



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

FRIDAY, 9 MAY 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 Sidney Thompson

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura

For the Prosecution:

Mr Christopher Santora
Ms Julia Baly
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Terry Munyard
Mr Morris Anyah

1 Friday, 9 May 2008

2 [The accused present]

3 [Open session]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 am]

09:30:46 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. I think appearances are as
6 yesterday afternoon. Yes. If there are no other preliminary
7 matters I will remind the witness of his oath? No.

8 Mr Witness, you recall that yesterday you took the oath to
9 and promised to tell the truth. That oath is still binding on
09:31:07 10 you and you must answer questions truthfully. Do you understand?

11 THE WITNESS: Yes.

12 WITNESS: KARMOH KANNEH [On former oath]

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very good. Please proceed.

14 MS BALY: Your Honour, before I continue with my questions
09:31:19 15 there are two spelling errors that were made yesterday. The
16 first is for Giema. The correct spelling for Giema is
17 N-G-E-I-M-A. Yesterday I spelt it incorrectly. The correct
18 spelling for Bakkar is B-A-K-K-A-R.

19 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, there is another town which
09:31:53 20 I noticed, I think it's called Gofor and that in the spelling
21 given to us in the documents by the Prosecution starts with the
22 letter N, N-G. Again, as you are aware, I am only raising these
23 as a matter of consistency. It's not of regret import to us, but
24 I thought it appropriate to mention it.

09:32:18 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, there are sometimes names that are
26 very close to each other but different places, so it's wise to
27 make sure we all are talking about the same place. Ms Baly,
28 would you be able to check those particular names.

29 MS BALY: Mr Santora has checked that name and the spelling

1 is without an N.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: I see.

3 MR MUNYARD: I am content either way. It is just we have a
4 document from the Prosecution where it is spelt with an N so
09:32:44 5 I thought it appropriate to mention.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: I appreciate the point. As I said
7 already sometimes the names are very close. Ms Baly, we have
8 noted those changes. Please proceed.

9 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MS BALY [Continued]:

09:32:54 10 Q. Mr Kanneh, good morning.

11 A. Good morning, sir.

12 Q. Yesterday when we finished I was asking you questions about
13 the meeting that you said took place on the road between the
14 Waterworks and Buedu. Before I continue with questioning you
09:33:13 15 about the meeting I just want to return briefly to some other
16 areas of your evidence yesterday. Firstly, you mentioned a
17 person by the name of C0 Lion yesterday. My question is do you
18 know where C0 Lion was from?

19 A. Yes.

09:33:35 20 Q. Where?

21 A. Liberia.

22 Q. And how do you know that?

23 A. Well, I knew he was a Liberian because he spoke the
24 Liberian language.

09:33:51 25 Q. Which Liberian language are you referring to?

26 A. Well, he was also a Mano.

27 Q. And what was the language that he spoke?

28 A. He used to speak English and Mano.

29 Q. Was there anything distinctive about the English he spoke?

1 A. It was Liberian English. He spoke Liberian English.

2 Q. Yesterday you gave some evidence about a time when you were
3 in Kenema Town at the same time as Sam Bockarie was at Kenema
4 Town. Do you remember giving that evidence?

09:34:45 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. You spoke about a mission that you accomplished when you
7 were in Kenema Town and I asked you this question, "Apart from
8 the mission that you have told us about, did you undertake any
9 other activities when you were in Kenema Town?" You gave this

09:35:05 10 answer, "Well I did not do any other thing personally, but some
11 other things happened. Other things happened." What other
12 things were you referring to when you gave that answer?

13 A. Well, whilst we were in Kenema there was a time that Mr Sam
14 Bockarie arrested three politicians. He arrested them and he
09:35:43 15 accused them of collaborating with the enemies, that is the
16 Kamajors, so they brought them to the secretariat and they were
17 tortured.

18 Q. Who were these three politicians?

19 A. Well one was Dr Momoh, two was Mr Ibrahim Gbacka and the
09:36:11 20 third was BS Massaquoi.

21 Q. Dr Momoh?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Had you met Dr Momoh?

24 A. Yes.

09:36:30 25 Q. What was his position?

