go on from there?

10:19:10 15 A. Yes. After Gborie had explained that he was the one who
16 gave me the chairs from the embassy, then Johnny Paul Koroma said
17 if that is the case, I should take Gborie to Pademba Road that
18 night. Johnny Paul's wife was present, Zagalo was present,
19 myself and other people were present.

10:19:29 20 Q. Thank you, Mr Sesay. Now, Mr Sesay, as far as you're
21 aware, did Johnny Paul Koroma contact Charles Taylor in respect
22 of this incident?

23 A. Not at all. He did not contact Mr Taylor about the Iranian
24 looting. He did not say it - up to the time he gave me orders to
10:19:56 25 go and escort Gborie to Pademba Road, he did not admit that.

26 Q. Because the witness went on to say this, page 10450:

27 "Q. Can you repeat what Johnny Paul Koroma tell you that
28 he had discussed with Charles Taylor?

29 A. Yes. He said he had spoken with Charles Taylor and

1 Charles Taylor had said they should set up an inquiry team
2 to investigate the incident at the Iranian embassy, that
3 who so ever was involved, action should be taken against
4 that person. That was what he explained to us after the
10:20:36 5 telephone conversation."

6 And then he went on to say that a board of inquiry was set
7 up, comprised of Lieutenant SAJ Musa, who headed it, the Supreme
8 Council members, and he also said that SYB Rogers and other high
9 command of the RUF were involved.

10:21:01 10 Was such a board set up, Mr Sesay?

11 A. No. Mr SYB Rogers did not take part in any investigation.

12 Q. Were you subject to any board of inquiry?

13 A. Not at all. After I had explained on the two occasions
14 when Johnny Paul invited me, the first day I explained that at
10:21:30 15 his house, and the following day he called me again and I went
16 and I explained. And he told me to bring Gborie, and I brought
17 Gborie, and I explained. So it was only decided - they decided
18 that I should stop at any council meeting.

19 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness repeat that
10:21:47 20 part of his answer?

21 MR GRIFFITHS:

22 Q. Can you just go through that part of your answer again,
23 please, the last part.

24 A. I said from the first day that Johnny Paul invited me to
10:22:00 25 his house, his lodge. He asked me and I explained what happened.
26 And he invited me again the second day in the evening. When he
27 called me I explained and he said Gborie was at Brigadier Mani's
28 house, I should go and call him, and I did; I brought him. And
29 Gborie explained what had transpired and, from that day, I was

1 not asked any other thing again, I was not subjected to any board
2 of inquiry or anything else. But the very day that the looting
3 happened, our names were announced that we were not members of
4 the council any more. So from that time I did not attend council
10:22:40 5 meetings, before I explained to Johnny Paul Koroma and others.
6 It was announced on the BBC that we were no longer council
7 members, that we had been suspended. But I was not subjected to
8 any board of inquiry. And I used to go to Johnny Paul, he used
9 to send me to do some things for him.

10:23:00 10 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Griffiths, your original question in
11 this line was a general one: "Was there a board of inquiry?" But
12 the witness has answered a secondary question, whether he was
13 subject to a board of inquiry. Was there a general one set up?

14 MR GRIFFITHS:

10:23:20 15 Q. Was a board of inquiry set up, Mr Sesay?

16 A. Yes. The MPs investigated Papa - Papa Bangura, who was
17 Bomb Blast, and Foday Kallay, and they were under mess arrest.
18 The MPs investigated them.

19 Q. Can we go to page 10453, please, starting at line 14:

10:24:03 20 "A. When he had asked me a question regarding the Iranian
21 embassy, that was why I went there straight away. But
22 before that he had a telephone conversation that he was to
23 send delegates to him, to Charles Taylor in Liberia. He
24 said he was to send delegates to Charles Taylor in Liberia
10:24:23 25 headed by SYB Rogers and other high command of the RUF and
26 SLA commanders and officers then, one Colonel Charles
27 Conteh, who is dead now and AK Sesay. All of them were
28 part of the delegation to Liberia."

29 Line 29:

1 "Q. Can you tell us how you know about this phone call?

2 A. That was one where the thing that was supposed to be
3 discussed with Charles Taylor, the delegation to discuss,
4 that was discussed in the Supreme Council meeting and he
10:25:02 5 made a call even before the delegates left."

6 You were a member of the council, Mr Sesay. Do you recall
7 a discussion at a council meeting regarding the sending of a
8 delegation to see Charles Taylor?

9 A. No. I never heard such a discussion at a council meeting.

10:25:30 10 And throughout the AFRC Pa Rogers never went to Monrovia,
11 Liberia. I knew of Pa Rogers going with the delegation, with the
12 AFRC members in Abuja for peace talks - Dr Paolo Bangura,
13 Dr Gborie, Mike Lamin, they went to Abidjan together with Alex
14 Tamba Brima and Bazzy Kamara, they went to Abidjan. That was
10:26:00 15 what was discussed at the council.

16 Q. Let's go now, please, to page 10455, line 8:

17 "Q. Now, you discussed the initial call to Charles Taylor
18 after the seizure of power, followed by calls to other
19 leaders of other countries. Then you've discussed this
10:26:25 20 phone call that Johnny Paul Koroma spoke about prior to
21 sending a delegation to Liberia and you discussed the
22 Iranian embassy phone call. Are you aware whether there
23 were other communication between Johnny Paul Koroma and
24 Charles Taylor during the period that the AFRC was in
10:26:47 25 Freetown?

26 A. Yes, the calls were many, but the other one that I can
27 recall was pertaining to the arms shipment, that a
28 delegation was supposed to go again headed by Mike Lamin
29 and Sam Bockarie, recommended one General Ibrahim in a

1 meeting for arms and ammunition that he would be able to go
2 and facilitate it. General Ibrahim came, but he did not
3 come to the supreme meeting after he had been recommended."

4 Let us pause there before we continue with the rest of this
10:27:23 5 account. Was it Sam Bockarie who recommended General Ibrahim as
6 a source for arms and ammunition?

7 A. No, it was not Sam Bockarie.

8 Q. Line 29:

9 "After General Ibrahim had been recommended that he will
10:27:57 10 facilitate the arms and ammunition movement, in the evening we
11 came to the lodge and met General Ibrahim. He had come two days
12 after. We met him at the lodge to chairman. That was where I
13 saw him and that was where I knew him."

14 And then he continues, line 20:

10:28:26 15 "Q. After this delegation came, did a delegation ever come
16 to the Supreme Council, or General Ibrahim, did he ever
17 come to the Supreme Council meeting?

18 A. No."

19 Line 24:

10:28:38 20 "Q. When you say a delegation was being sent, do you know
21 again where were they sent exactly?

22 A. The delegation that went to Liberia, from Liberia they
23 went to other countries, Niger, Libya and Burkina Faso.

24 That was the delegation headed by SYB Rogers, not the one
10:29:02 25 headed by Mike Lamin."

26 Now, do you recall a delegation headed by SYB Rogers
27 visiting those various countries, Mr Sesay?

28 A. No, Mr Rogers did not go to any of them countries. He went
29 to Abidjan. He did not go to Liberia, he did not go to Burkina

1 Faso, He did not go to Niger, nor did he go to Libya, no.

2 Q. Over the page, please. Line 3:

10:29:43

3 "Q. I now want to ask you about the delegation where you
4 mentioned Mike Lamin. Do you know where that delegation -
5 if it was sent anywhere and where it went?