26 A. Well, I knew Dr Momoh personally to be a medical doctor.

27 Q. Did you know why Sam Bockarie arrested him?

28 A. Well he accused them of supporting the Kamajors, that they
29 did not want to support the AFRC, and so that was the reason why

1 he arrested them.

2 MS BALY: And just for the spelling for Gbacka it is

3 G-B-A-C-K-A:

4 Q. Did you know this person, Gbacka?

09:37:26 5 A. Yes, yes.

6 Q. And what position, if any, did he hold?

7 A. Well, he was a businessman. He was doing business.

8 Q. What kind of business?

9 A. He sells motor spare parts and at the same time he was
09:37:49 10 doing mining.

11 Q. What was the reason that he was arrested?

12 A. He said he also connived and that they were the ones who
13 were helping the Kamajors. They sent to the Kamajors in the
14 bush.

09:38:09 15 Q. Who was the person who said that this man had connived?

16 A. Mosquito.

17 Q. And the person, BS Massaquoi, what was his position?

18 A. Well, at that time he was the city council chairman.

19 Q. Why was he arrested?

09:38:41 20 A. Well he was also arrested for the same crime, when he said
21 they were not supporting the ruling government that was in
22 charge, he said they were supporting the CDF, that is the
23 Kamajors. So, that was the crime and so they were all arrested
24 for that similar crime.

09:39:04 25 Q. You said they were tortured. How do you know they were
26 tortured?

27 A. Well, at a point in time after torturing them we came to
28 the secretariat and they were jailed. I came myself and my
29 colleague Manowai. We came to greet them. We realised that they

1 had been seriously beaten up and they had the marks all over
2 their body and we went to visit them because they were our
3 relations.

4 Q. What do you mean by they were your relations?

09:39:44 5 A. Well we all hail from the same region; that is the eastern
6 region. They came from that area and I also came from that area,
7 so that is the relationship between us. So, we are family
8 members because we all hail from the same place.

9 Q. Did you see their bodies yourself?

09:40:11 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Did you speak to them?

12 A. Yes, I spoke to Mr Gbacka.

13 Q. And what did Mr Gbacka say?

14 A. He explained that Sam Bockarie had arrested them, that they
09:40:36 15 were conniving with the CDF and so that was the reason why they
16 were there and that they had undergone serious torture.

17 Q. What happened to these three men?

18 A. Well the two amongst them, Mr Gbacka and Doctor, the way
19 they beat them up was very serious and so we spoke to Mr Bockarie
09:41:08 20 for them to be allowed to be taken to the hospital.

21 Q. Were they taken to the hospital?

22 A. Yes, yes.

23 Q. And what happened to them eventually, do you know?

24 A. Well as the intervention was approaching we noticed that
09:41:33 25 Mr Bockarie intended to kill them, so we also put strategies in
26 place so that they will be taken out of the hospital for them to
27 be able to escape.

28 Q. And why did you notice, or how did you notice, that

29 Mr Bockarie intended to kill them?

1 A. Well, we were always in company with him and he always
2 grumbled and that he said if situations went out of control they
3 will not be spared.

4 Q. Were they taken out of the hospital?

09:42:24 5 A. Yes, they hid overnight.

6 Q. And what happened to them after the - on the next day?

7 A. Well when they escaped the information reached him, people
8 brought the information to him, and so he had to place the other
9 man under tight custody and that is BS Massaquoi.

09:42:56 10 Q. And what do you mean by "tight custody"?

11 A. Well like initially they used to allow them come to the
12 sitting room and spend time, but when that happened they never
13 used to allow him again to do that. Even to serve him food, or
14 to allow him to go to the toilet, sometimes somebody was behind
09:43:25 15 him.

16 Q. What happened to BS Massaquoi?

17 A. Well, at a point in time he was loaded into a vehicle and
18 he said he was going to kill him. He was going to execute him.
19 So, he moved with him to reservation and so all of us followed
09:43:50 20 him.

21 Q. Who said he was going to execute him?

22 A. Mosquito, Sam Bockarie.

23 Q. Where did you follow him to?

24 A. Well the place where he was taking him to, that is going
09:44:11 25 towards reservation.

26 Q. Where did you end up?

27 A. Well, we went as far as midway the road and then he took
28 him out of the vehicle and then shot him.

29 Q. Who took him out of the vehicle?

1 A. The securities who were with him.

2 Q. With who?

3 A. With Sam Bockarie.

4 Q. And just so it is clear, who was shot?

09:44:45 5 A. BS Massaquoi.

6 Q. What happened to him after he was shot?

7 A. Well, he struggled a lot and later died.

8 Q. You had referred earlier in your evidence to a colleague
9 who had gone to see these men - who had gone with you to see

09:45:09 10 these men. The spelling for that is M-A-N-O-W-A-I. Now,

11 Mr Kanneh, can I return now to this meeting that you were telling
12 us about yesterday?

13 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, I hate to interrupt, but could
14 we have some indication of where this killing happened and some
09:45:32 15 time frame please?

16 MS BALY: Your Honour, yes:

17 Q. You had said that this incident happened when you were in
18 Kenema Town. Is that correct?

19 A. Yes.

09:45:44 20 Q. And yesterday you told us that you were in Kenema Town
21 until the intervention. Is that correct?

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. Are you able to say when this killing of BS Massaquoi took
24 place?

09:46:04 25 A. That was the day that the AFRC finally pulled out of the
26 city. That was when the intervention entered the city.

27 Q. On the same day?

28 A. That same day. That same day.

29 Q. And whereabouts did this killing take place?

1 A. It was on the road going towards reservation.

2 Q. What was the name of the road, if you know?

3 A. That was the name we had for it. That was the way we
4 called it, the road leading to reservation.

09:46:58 5 Q. And the reservation, where was that?

6 A. Well, it is in Kenema. It is an area in Kenema Town.

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, did the witness say it was
8 Bockarie who shot the victim?

9 MS BALY: No, securities.

09:47:19 10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Bockarie's securities?

11 MS BALY: Yes.

12 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Thank you.

13 MS BALY:

14 Q. Why did you call this place a reservation?

09:47:29 15 A. Well, they are government quarters. Government quarters
16 are concentrated in that area and so that is why they called the
17 place that name. It is a government area.

18 Q. After BS Massaquoi died, what did you do?

19 A. Well we all of us returned, those of us who were there, and
09:48:01 20 when he moved we followed him, only that we were all not happy.
21 Those of us who joined him and went, we were not happy over that
22 idea.

23 Q. Who are you referring to that you followed?

24 A. I was there. I was there myself. Eddie Kanneh was there.

09:48:27 25 Q. You said that "... those of us who were there, and when he
26 moved we followed him, only that we were all not happy. Those of
27 us who joined him and went, we were not happy over that idea".
28 Who is the "him" that you were referring to?

29 A. Sam Bockarie.

1 Q. And where did you follow Sam Bockarie to?

2 A. We all came back and went to the brigade.

3 Q. Did you discuss this killing with Sam Bockarie?

4 A. No, I was unable to discuss with him because when the first
09:49:17 5 one happened I found it difficult with him. He was about to give
6 me problems, so when this one happened at that time I did not say
7 anything to him.

8 Q. What do you mean by when the first one happened, what first
9 one?

09:49:32 10 A. Well, he killed another man even before this incident, in
11 the same Kenema.

12 Q. Who was that man?

13 A. He was called Mohamed Fiti ae.

14 Q. Who was Mohamed Fiti ae?

09:49:57 15 A. He was a businessman.

16 Q. And why was he killed, if you know?

17 A. Well, that day, that particular day we were in Kenema
18 Kamajors attacked us and when we were attacked we pushed them out
19 and some people started looting. They started breaking into
09:50:22 20 people's shops and houses. After that soldiers went and
21 commandeered his vehicle, because when I went there later
22 I investigated, and they wanted to use that vehicle to go and
23 loot a Mandingo man's place. So because he never wanted to lose
24 his vehicle he asked them so that he himself will drive his
09:50:52 25 vehicle to go with them. So when they went with this man he
26 loaded them into his vehicle, they drove him and they went.