10:30:08

6 A. Well, the delegation that went, there was Fonti Kanu,
7 Mike Lamin, General Ibrahim, but after that we went to
8 Magburaka airstrip and the ammunition arrived with a
9 soldier who had a uniform on in green, with a black hat on
10 the crown on. The hat was a Burkina Faso crown. That was
11 the insignia. And Lieutenant Colonel Fonti Kanu came and
12 the ammunition were off-loaded" - let's skip to line 25 to
13 pick-up the account:

10:30:31

14 "Fonti Kanu was a lieutenant colonel in the Sierra Leonean
15 army. I said that they went to Liberia with that
16 delegation headed by Mike Lamin. They went to Freetown,
17 Kenema, Kailahun and crossed into Liberia by road."

18 Over the page, line 3:

10:30:58

19 "A. That particular delegation, which was headed by Mike
20 Lamin, that went to Liberia was to go and obtain some arms
21 and ammunition. That was why chairman Johnny Paul Koroma
22 assigned Fonti Kanu to go and tell them the kind of
23 ammunition we needed."

24 Line 10:

10:31:17

25 "A. Well, he just discussed in the meeting that they will
26 give a parcel but did not discuss what parcel it would be
27 in that meeting."

28 Line 15:

29 "A. Well, it has a meaning. At that time we hadn't money,

1 we only had diamonds. So I believe that was what they
2 meant by parcel."

3 Now, do you recall Mike Lamin travelling with a delegation
4 to Monrovia, carrying a parcel of diamonds for the purchase of
10:31:48 5 arms and ammunition, Mr Sesay?

6 A. No. During the AFRC Mike Lamin did not go to Monrovia.
7 Johnny Paul did not send Mike Lamin to Monrovia, not at all.

8 Q. What about with diamonds?

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: But, Mr Griffiths, you didn't ask - you
10:32:08 10 didn't limit your question to during the AFRC period, did you?

11 MR GRIFFITHS: No.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, the question was not limited to
13 during the AFRC period; it was generally.

14 MR GRIFFITHS:

10:32:26 15 Q. Do you recall any occasion when Mike Lamin was sent with
16 diamonds to Monrovia?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Do you recall any occasion during the junta period when
19 Johnny Paul sent Mike Lamin as head of a delegation to Monrovia
10:32:43 20 with diamonds for the purchase of arms and ammunition?

21 A. No, that did not happen.

22 Q. Do you recall a discussion at a council meeting prior to
23 such a delegation being put together about obtaining arms from
24 Liberia?

10:33:14 25 A. No, I never heard about that kind of discussion in a
26 council meeting.

27 Q. Now, he goes on, and this is page 10458, line 18 so that we
28 get the sequence:

29 "Q. Now you have indicated that this was - am I correct,

1 that this was discussed at a Supreme Council meeting. Is
2 that right?

3 A. Yes.

10:33:57

4 Q. How long after the meeting did the delegation go, if
5 you know, go to Liberia.

6 A. The delegation left between 48 and 78 hours they left
7 for Liberia.

8 Q. Do you know if any arms or ammunition ever arrived?

9 A. Yes.

10:34:10

10 Q. How long after the delegation left did the arms and
11 ammunition arrive, if you recall?

12 A. Between one or two weeks the arms and ammunition
13 arrived.

14 Q. How did the arms and ammunition come to Sierra Leone?

10:34:23

15 A. They came on a flight, silver coloured, and it landed
16 at night, around between 7 and 9 o'clock. It was dark
17 already. We used our vehicles and we parked them far away
18 from the flight so that they could provide light. The arms
19 and ammunition were dropped. At that time Lieutenant
20 Colonel Fonti Kanu and a soldier who had on the Burkinabe
21 uniform and crown came down the flight."

10:34:51

22 Then he goes on to say this was at Magburaka. Now, note
23 the sequence: There's a council meeting when there is a
24 discussion about the purchase of arms; within 48 to 72 hours Mike
25 Lamin leaves for Monrovia heading a delegation carrying a parcel;
26 and within a couple of weeks a flight arrives at Magburaka
27 carrying arms and ammunition. Now, Mr Sesay, first of all, help
28 us: When did the shipment arrive at Magburaka?

10:35:15

29 A. I think it was in late '97 - late '97 to early '98. I

1 cannot be specific, but I think it was in late '97.

2 Q. Now, in late '97, Mr Sesay, do you recall
3 Johnny Paul Koroma sending a delegation to Liberia at that time,
4 late '97?

10:36:12 5 A. No, I did not know of a delegation sent to Liberia by
6 Johnny Paul. I did not know about that, I did not hear it, and
7 in fact it did not happen.

8 Q. Now, who actually went to Magburaka airstrip to meet that
9 consignment?

10:36:38 10 A. SO Williams, the army chief of staff by then, myself
11 Issa Sesay. And from the State House the officers who
12 Johnny Paul sent on board the trucks, Lieutenant Colonel Savimbi,
13 his actual name is Dumbuya was but his nickname was Savimbi,
14 Major Akim Turay, late Lieutenant AK Jalloh. We were the ones
10:37:16 15 who went to Magburaka. They went by road. That is Savimbi, Akim
16 and AK Jalloh, they went by road. Myself and SO Williams, we
17 went by helicopter. We met them at the airfield and we met the
18 brigade commander Colonel Banya and we met the SOS Bushfall at
19 the airfield. We were the ones at the airfield. We went and
10:37:46 20 passed the night in Makeni and the following day the flight
21 arrived around 3 to 4 in the evening.

22 Q. Thank you.

23 A. The flight landed, and then we unloaded it. We unloaded
24 each of the arms and ammunition that were inside.

10:38:04 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: 3 to 4 in the evening? What time is
26 that?

27 THE WITNESS: 3 to 4 p.m., that is what I mean, ma'am.

28 MR GRIFFITHS: Madam President, can we go into private
29 session, literally for a moment, so that I can put one matter to

1 this witness?

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Manager, please.

3 THE WITNESS: My Lord, please, I want to attend to the
4 restroom.

10:38:36 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. Please escort the witness
6 out.

7 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
8 the transcript, pages 45132 to 45132, was
9 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
10 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

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

3 MR GRIFFITHS:

4 Q. Mr Sesay, tell me: During the time after the intervention
10:42:56 5 that you saw Johnny Paul Koroma, did you ever see him in
6 possession of a satellite phone?

7 A. Yes. At the time Johnny Paul was retreating, he had a sat
8 phone because I recall that when he got to Masiaka at that time,
9 he - he spoke with Eldred Collins on the BBC on the sat phone.

10:43:32 10 Q. I don't explain that. He spoke with who?