27 But when the Pa brought the complaint to Sam Bockarie he
28 actually did not know the particular people who did the act. He
29 was the only person he knew, so he reported him that they were

1 the ones who went and looted his place. So when he asked us to
2 put looting under control and he passed the order to myself and
3 Manowai we were now passing round and then we went and met this
4 thing had happened and the men explained to us. So by the time
09:51:31 5 I came back to explain to him that so and so things happened, he
6 said it was a lie. He said the Pa said that it was that man who
7 looted his place. So that was what happened and at that time
8 I wanted to defend the man, but I had some misunderstandings with
9 him so he went angry with him so I was also afraid.

09:51:55 10 Q. What happened to this man eventually?

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Baly, we have had a lot of "him"s and
12 "he"s and really before you go further we must clarify this.

13 MS BALY:

14 Q. In your answer just a moment ago, the long answer that you
09:52:09 15 gave, you said that you were in Kenema Town and that Kamajors
16 attacked and you pushed them out and some people started looting.
17 You then said they started breaking into people's shops and
18 houses and that soldiers went and commandeered his vehicle.
19 Whose vehicle was commandeered?

09:52:37 20 A. Mohamed Fiti ae.

21 Q. Then you said you went there later and you investigated.
22 You wanted to see the vehicle to go and loot a Mandingo man's
23 place and you said, "Because he never wanted to lose his
24 vehicle." Again whose vehicle are you referring to there?

09:52:55 25 A. Mohamed Fiti ae.

26 Q. You then said, "When they went with this man he loaded them
27 into his vehicle." Who loaded them into whose vehicle?

28 A. The items that they had looted were the items they loaded
29 into Mohamed Fiti ae's vehicle.

1 Q. Who loaded the items?

2 A. The soldiers.

3 Q. And then you said, "The Pa brought the complaint to Sam
4 Bockarie." Who is the Pa that you are referring to?

09:53:33 5 A. The Mandingo man who they went and looted his place.

6 Q. Then you said, "Sam Bockarie, he actually did not know the
7 particular people who did the act. He was the only person he
8 knew so he reported him." Who reported who?

9 A. The Mandingo man came and reported that Mohamed Fitiie took
09:54:03 10 soldiers with him and they went and looted his place.

11 Q. And you then said, "So when he asked us to put looting
12 under control and he passed the order." Who was it that asked
13 you to put looting under control and passed the order?

14 A. Sam Bockarie passed the order that we should ensure that we
09:54:27 15 put it under control.

16 Q. "We were now passing round and then we went and met this
17 thing had happened, explained to him that so and so things
18 happened." What did you mean by, "So by the time I came back to
19 explain to him that so and so things happened." What did you
09:54:50 20 mean by that?

21 A. Well, after we went and investigated and when we got the
22 whole story, when we came I tried to explain things to him for
23 him not to kill the man.

24 Q. To who?

09:55:08 25 A. Sam Bockarie. He did not listen at all. He said it was a
26 lie. He said it was that man who took people with him to go and
27 loot. He was the man that the person knew, so he said he was
28 going to kill him and when I tried to talk to him, to plead with
29 him, he in fact was angry with me.

1 Q. Just so it's clear, the person that was angry with you was
2 who?

3 A. Mr Bockarie, Mosquito.

4 Q. Did you see the killing of this person?

09:55:49 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. How was he killed?

7 A. Well, he shot him with his pistol.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Who is the him?

9 THE WITNESS: Sam Bockarie.

09:56:04 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Who is the deceased?

11 MS BALY:

12 Q. Who was the person he shot? Who is the person he shot?

13 A. The person who used his vehicle to go with the soldiers,
14 that is Mohamed Fiti ae, he was the one who was shot.

09:56:24 15 MS BALY: Just for the spelling of Fiti ae, F-I-T-I-A-E.

16 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Witness, we are having a bit of
17 trouble the way you describe your evidence. You keep referring
18 to "he" and "him" and "they" and so on. We were not there, but
19 you were. Can you please use names when you are referring to
09:56:46 20 these people. You think you can do that, please?

21 THE WITNESS: Yes.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: When you are describing something try and
23 use the names, or describe the people that you are referring to
24 rather than using the phrases "he", "them", "she" and so on.

09:57:07 25 THE WITNESS: Yes, yes.

26 MS BALY:

27 Q. Now you told us about the killing of this man Fiti ae after
28 I had asked you why you did not discuss the killing of BS
29 Massaquoi with Sam Bockarie. You said in effect that the reason

1 you hadn't discussed the killing of BS Massaquoi with Sam
2 Bockarie was because of the first killing. Is that so?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can we return now, please, to the meeting that you were
09:57:47 5 telling the Court about yesterday, the long eight hour meeting
6 that took place on the road between the Waterworks and Buedu.
7 Can I just ask you what the name of the road between the
8 Waterworks and Buedu is? What's the name of the road?

9 A. Well, it was Foya Road.

09:58:25 10 Q. One of the things you said yesterday when you were
11 discussing one of the topics, namely the command structure that
12 had been discussed at the meeting - you said this:

13 "Well, he made it clear to all the AFRC men who were
14 present that AFRC was no longer in power and that where we had
09:58:54 15 now come it was called the jungle and that everybody was supposed
16 to be under the RUF command and that the RUF - anywhere the RUF
17 was serving as a commander the AFRC should serve as deputy."

18 I asked you was that something that was accepted at the
19 meeting and you said:

09:59:14 20 "Yes, everyone accepted up to the leader, the leader for
21 the AFRC, all of them accepted, all of us, and those of us who
22 were there besides SAJ Musa."

23 I asked you, "Was SAJ Musa at the meeting" and you gave
24 this answer: "No, no, no, he was not there, but after the
09:59:35 25 meeting they made it possible to send it as a message to all the
26 front lines."

27 My question today: Is what did you mean by that answer,
28 "They made it possible to send it as a message to all the front
29 lines"?

1 A. Well, not all everybody was fortunate to be present in that
2 meeting because it was not possible to withdraw everybody from
3 the front line to attend the meeting. So it was only after the
4 meeting was held that all that was discussed was passed on to all
10:00:22 5 stations so that all the commanders who were not present would be
6 able to get the information.

7 Q. How was the information --

8 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the interpreters on the
9 other side of the booth are asking that when learned counsel is
10:00:39 10 reading most especially from a text to please read it slowly.

11 MS BALY: I am sorry about that. I will bear that in mind.
12 I apologise:

13 Q. Mr Witness, how was this information passed on?

14 A. Well, Mr Bockarie wrote it in a message form and sent it to
10:01:06 15 all stations.

16 Q. By what means did he send it to all stations?

17 A. Well, we had radios. We had radios in all the front lines
18 that we used to communicate.

19 Q. Now yesterday when we finished you were going through and
10:01:39 20 telling us about the people who were at the meeting and we got to
21 the person Superman who you said was also known as Denis Mingo.
22 What was Superman's position?

23 A. Well, Superman was also one of the senior men in the
24 movement. He was a vanguard. They were the ones who came.

10:02:13 25 Q. What do you mean by "a vanguard"?

26 A. Well, the vanguards were the ones who were trained for the
27 RUF mission and they were trained in Liberia for the RUF mission.
28 Those were the ones who were - who the leader called the
29 vanguards. That was the name we knew for them.

1 Q. What group did Superman belong to?

2 A. RUF.

3 Q. Another person you mentioned at the meeting was Morris
4 Kallon. Where was Morris Kallon from?

10:02:56 5 A. Morris Kallon is a Sierra Leonean.

6 Q. And what was his position?

7 A. They were the ones who came. He is also a vanguard.

8 Q. Which group was Morris Kallon in?

9 A. RUF.

10:03:20 10 Q. Another person you mentioned was Akim Turay, where was Akim
11 Turay from?

12 A. Well, Akim Turay is a Sierra Leonean.

13 Q. What group was he in?

14 A. Well, he was a Sierra Leone soldier.

10:03:47 15 Q. And what was his position, if he had any?

16 A. Well, at that time he was in Kono. He was the deputy
17 brigade commander under the 2nd Battalion.

18 Q. One of the things you said - one of the things you did
19 yesterday was to list the topics that were discussed at the

10:04:13 20 meeting and, just to remind you, you said the topics were the

21 promotion of Sam Bockarie, "the command structure between us and

22 the AFRC", the role of Jungle, the Fitti-Fatta operation, the

23 fact that Sam Bockarie told you of his intended travel to Burkina

24 Faso and the fact that Sam Bockarie told you about diamonds going

10:04:45 25 missing that Issa Sesay had had. You also said in the course of

26 your evidence that there were so many other things discussed.