11 A. Eldred Collins had an interview with the BBC at Masiaka
12 after the withdrawal from Freetown on Johnny Paul's satellite
13 phone, when he said - when Robin White asked him and he said the
14 ECOMOG had pushed us out of Freetown, he said the AFRC/RUF were
10:44:01 15 in the hills around the peninsula of Freetown. At that time, it
16 was Johnny Paul's satellite phone that he used.

17 Q. For how long did Johnny Paul remain in possession of that
18 satellite phone?

19 A. Well, he went with it during the retreat, but when he got
10:44:25 20 to Kailahun, he said the phone did not have any more units,
21 because he - any more credits because he was using it
22 communicating on it in Kailahun. So it got to a point when it
23 never had credits.

24 Q. And what did he do with the phone thereafter?

10:44:44 25 A. Well, it was with him. He went with it to Kangama at the
26 time that Sam Bockarie took him to Kangama, but the phone never
27 had credits any more.

28 Q. Now, do you recall anything like this occurring?

29 Page 10486.

1 Let me start in this way: Magbonkineh, where is that?

2 A. That is after Makeni, just behind Binkolo, on the road, you
3 - just after Binkolo, you branch, you enter. It's about 10 miles
4 from Makeni. That is Johnny Paul's village.

10:45:51 5 Q. Thank you.

6 Line 23:

7 "A. When I arrived in that village in the early hours, he
8 told Banjah - that's Johnny Paul - to call. By then, the
9 satellite phone" --

10:46:05 10 MR KOUMJIAN: Excuse me. He didn't it doesn't say, "He
11 told Banjah, that's Johnny Paul." I don't know where counsel is
12 at. Does counsel believe that Banjah is Johnny Paul?

13 MR GRIFFITHS: I didn't say that Banjah --

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: He, Johnny Paul, told Banjah is what he
10:46:20 15 meant.

16 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you.

17 MR GRIFFITHS:

18 Q. "... told Banjah to call. By then, the satellite phone was
19 under my seat."

10:46:26 20 And just to put you in the picture, Mr Sesay, this is
21 supposed to be occurring during Johnny Paul's flight to his
22 village after the intervention.

23 "By then, the satellite phone was under my seat because
24 Banjah had given it to me to take care of it, because I was
10:46:46 25 putting it under my seat, because I normally do not alight, I
26 keep it under the seat. So I took the satellite phone and gave
27 it to Banjah, and then he called and he spoke to the BBC and told
28 them that he was up in the hills and that we will soon come in
29 again. Then afterwards, he called Mr Taylor and told him about

1 this helicopter shuttle, but then I did not know anything, they
2 had been conversing about that in town until he called me. I
3 called him and spoke about the helicopter. As they were talking
4 and after they had finished talking, Johnny Paul Koroma asked how
10:47:28 5 many of us were there, and he said because the helicopter would
6 soon arrive, because he had spoken to Mr Taylor, he has to find
7 out the number of us there, because we were going to wait for the
8 helicopter."

9 And then he goes on to describe the phone.

10:47:50 10 Now, do you recall Johnny Paul speaking to Charles Taylor
11 during the retreat from Freetown in 1998, to arrange for Taylor
12 to send a helicopter to pick him up?

13 MR KOUMJIAN: I don't believe that there is sufficient
14 foundation that this witness was in Magbonkineh at the time of
10:48:16 15 this call, to ask him the question, or is he just asking for
16 speculation?

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, what is your response?

18 MR GRIFFITHS: I think we have sufficient foundation, but I
19 will take up time to lay further foundation in order to satisfy
10:48:34 20 Mr Koumjian.

21 Q. Mr Sesay, did you accompany Johnny Paul Koroma on the
22 retreat from Freetown after the intervention?

23 A. No, I did not go with him to his village. From Masiaka, I
24 went to Bo, where I got wounded, and from there I came back to
10:49:09 25 Masiaka and went to Makeni, and it was then that I went to
26 Johnny Paul's village where I met him.

27 Q. Did you ever hear any discussion, on that part of the
28 journey when you were in his company, about him seeking to
29 arrange to be picked up by helicopter sent by Charles Taylor?

1 A. No. Johnny Paul did not tell me that when Mike Lamin, I
2 and Eldred Collins went there, what Johnny Paul told us was that
3 he had spoken to Sam Bockarie on the field radio, which was the
4 HF radio. He said he had spoken to Sam Bockarie and that he had
10:49:54 5 told Sam Bockarie that he was - he would go to Kailahun. That
6 was what Johnny Paul told us.

7 JUDGE DOHERTY: Can I clarify, Mr Griffiths? My
8 understanding of the passage you cited was that it was Banjah
9 that made the calls. Are you saying that Johnny Paul was with
10:50:14 10 Banjah at the time, or was it Johnny Paul that made the calls?

11 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, what we can do - let me find the
12 passage again. Yes.

13 JUDGE DOHERTY: I'm just looking, for example, at passage
14 recited at page 52 of the record in which the witness said, "I
10:50:54 15 was keeping it under my seat. I keep - I took the satellite
16 phone, I gave it to Banjah and then he called," et cetera.

17 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes. "When I arrived in the village in the
18 early - he told Banjah to call" - "he" being Johnny Paul Koroma,
19 and then when we go over the page, starting at line 5 - 4: "As
10:51:34 20 they were talking and after they'd finishing talking,
21 Johnny Paul Koroma asked how many of us were there, and he said,
22 because the helicopter would soon come, because he had spoken to
23 Mr Taylor," which suggests that it was Johnny Paul Koroma himself
24 who spoke to Mr Taylor.

10:51:52 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that does make it much clearer.

26 MR GRIFFITHS:

27 Q. Now, either before leaving Johnny Paul Koroma in Masiaka or
28 after you recovered from your wound, did you ever hear any
29 discussion about a helicopter coming to pick up Johnny Paul sent

1 by Charles Taylor?

2 A. No, no, no. That did not happen. Johnny Paul did not say
3 that, and that did not happen. Because from
4 Johnny Paul's village, we went to Kono and from Kono to
10:52:35 5 Gandorhun, from Gandorhun we would trek on foot and we crossed
6 the Moa River. From there, we walked to Luawa Baoma, and that
7 was where Sam Bockarie sent vehicles to collect us to go to
8 Buedu.

9 Q. Thank you. Did you ever - no, let me start again. The
10:53:16 10 decision to attack Kono, where did that idea originate?

11 A. That idea originated from Sam Bockarie at - during the
12 meeting that we held at the Waterworks.

13 Q. Now, yesterday we discussed whether it originated from
14 Charles Taylor.

10:53:48 15 MR KOUMJIAN: Excuse me. There might be a bit of confusion
16 because there are at least three attacks on Kono - four, if you
17 count the ECOMOG attack in 1998.

18 MR GRIFFITHS:

19 Q. The attack on Kono which you led in December 1998,
10:54:06 20 Mr Sesay, who originated the idea?

21 A. It was Sam Bockarie.

22 Q. Can we go to page 10494, please, line 9:

23 "Q. Johnny Paul said that he had talked to someone about
24 going to Kono, can you explain that again?

10:54:43 25 "A. Yes, he said that he had called Mr Taylor and they've
26 spoken again. He said Mr Taylor says he should go and
27 capture Kono. He said it would be better for them to do
28 the pickup there with the helicopter. He said we should
29 go back to Kabala, by then Superman had met him."

1 Now, help us, Mr Sesay. Yesterday when we were looking at
2 the evidence of a witness, it was Sam Bockarie who brought the
3 idea to capture Kono back from Monrovia, having met Mr Taylor.
4 Or was it, Mr Sesay, Johnny Paul Koroma who had spoken to
10:55:28 5 Mr Taylor to get the idea to capture Kono? Which of the two is
6 right?

7 MR KOUMJIAN: Objection. Mixing apples and oranges here,
8 because the passage read refers to the attack following the
9 intervention, which would have been approximately end
10:55:47 10 of February/early March, before Johnny Paul Koroma's taken to
11 Buedu. The passage yesterday referred to the December 1998
12 attack, led by Issa Sesay.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, what is your response?

14 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, let me clarify it with the witness.

10:56:10 15 Q. Was there, Mr Sesay, an attack on Kono following the
16 intervention?

17 A. Yes, because it was the AFRC who were in Kono, and during
18 the intervention when they attacked Freetown the Kamajors also
19 attacked the AFRC in Kono and the Kamajors ended up occupying
10:56:44 20 Kono. So after the AFRC had withdrawn from Kono, some went
21 through Masingbi to Makeni, some went to Kabala and then to
22 Makeni --

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Sesay, Mr Sesay, please, listen to the
24 question asked, okay. We are trying to zero in on a certain
10:57:01 25 period in time but you're taking us far, far, off the mark.

26 Mr Griffiths, let's try and - the objection raised by
27 counsel opposite was valid. We're trying to focus back on the
28 time that I think you want.

29 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well.

1 Q. Mr Sesay, shortly after the intervention, was there an
2 attack on Kono, by either the RUF or the AFRC?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Who led that attack?

10:57:32 5 A. It was Superman who led it.

6 Q. When was it?

7 A. That was in late February '98.

8 Q. Who led that attack - who ordered that attack by Superman?

9 A. It was Johnny Paul.

10:57:53 10 Q. And where was Johnny Paul when he gave that order?

11 A. He was in his village.

12 Q. How do you know about Johnny Paul ordering that attack?

13 A. Well, he invited us to a meeting at his village and when we
14 went there he said Superman should organise the troops. He,
10:58:22 15 together with Bomb Blast, they should move and attack the
16 Kamajors in Kono, because that was the road that he was expecting
17 to use to go to Kailahun. So I was at the village when he issued
18 the orders to Superman and Bomb Blast.

19 Q. Now, the idea to attack Kono in February 1998, where did
10:58:46 20 that idea come from?

21 A. It was from Johnny Paul.

22 Q. At that meeting you attended in his village, Mr Sesay, did
23 he say to you that the idea had come from Mr Taylor in Monrovia?

24 A. No, no.

10:59:05 25 Q. Did he say to you that he had spoken to Mr Taylor and - on
26 the satellite phone and Mr Taylor had given him such an order?

27 A. No, no.

28 Q. As far as you're aware, did he have such a discussion with
29 any other commander, such as Sam Bockarie?

1 A. No. Johnny Paul did not tell us that during the meeting
2 that we held with him about the attack on Kono. He did not tell
3 us that.

10:59:46

4 Q. Are you aware of any attempt by Johnny Paul Koroma to go to
5 meet with Charles Taylor?

6 A. No. The only time Johnny Paul went to Monrovia was
7 in August - August of '99. That was the first time Johnny Paul
8 went to Monrovia from Kailahun - or from RUF-controlled areas.

9 MR GRIFFITHS: I note the time, Madam President.

11:00:12

10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. We will take the midmorning
11 break now and reconvene at half past eleven.

12 [Break taken at 11.01 a.m.]

13 [Upon resuming at 11.34 a.m.]

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, please continue.

11:34:35

15 MR GRIFFITHS:

16 Q. Yes. Mr Sesay, I asked you just before the break about any
17 attempt by Johnny Paul Koroma to go to meet with Charles Taylor
18 and you said, "No, the only time Johnny Paul went to Monrovia was
19 in August, August of 1999."

11:35:07

20 Now can we go, please, to page 10520, testimony of 22 May
21 2008. 10520. Yes, line 12. Just so that we can get the point
22 in time that we're talking about:

23 "A. When we arrived in Buedu sometime in March then" - and
24 this is following the intervention, so this is in March '98 -

11:36:15

25 "that was around the last week of February to early March
26 we were in Buedu. At that time the satellite phone was not
27 functioning any more. Mosquito put us up at his place."

28 Now, let's go forward, please, and pick up this passage
29 from page 10523 - these events, I mean. Line 20:

1 "When we got to Buedu, in the morning Sam Bockarie came and
2 met Johnny Paul. We were all sitting on the verandah with
3 Johnny Paul, the chairman. He said Charles Ghankay Taylor
4 had said that he will send vehicles to come and pick us up.
11:37:04 5 Johnny Paul Koroma asked Sam Bockarie and said 'when' and
6 he said that he did not state any time but when they would
7 be ready he will call for him to meet him. So we were
8 there for one or two weeks in the month of March and one
9 morning we saw the vehicles, about four to five Land
11:37:28 10 Rovers."

11 Go over the page, line 6:

12 "The vehicles were supposed to pick us up from Buedu and
13 take us up to Monrovia, Liberia. When the vehicles arrived
14 Sam Bockarie came and told chairman Johnny Paul Koroma while we
11:37:59 15 were all sitting on the verandah that same morning, that the
16 vehicles had arrived, because we saw the vehicles but we did not
17 see many people. We only saw a few SS and one Colonel Jungle.
18 We saw some other men wearing civilian clothes but we could not
19 identify them."

11:38:13 20 Mr Sesay, do you know anything about an incident like this?

21 A. No, such an incident did not take place in Buedu when we
22 arrived with Johnny Paul. No vehicles came there to collect him.
23 No vehicles went there for Mr Taylor.

24 Q. And the other detail about that, remember, this is late
11:38:33 25 February/March, the witness says. Was Jungle in Buedu at or
26 about that time?

27 A. Jungle was not in Buedu. He did not go to Buedu at all.

28 Q. In 1998, do you recall seeing Jungle at all?

29 A. Yes, I saw Jungle when I was in transit to Burkina Faso, I

1 saw him in Monrovia when he came from Abidjan, two of us were
2 together when I lost the diamonds.

3 Q. Remind us, Mr Sesay, when did you receive a satellite phone
4 from Charles Taylor?

11:39:32 5 A. It was October 2000.

6 Q. As far as you recall, did Johnny Paul Koroma ever use that
7 satellite phone which you received from Charles Taylor?

8 A. No. During this time Johnny Paul was in Freetown in
9 October 2000, in fact, the two of us had no business at this
10 time.

11:40:04

11 Q. While - before Johnny Paul went to Monrovia in August 1999,
12 did Johnny Paul ever use - did you at that time have a satellite
13 phone?