27 Can you recall what other things were discussed, apart from the

28 six topics I have just mentioned?

29 A. Well, during every meeting after the headlines were read

1 out they will have it - those on paper, and after the main points
2 were discussed they will have the AOB, that is any other
3 business, and so if you had extra problems, target problems, if
4 you had things that were disturbing you in your own area, like
10:05:41 5 personal things, the things that used to happen on the front
6 line, shortages, shortages of ammunition. I spoke about shortage
7 of ammunition in my own area and so many other men discussed
8 things that were happening in their own areas, but the major
9 items for which they called the meeting were those ones.

10:06:05 10 Q. You have referred to this particular meeting, this eight
11 hour meeting, as "The first meeting we held". Was there a
12 meeting - another meeting - after this first meeting?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. How long after the first meeting was the next meeting?

10:06:34 15 A. Well, it did not take too long. It was within a short
16 period, and it was the time after Mr Bockarie had travelled and
17 returned that we held the meeting; after he had travelled to
18 Burkina Faso and when he returned.

19 Q. How do you know that Mr Bockarie travelled to Burkina Faso?

10:07:05 20 A. Well, before he left he told us. He told us, those of us
21 who were around. Especially those of us who were in the Kailahun
22 District, some of the commanders, he told us that he was going to
23 travel.

24 Q. And did he, as far as you know, travel to Burkina Faso?

10:07:35 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. How long was he gone for?

27 A. Well, that man he went - I think he spent up to a month
28 before he returned.

29 Q. Did he tell you what he did when he was in Burkina Faso?

1 A. Well when he returned he did not actually convene a general
2 meeting to tell us what he went for, but when he came the things
3 that he brought that made us to actually believe that he went
4 there because we had never received such items.

10:08:23 5 Q. What were those things that he brought?

6 A. He brought sufficient war materials: arms and ammunition,
7 bombs, combats, boots and some other items.

8 Q. What quantity of arms did he bring?

9 A. Well I cannot estimate that now, because I was not present
10:09:01 10 when he arrived and before we arrived there everything was now
11 stored in the ammo dump.

12 Q. Did you ever learn about what type of arms he brought?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What were they?

10:09:20 15 A. He brought AK-47s, he brought G3s.

16 Q. What are G3s?

17 A. It is an arm. The Nigerians call it Babangida. That is
18 G3. He brought hand grenades. He brought mines. He brought RPG
19 rockets. He brought the tubes - the RPG tubes. He brought G3
10:10:13 20 rounds and some other things, but for now those are the ones
21 I can recall. The items were plenty. He brought combats and
22 boots.

23 Q. What do you mean by combats and boots? What are they?

24 A. Well, that is what call somebody a soldier. The fatigues
10:10:45 25 that the soldier puts on are what is referred to as combat and
26 the boots that they normally wear.

27 Q. Do you know whether Sam Bockarie went to Burkina Faso on
28 his own, or with another person or other people?

29 A. Well according to him he said it was him and General

1 Ibrahim, because just as he told us in the first meeting it was
2 the same thing that he told us later. He said he and General
3 Ibrahim. Ibrahim Bah.

10:11:41 4 Q. Did he tell you at any stage what he had done in Burkina
5 Faso?

6 A. Well he said he went and met with the President of Burkina
7 Faso, because he went to him personally.

8 Q. And did he tell you what took place when he met with the
9 President of Burkina Faso?

10:11:59 10 A. What happened?

11 Q. Yes, in the meeting with him and the President of Burkina
12 Faso?

13 A. Repeat, repeat. I am not getting it clearly. I am not
14 getting all.

10:12:24 15 Q. Did Sam Bockarie tell you what happened in this meeting
16 that he had with the President of Burkina Faso?

17 A. No, he did not discuss that with me.

18 Q. Now, you said this second meeting that you held was after
19 Sam Bockarie returned from Burkina Faso. My question is
10:12:52 20 approximately how long after he returned was this second meeting
21 held?