14 A. No, I did not have a phone on my own.

11:40:29

15 Q. Did you have access to a satellite phone in August of 1999?

16 A. Yes, I had access to Sam Bockarie's satellite phone in
17 Buedu.

18 Q. And that satellite phone that you had in Buedu, do you
19 recall Johnny Paul Koroma ever using it?

11:40:58

20 A. No. When I was in Buedu I did not see Johnny Paul Koroma
21 using that phone.

22 Q. At that time of the difficulties with the West side Boys,
23 did you receive a call from Charles Taylor on a satellite phone?

24 A. No, no.

11:41:30

25 Q. Is it not the case that on one occasion Charles Taylor
26 called you on a satellite phone, telling you to take that
27 satellite phone and radio set to Johnny Paul Koroma in Kangama so
28 that Johnny Paul Koroma could speak to Charles Taylor. Do you
29 recall that?

- 1 A. No. It did not happen that way. That was not what
2 happened. What happened was that Mr Sankoh sent a radio message
3 to me in Buedu that I was to take the HF radio to Kangama to
4 Johnny Paul to talk to Bazzy in the West Side. It was not a
11:42:15 5 satellite phone, it was - it was a HF radio.
- 6 Q. And who did you receive that call from?
- 7 A. I received the message from Mr Sankoh, a radio message.
- 8 Q. And where was Mr Sankoh at the time that you received the
9 radio message?
- 11:42:38 10 A. Mr Sankoh, I think at that time, he had left Lome because
11 he had left Lome, he came to Abidjan and he travelled to Libya,
12 but it was from Mr Sankoh that I received the radio message,
13 because at this time he used to move with his radio and radio
14 operator.
- 11:43:02 15 Q. Can we go to page 10568, please. Maybe we should start at
16 the bottom of page 10567 so that we get the context for this. We
17 have this long answer:
- 18 "A. He said talk to your brother Tito" - the individual is
19 on the radio at this time. "So Tito was talking to me, he was
11:43:43 20 speaking in Limba to me. He was asking me exactly, in
21 Limba, if Johnny Paul was there. He had died - he's
22 deceased now - he said if Johnny Paul - Johnny Paul was
23 there but I refused to talk to him in Limba because I was
24 not in a comfortable atmosphere but for them - not to say
11:44:02 25 that I was saying something different because none of them
26 spoke - none of them there spoke Limba, so I continued
27 to talk Krio to him so that we can understand each other.
28 I said Johnny Paul was there and even I myself was a deputy
29 brigade commander there. I said the atmosphere was

1 comfortable, but he continued talking to Limba - to me. He
2 said, 'But you know that the accord is not in your favour',
3 he said. None of us is a signature trial to" --
4 MR KOUMJIAN: "Not in our favour".
11:44:36 5 MR GRIFFITHS:
6 Q. "Not in our favour. None of us is a signatory to the
7 accord, he said. Why didn't Johnny Paul go and I told him
8 to calm down, I told him to calm down, I said everything
9 would be fine but he refused. He still wanted to continue
11:44:54 10 speaking Limba so I went off the mic, the set, so that the
11 brothers would not have anything against me. So straight
12 away, as we were standing there, the signaller, one of
13 Issa's radio men" - and this is the part to which I want to
14 direct your attention - "because by then Mosquito was not on the
11:45:20 15 ground" - that is Buedu - "he said, 'Master, they are
16 calling you on the phone', the satellite phone. So he went
17 and took the satellite phone. He talked to the person who
18 was calling him on the satellite phone. They spoke. When
19 they spoke I heard 'yes, sir', 'yes, sir', 'yes, sir'.
11:45:42 20 From there Issa told us, he said Charles Ghankay Taylor
21 says they should take the satellite phone and the radio set
22 so that we can go to Johnny Paul in Kangama. As we got to
23 Kangama the phone rang again. When the phone rang Issa
24 answered 'yes, sir', 'yes, sir' and he handed over the
11:46:05 25 receiver to Johnny Paul. So Johnny Paul spoke, and when he
26 had spoken he continued saying 'yes, sir', 'yes, sir', 'no
27 problem', 'no problem'. Then Johnny Paul gave the receiver
28 to Issa. Then he said they should call the men, the West
29 Side men."

1 Do you recall that sequence of events?

2 A. No. That did not happen.

3 Q. But was there a time when - was there a time when Johnny
4 Paul Koroma was contacted in relation to the West Side Boys
11:46:46 5 incident in Okra Hills?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Can you recall now when that was?

8 A. That was in late August of 1999.

9 Q. And just remind us: Who contacted Johnny Paul Koroma on
11:47:12 10 that occasion?

11 A. Nobody contacted Johnny Paul Koroma. It was I who
12 Mr Sankoh sent to go with the radio to Johnny Paul Koroma and to
13 tell Johnny Paul Koroma that he, Mr Sankoh, said he was to talk
14 to his men in the West Side Jungle to release the men - people he
11:47:39 15 had captured, and that Johnny Paul should prepare so that he and
16 Mr Sankoh should meet in Monrovia. And he said after the talks,
17 the following day I was to go and accompany Johnny Paul to Foya
18 where a helicopter would go to pick him up. So when I go there I
19 would just tell the commander there so that the helicopter will
11:48:06 20 come to pick Johnny Paul up. That was what transpired. And I
21 took the radio to Kangama, together with the operator, where I
22 met Sammy and Johnny Paul Koroma. So from there the radio
23 operator switched on the set and contacted Bazzy's station in
24 West Side and Bazzy spoke to Johnny Paul. So after they had
11:48:33 25 spoken - during their discussion Johnny Paul told Bazzy that he
26 was going to Monrovia, and when he would get to Monrovia he would
27 call Bazzy and other commanders to meet him there. That was the
28 conversation. Johnny Paul told Bazzy that he should release the
29 people that he had arrested - that he had captured.

1 Q. Did Johnny Paul say this before he left for Monrovia?

2 A. Yes. He had this dialogue with Bazy. It was the
3 following day that I went to the vehicle to pick him up, that is
4 himself, Sammy and Jumu Jalloh - Mr Jumu Jalloh. I took them to
11:49:20 5 Foya and I told the commander and the commander called Monrovia.

6 THE INTERPRETER: And, your Honours, can the witness repeat
7 this area, slowly please.

8 MR GRIFFITHS:

9 Q. Hold on. Johnny Paul told Bazy that he should release the
11:49:40 10 - no?

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: The witness said, "I took them to Foya
12 and I told the commander and the commander called Monrovia."
13 That is where you stopped, Mr Sesay. Now, continue from there.

14 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. I said I informed the
11:49:59 15 commander in Foya and the commander called Monrovia and the
16 helicopter came to Foya and took Johnny Paul Koroma, Sammy and
17 Jumu Jalloh to Monrovia and I returned to Buedu.

18 MR GRIFFITHS:

19 Q. And do you know how Johnny Paul travelled to Monrovia on
11:50:18 20 that occasion, how did he get there?

21 A. That's what I'm explaining. I said I escorted them to Foya
22 in a vehicle, in a jeep, Mosquito's jeep. I escorted them to
23 Foya. And from there the helicopter came and picked them up from
24 Foya to Monrovia.

11:50:38 25 Q. And who went with Johnny Paul Koroma on that occasion?

26 A. Honourable Sammy and Mr Jumu Jalloh.

27 Q. Very well. Now, do you recall a time, Mr Sesay, and I am
28 asking you questions now in relation to the testimony of a
29 different witness, TF1-577. Now, Mr Sesay, do you recall a time

1 before the AFRC overthrow of the Government of Sierra Leone when
2 the RUF captured a 40 barrel?

3 A. Please repeat the question.

11:51:48

4 Q. Sometime before May 1997 did the RUF capture a 40 barrel
5 weapon?

6 A. No, no, no. That never happened before the AFRC. RUF
7 never captured a weapon like that.

8 Q. Don't you recall a 40 barrel being captured and it being
9 brought to the Manowa crossing point?

11:52:16

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. When was that?

12 A. That was around February of 1999 when the Guineans were
13 pulling out of Masiaka to Port Loko. Rambo and others captured a
14 40 barrel missile and they brought it to me in Makeni and I
15 informed Sam Bockarie and Sam Bockarie said I should sent it to
16 Kono to Peter Vandj. Sam Bockarie said he should take it to
17 Manowa and was taken to Manowa and it was parked at the Moa
18 River.

19 Q. When it was taken to Manowa, was it operational?

11:53:04

20 A. No. The Guineans took out the firing pin and some other
21 parts from it, so it was not functional.

22 Q. And were any efforts made to repair it?

23 A. No, no. It was parked there until I think - there was one
24 time, that was around May, a government helicopter assaulted it
11:53:37 25 and it destroyed it, so during the disarmament it was taken.

26 Q. Are you sure that some Liberian engineers had not been sent
27 by Charles Taylor to repair that weapon?

28 A. Oh, no, that did not happen and I never heard about it.

29 Q. Page 10990, testimony of 4 June 2008, please, line 11:

1 "As far as I know the 40 barrel was at that riverbank for a
2 long time. Up to during the period of the junta. The AFRC and
3 the RUF period when we were in the city, until the intervention.
4 After the intervention when we were dislodged, the 40 barrel was
11:55:01 5 still at the riverbank. It was after the intervention that we
6 saw some engineers who came from Liberia and said that they had
7 come to repair that 40 barrel missile so that it could be used by
8 the RUF."

9 And he goes on to describe the weapon which I am not
11:55:30 10 interested in. Line 29:

11 "Q. You said that engineers from Liberia came after the
12 intervention" - and he goes on to describe what the
13 intervention was. Line 9:

14 "Q. To your knowledge at that point who, if anyone, sent
11:55:53 15 these engineers from Liberia to repair that weapon?

16 A. Well, to my own knowledge and to the knowledge of the
17 RUF it was Charles Taylor who sent them because they were
18 Liberians."

19 Then he goes on to describe a helicopter gunship coming
11:56:14 20 along and assaulting the weapon. Now, did Charles Taylor send
21 engineers to repair that weapon, Mr Sesay?

22 A. No, no. From the time we captured that weapon in February
23 '99 Mr Taylor never sent anybody to repair that weapon.

24 Q. Did the RUF ever use that weapon?

11:56:46 25 A. Never, because the weapon did not have a firing pin and
26 there were no bombs. So as it was taken to Manowa it was parked
27 there. It was there until disarmament when UNAMSIL took it.

28 Q. And did you personally, Mr Sesay, see that weapon?

29 A. Yes, I was the one who sent the weapon to Kono. I was the

1 one who informed Bockarie about the capture of the weapon. I
2 sent it to Kono and where it was parked in Manowa, I saw it there
3 on many occasions.

11:58:01 4 Q. Can we go, please, to page 11005. In fact, I apologise,
5 Madam Court Manager. In order to get the context we need to go
6 back to the previous page, line 13:

7 "Q. What if anything did Selasie tell you about messages
8 received at that time in Kono?

11:58:24 9 A. Well, as we were now in Koindu there was a point in
10 time that Selasie called me and told me that Sam Bockarie
11 had got a new promotion to general. He showed me the radio
12 message. That was what he told me, that Sam Bockarie had
13 been promoted to general and he was now General Sam
14 Bockarie.

11:58:40 15 Q. Did Selasie tell you who promoted Bockarie to general
16 at that time?

17 A. He said it was Charles Taylor who promoted Sam Bockarie
18 to a general.

19 Q. Now how did Selasie know about that at that time?

11:58:54 20 A. They sent a radio message to him from Buedu because
21 Buedu was the headquarters and that was where Sam Bockarie
22 was based. The radio operator that Sam Bockarie had there
23 was the person who sent the message to him.

11:59:13 24 Q. When Selasie received this message what if anything did
25 he do, to your knowledge?

26 A. We took it as it was. It was a message that came. I
27 read the message, so we took it as it was.

28 Q. When you say you read the message, what do you mean?

29 A. He received the message and he wrote it in his radio

1 logbook. They had a logbook that whenever messages came
2 they would write it in the logbook."

3 Let's go to line 14:

11:59:45

4 "Q. So you said that you read the message. So what was
5 written in that message?

6 A. Well, the message came from Buedu and came to our own
7 ground, that is Koindu, that the subject was promotion and
8 that Sam Bockarie had been promoted to the rank of general
9 in the RUF. That was the message that I read and it was by
10 Charles Taylor.

12:00:01

11 Q. Was it written in the message that it was by Charles
12 Taylor.

13 A. Yes, sir."

14 Now this:

12:00:13

15 "Q. Now, Mr Witness, at the time you were in Koindu with
16 Selasie being the radio operator there, what else, if
17 anything, did you learn about radio messages?

18 A. Well, another message came but at that time I had said
19 that the AFRC and the RUF had already come together and we
20 were in the bush operating, but sometimes problems erupted

12:00:34

21 between the AFRC and the RUF because the AFRC were the
22 national army at that time that overthrew the government
23 and we were in the bush as guerillas. So when we went and
24 teamed up with them there was that - there were problems

12:00:58

25 during which they always said that we were not fully
26 trained military personnel. So during those times there
27 was always problems between the AFRC and the RUF. So a
28 message came at a time that the radio operator received
29 that said the AFRC and the RUF should come together as one

1 and that they should work hand in glove to enable us to
2 fight together and achieve our goals. So that was the next
3 message that I read.

4 Q. And where was this message coming from?

12:01:36 5 A. The message also came directly from Buedu but,
6 according to what we read in the message, they said it was
7 Charles Taylor who sent the message and that there was a
8 dialogue that took place between him and Sam Bockarie."

9 Do you recall, Mr Sesay, an occasion when Sam Bockarie
12:01:59 10 received advice from Charles Taylor that the AFRC and the RUF
11 should work together?

12 A. No. After our retreat I never heard such an information in
13 '98.

14 Q. Mr Sesay, do you recall seeing Charles Taylor's name in any
12:02:34 15 message book that you had access to during the time you were with
16 the RUF?