22 A. Well just as he returned, because it was in December that
23 he returned and at that time it was almost little beyond middle
24 way December, and it was in the same December that we held the
10:13:21 25 meeting.

26 Q. And what year are we in?

27 A. It was in 1998.

28 Q. Where was this meeting - this second meeting - held?

29 A. At Sam Bockarie's house.

1 Q. Where was Sam Bockarie's house?

2 A. That is going towards Foya, Foya Road.

3 Q. What town was it in?

4 A. Buedu.

10:14:01 5 Q. Who was at the meeting?

6 A. Well, we were up to 12 in number present.

7 Q. Are you able to name the 12 who were present?

8 A. Well, I can try. I can try.

9 Q. Please do.

10:14:26 10 A. Well Mr Bockarie was present, Issa was present, Morris
11 Kallon was present, Jungle was present, Eddie Kanneh was present,
12 I was present, Major Francis was present, Matthew Barbor was
13 present, Junior Vandi was present, Gbessay Gbobah who is normally
14 referred to as Chucky was present and I think --

10:15:13 15 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I am sorry, but could you repeat Chucky's
16 name? Please repeat Chucky's name.

17 THE WITNESS: Gbessay Gbobah. Gbessay Gbobah.

18 MS BALY:

19 Q. Just before I turn to the spellings, can you recall if
10:15:32 20 anyone else was present?

21 A. Well, we were 12 in number that particular night that we
22 were present. I don't know how many names I have made mention
23 of, but we were 12 in number.

24 Q. Now, one person you mentioned who you have not mentioned
10:15:53 25 before is Major Francis. Was that his full name, or do you know
26 his full name?

27 A. Well, that was how we used to call him. He was a Gambian,
28 Major Francis.

29 Q. What was his position?

1 A. Well, he was part of the Special Forces that came. They
2 and Sankoh trained together, according to what Pa Sankoh told us.

3 Q. Can you repeat the surname of this Sam person?

4 A. Which one?

10:16:35 5 Q. You said that "He ...", that is Major Francis, "... was
6 part of the Special Forces that came. They and Sam [somebody]
7 trained together". Who was this Sam person?

8 A. I said they and Sankoh trained together. He was his
9 colleague. He was his comrade. They all trained together.

10:17:03 10 Q. Did you say Sankoh and he trained together?

11 A. Yes, together with Francis.

12 Q. Who are you referring to when you say "Sankoh". What is
13 this Sankoh's full name?

14 A. Well, he is called Foday Sankoh. He was the RUF leader.

10:17:26 15 Q. You mentioned a person called - I am sorry, before I go on
16 to that, tell me what were the Special Forces that you referred
17 to that Major Francis was a part of?

18 A. Well, those were the ones who took their training in Libya.
19 That was outside. They were the Special Forces.

10:17:54 20 Q. And what role, or what function, did the Special Forces
21 have at the time that you held this meeting?

22 A. Well, they were the senior men. They were the first people
23 who started planning the missions. They were the senior men in
24 the revolution.

10:18:20 25 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, before we lose off the top of
26 the page this particular account, I am not clear whether the
27 witness is saying that this Sam person was with Major Francis, or
28 not. The Sam person has suddenly come into the story, but I am
29 not quite sure in what context.

1 MS BALY: Your Honour, the evidence is I think that he was
2 saying "Sankoh", rather than "Sam". That is the way I have
3 interpreted.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, let us hear it from the witness as
10:18:57 5 to who exactly he is referring to.

6 MS BALY:

7 Q. The person that you said was with Major Francis, can you
8 just state that person's name again?

9 A. I said Sankoh. Sankoh. Foday Sankoh.

10:19:15 10 Q. Now when you said he was with Major Francis, was Foday
11 Sankoh at this meeting?

12 A. No, I am talking about the base. I said they were all at
13 the base in Libya together. That is what I am talking about.

14 I am not saying Foday Sankoh was present in that meeting. At
10:19:39 15 that time, he was not there. I said he was together with Foday
16 Sankoh at the base.