17 A. Never. Even with the various radio logs that were at Buedu
18 I never saw Mr Taylor's name in either of those books.

19 Q. Did Charles Taylor, to your knowledge, have a code name by
12:03:04 20 which he was known in the RUF?

21 A. No. I never heard any code name which they said was
22 Mr Taylor's code name, no.

23 Q. Did you, for example, know of a radio operator who was
24 linked to messages emanating from Charles Taylor?

12:03:43 25 A. The question has not been ended by the interpreter.

26 Q. Okay. Let me ask the question again. Can you identify a
27 radio operator who was used by Charles Taylor?

28 A. No. I never knew about any radio operator that Mr Taylor
29 was using purposefully for the RUF. No, I never knew about such

1 an operator.

2 Q. Did you know of any radio operators associated with
3 Liberia?

4 A. Well, some of the operators were Liberians. Like CO Nya
12:04:41 5 was a Liberian. CO Sellay too was a Liberian, yes.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: CO Nya and CO what?

7 THE WITNESS: Sellay.

8 MR GRIFFITHS: That name, I think it has been spelt before.

9 Q. Who is Sunlight?

12:05:04 10 A. Sunlight was a Liberian operator.

11 Q. Where was he based?

12 A. He was at Benjamin Yeaten's house. I came to know him in
13 2000.

14 Q. To your knowledge, was Sunlight a radio operator for
12:05:26 15 Charles Taylor?

16 A. No. I met him at Benjamin Yeaten's house, and he was the
17 one operating the radio at Benjamin Yeaten's house.

18 Q. Were you ever told about any message emanating from Charles
19 Taylor coming to the RUF via the radio?

12:05:55 20 A. No. I never heard that.

21 Q. Mr Sesay, I want to deal with the testimony of another
22 witness now. And whilst I am being assisted, at Camp Naama,
23 Mr Sesay, did the RUF and the NPFL train together?

24 A. No, we did not train together.

12:07:28 25 Q. Did you mix together?

26 A. No, we did not mix together.

27 Q. Why not?

28 A. Well, the place where we were, Mr Sankoh said the place was
29 out of bounds. He said we shouldn't go out of where we were

1 until you obtained permission.

2 Q. Did he give you a reason for that?

3 A. Well, at that time, I couldn't ask Mr Sankoh to give me a
4 reason, but he put strict laws in place that - he said going out
12:08:12 5 of Camp Sokoto was out of bounds. It was only when we were going
6 for bush camping or morning PT or going into the field for armed
7 class or for drilling.

8 Q. Did any member of the RUF group train with the NPFL?

9 A. Well, those of us who were at Crab Hole, no. The only
12:08:45 10 people who were there were the RUF recruits.

11 Q. To your knowledge, Mr Sesay, did any trainees at the camp
12 in Naama leave the camp with Foday Sankoh to visit Charles
13 Taylor?

14 A. No. During the time we were on training, it was only
12:09:20 15 Mr Sankoh's driver, Alfred Brown, that is Fatou Brown's elder
16 brother, they were the only people who used to go out with the
17 vehicle. We, the trainees, were training.

18 Q. Apart from that driver, Fatou Brown's elder brother, can
19 you categorically say that no other trainee left the base?

12:09:51 20 A. No. We were on training. We, the trainees, were on
21 training. There was no time that was left to go with Mr Sankoh
22 on board his vehicle, no.

23 Q. When Mr Sankoh left the training base, would he tell you
24 where he was going?

12:10:13 25 A. No. He never used to tell us.

26 Q. And whilst - after the invasion of Sierra Leone, whilst in
27 Sierra Leone, did Mr Sankoh visit Liberia?

28 A. Yes. At the time he used to come to Kailahun, he would use
29 the road to Vahun through Lofa Bridge and then proceed to

1 Pujehun. That was at the early stages of the war. He would go
2 to Pujehun and then come to Kailahun through Lofa Bridge, Bomi
3 Hills.

4 Q. And where was he staying in Liberia?

12:11:10 5 A. Well, he used to go to Gbarnga, he would go to Pujehun and
6 then come to Kailahun. That was how he was moving around.

7 Q. And when he would visit Liberia and go to Gbarnga, would he
8 take anyone with him?

9 A. Yes. At this time in '91, he had some bodyguards, and some
12:11:40 10 of them were Vanguard's from Pujehun and some were from Kailahun.
11 Those are the ones he used to move around with.

12 Q. Just so that we get the picture - and I am trying to set
13 the picture before I ask you about some specific testimony -
14 during those initial stages, up to the departure of the NPFL

12:12:16 15 following Top Final, how much time did Mr Sankoh spend in
16 Liberia?

17 A. Well, I can't tell because I was in the Kailahun District,
18 but sometimes when he came to Kailahun he would use the Vahun
19 road to go to Lofa Bridge, Bomi Hills, and he would go to Pujehun
12:12:44 20 and spend, like, two or three weeks. I wouldn't know how long he
21 used to spend within Liberia because I was not moving on with
22 him.

23 Q. And can you recall any occasion when Foday Sankoh returned
24 to Liberia carrying arms and ammunition with him during that
12:13:07 25 period?

26 A. Yes, I recall the time he and Anthony Mekunagbe came with
27 the reinforcements and when they brought a truckload of
28 ammunition with Sam Tuah, and when Sam Tuah came and took over
29 command over the Kui va area going towards Joru.

1 Q. Do you know of any other occasion when - that occasion,
2 Mr Sesay, just help us, when was that, the one that you have just
3 described?

4 A. This was six months after the invasion. It was during that
12:13:51 5 time.

6 Q. Can you recall any other occasion when Mr Sankoh came to
7 Sierra Leone carrying arms and ammunition?

8 A. No. That is what I saw, a truckload of ammunition.

9 Q. Very well. Now, I wanted to --

12:14:27 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, a truckload of ammunition,
11 does that include arms or just ammunition?

12 MR GRIFFITHS:

13 Q. Was it arms and ammunition, Mr Sesay, or just ammunition?

14 A. There were AK rifles. They had AK rifles, AK-47, and
12:14:50 15 ammunition.

16 MR GRIFFITHS: I would like to refer the witness's
17 attention to some testimony. However, this testimony was in
18 closed session.

19 Now, I feel that it is possible to deal with this, at least
12:15:11 20 this initial point, without there being any reference to the
21 identity of the witness, but I am in your Honours' hands.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: I have no idea what testimony that you
23 are referring to but I will trust your judgment. I will trust
24 your judgment, Mr Griffiths.

12:15:34 25 MR GRIFFITHS: [Microphone not activated].

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please repeat the text again.

27 MR GRIFFITHS: TF1-362, and the testimony is on 27 February
28 2008, at page 4817.

29 Q. The witness was asked this:

1 "Q. This place you went to with Foday Sankoh, what place
2 was it?

3 A. It was Gbarnga.

4 Q. Can you describe your trip to Gbarnga?

12:16:32 5 A. I said the area, the trip. We left Koindu from
6 Pendembu. We came all the way to Gbarnga and it was
7 through Gbarnga that you pass to go to the area. It is at
8 Ganta Highway, but it is agricultural ground, the
9 agricultural ground. That was the place where the Papay
12:16:54 10 was, Charles Taylor, but it was not Sugar Hill. That was
11 why I said Sugar Hill opposite, because we use the Sugar
12 Hill Road.

13 Q. What happened when you got to the place where Charles
14 Taylor was?

12:17:09 15 A. When we went there - before we went there, the Papay
16 told us that he was going to his brother. We went there
17 and stopped the car. The Papay walked to his brother.
18 They went indoors and we stayed by the car. What they did,
19 we did not know. After that, we saw some people opening
12:17:32 20 the door, the doors to the ammunition, and they loaded them
21 in the car. After that, Charles Taylor walked Foday Sankoh
22 to the car, then we entered the car and departed.

23 Q. Where did you pick up the ammunition from?

24 A. From his house, from Charles Taylor's house, where -
12:17:56 25 where he was. That is the area where the ammunition was
26 kept, a small room.

27 Q. And what happened after your trip to Gbarnga?"

28 Over the page:

29 "A. We came with the ammunition. We took the ammunition

1 to the people at the front line."

2 And then goes on to mention Pendembu.

3 Can you recall an occasion when Foday Sankoh returned from
4 Sierra Leone with a carload of ammunition, Mr Sesay?

12:18:28 5 A. Well, the only time I saw Mr Sankoh come with a truckload
6 of ammunition, including AK rifles, in Pendembu is the one I have
7 just spoken about just now, when he came to the Executive Mansion
8 in Pendembu, when he brought with him Dopoe Menkarzon and Sam
9 Tuah, who were NPFL fighters, to attack ULIMO bases in Sierra
10 Leone.

11 Q. Another matter, Mr Sesay: Were training bases set up in
12 Sierra Leone after the invasion?

13 A. Yes, training bases were there. Yeah, we set up training
14 bases in Kailahun, Koindu, Pendembu.

12:20:00 15 Q. Was there a training base in Bunumbu?

16 A. No, Bunumbu did not have a training base, Bunumbu, Manowa.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian?

18 MR KOUMJIAN: I am concerned and I have a motion, but it
19 has to be outside the presence of the witness and in private
20 session.

12:20:24 21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Give me an idea as to why we need to do
22 this.

23 MR KOUMJIAN: To implement the protective measures
24 your Honours have ordered previously.

12:20:42 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Protective measures of who?

26 MR KOUMJIAN: Of witnesses. Obviously, I can't name the
27 witness - the witnesses.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Because as far as I know, we are not
29 talking about any witness now, are we, Mr Griffiths? We have

1 Long left TF1-362, haven't we?

2 MR GRIFFITHS: No, we haven't.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well, Court Manager, please organise
4 a brief private session and, Mr Sesay, you may be excused for
12:21:20 5 some minutes while we deal with this.

6 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
7 the transcript, pages 45159 to 45162, was
8 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
9 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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1 [Open session]

2 [In the presence of the witness]

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

4 MR GRIFFITHS:

12:34:59 5 Q. Mr Sesay, did the RUF open a training base in Bunumbu?

6 A. No, the lawyer said Bunumbu.

7 Q. And that's what I said. Did the RUF open a base at
8 Bunumbu?

9 A. No, no.

12:35:30 10 Q. Did the RUF open a base near Bunumbu?

11 A. No. There was no training base near Bunumbu.

12 Q. Do you know of a training base called Camp Lion?

13 A. Camp Lion, that name existed in the RUF around '94. But
14 from '91 to '94 the RUF did not use that name, Camp Lion.

12:36:09 15 Q. In 1994 was there a Camp Lion?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Was it a training base?

18 A. Yes. In Sundumi, Jui koya area, around Zogoda.

19 Q. Could we have a spelling for that place name, please?

12:36:42 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Might the interpreter please assist?

21 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour. It's S-U-N-D-U-M-I,
22 Sundumi.

23 MR GRIFFITHS:

24 Q. And when was it opened?

12:36:55 25 A. Around February of '94.

26 Q. Who ordered it to be opened?

27 A. This was Mr Sankoh, because the base was very close to
28 where Mr Sankoh was, that is Zogoda, just about a mile.

29 Q. For how long was there a training base at Camp Lion?

1 A. That training base was there up to '96, until the fall of
2 Zogoda.

3 Q. Is that training base anywhere near Bunumbu?

12:37:58 4 A. No, it was not near Bunumbu. Bunumbu training base was in
5 the Kailahun District. It was established in 1998, March of '98.
6 It was opened by Sam Bockarie.

7 Q. In March 1998?

8 A. Yes, Bunumbu Village.

9 Q. And who was trained at that? So just to be clear, there
12:38:26 10 was a training base at Bunumbu opened in 1998; is that what
11 you're saying?

12 A. Yes, that's what I said.

13 Q. And it was Sam Bockarie who ordered it to be opened; is
14 that right?

12:38:45 15 A. Yes, you're right.

16 Q. That camp at Bunumbu, was it ever called Camp Lion?

17 A. Yes, because from '94, any training base that was opened,
18 it was called Camp Lion, but the popular name of that base was
19 Bunumbu training base.

12:39:13 20 Q. But it was also known as Camp Lion; is that right?

21 A. Yes, yes, you're right.

22 Q. Now, these judges were told this in February 2008, page
23 4867, 27 February 2008:

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: What line will you read from?

12:40:13 25 MR GRIFFITHS: I am reading from line 2.

26 MS IRURA: Your Honour, this is closed session testimony
27 and the AV booth is not able to show it without it being viewed
28 by the public.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, are you sure that this will

1 not reveal the identity of the witness to the public?

2 MR GRIFFITHS: No name appears which would result in the
3 identity being revealed, apart from the name of the - of this
4 defendant.

12:40:48 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. Then in which case you have
6 to read slowly. The judges have the transcript, in any event, on
7 their computers.

8 MR GRIFFITHS:

9 Q. "Q. What headquarters is in Buedu?

12:41:17 10 A. At that time, anywhere the high command was based, we
11 will call that place the headquarters, Buedu.

12 Q. And who was based in Buedu at this time?

13 A. It was Sam Bockarie.

14 Q. Did you" --

12:41:35 15 MR KOUMJIAN: I am a little premature, but I just wanted to
16 ask if counsel was planning through reading through line 16 to
17 18?

18 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes.

19 MR KOUMJIAN: It absolutely uniquely identifies the
12:41:53 20 witness, your Honours.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am going to have to order that we
22 return to private session for the reading of this text to the
23 witness, please.

24 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
25 the transcript, pages 45166 to 45174, was
26 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
27 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: Mr Sesay, Fridays we sit until only
4 1 o'clock and then proceed to do other work, so I am cautioning
13:00:53 5 you that you are not to discuss your evidence with anyone, and
6 you will return to court on Monday at 9 o'clock when the
7 proceedings will resume. The Court adjourns.

8 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 1.02 p.m.
9 to be reconvened on Monday, 2 August 2010
13:02:20 10 at 9.00 a.m.]

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