17 Q. Thank you.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard, does that clarify?

19 MR MUNYARD: I am very grateful. The way it was set out
10:19:50 20 was, "This person Sam was somebody Pa Sankoh told us about."
21 That's why a third individual appeared to have come into the
22 story.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: We did notice that and I'm not sure
24 whether it was pronunciation or interpretation or what, but --

10:20:05 25 MR MUNYARD: I'm clear now.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

27 MS BALY:

28 Q. Well, Mr Witness, was there a person called Sam at the
29 meeting?

1 A. Well, the person who was there, he was Sam Bockarie. He
2 was the only Sam, Sam Bockarie. He was Mosquito. That is his
3 name, Sam Bockarie. Thank you too.

10:20:37 4 Q. You've mentioned a person Matthew Barbor. Who was Matthew
5 Barbor?

6 A. Well, Matthew Barbor was a Liberian.

7 Q. What group did he belong to?

8 A. Well, he was with the NPFL in '91 when they came.

10:21:07 9 Q. As at December 1998 when you had this meeting what group
10 was he with?

11 A. Who?

12 Q. Matthew Barbor.

13 A. He was now with the RUF. He was with the RUF.

10:21:27 14 MS BALY: The only spelling I have for Barbor is as it's
15 spelt. Sorry, B-A-R-B-O-R. Matthew Barbor:

16 Q. Another person you mentioned --

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: We have had a Matthew Barbue before spelt
18 the way it is spelt on the record now. I don't know if this is
19 one and - but the one you are spelling is different.

10:22:00 20 MS BALY: Could you excuse me. I just need to --

21 THE WITNESS: Excuse me please, I want to drink.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please help yourself, Mr Witness.

23 MS BALY: I am told that the way I have spelt it under
24 instructions from Mr Santora is in fact the correct way.

10:22:25 25 MR MUNYARD: I'm staying out of this.

26 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: It's your evidence. We cannot contest
27 it.

28 MS BALY: I know, your Honour. That's what I am told; this
29 is the correct spelling:

1 Q. The other person or another person that you have mentioned
2 is Junior Vandí. Have you mentioned him before?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Did he have another name apart from Junior?

10:22:57 5 A. JR.

6 Q. And you gave some evidence about him yesterday, is that so?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And the final person you mentioned was this person who you
9 knew as Chucky. I think you said his name - can you repeat

10:23:17 10 Chucky's actual name?

11 A. Gbessay Gbobah.

12 MS BALY: G-B-E-S-S-A-Y for the first name Gbessay.

13 Gbobah, B-G-O-B-A-H [sic]:

14 Q. Where was Gbessay Gbobah from?

10:23:49 15 A. Well, he was RUF.

16 Q. Where did he come from?

17 A. He was a Sierra Leonean. He was born in Kailahun.

18 Q. Now what were the topics that were discussed at that
19 particular meeting?

10:24:16 20 A. Well, firstly we discussed about trying to free the leader
21 and in that case we were to re-attack Kono and go up to Freetown
22 and then free our leader and take over power. We also discussed
23 the disloyalty of SAJ Musa. We discussed that.

24 Q. In relation to this operation to trying to free the leader,
10:24:54 25 what leader are you referring to?

26 A. Foday Sankoh.

27 Q. You said that there was a plan to attack Kono and then to
28 free the leader and to take power. I want you to explain in more
29 detail what exactly this plan was.

1 A. Well, when Mr Bockarie came he called on us because there
2 was no need for him to call all the officers again, so those of
3 us who were closer to his location, he invited us. We came to
4 Buedu and then he explained to us that he has brought ammunition,
10:25:49 5 he has brought enough logistics so that we will be able to run
6 any kind of mission. So he said we should now plan how to take
7 the move and that the first target should be Kono, to Makeni, up
8 to Freetown. And that the next target should be Segbwema and
9 Daru, that is heading towards Kenema and to go to the southern
10:26:15 10 province. So those were the things we discussed and the issue of
11 SAJ Musa's disloyalty that he has been doing all along. That was
12 also something we discussed.

13 Q. When you say the first target should be Kono, to Makeni, up
14 to Freetown, what do you mean by that the first target was to be
10:26:46 15 Kono?

16 A. Well, Kono is a mining area. In that whole country that is
17 the place we know for high level productivity for diamonds, so we
18 believe that if we were able to capture there first it would have
19 been good for us. That was the reason why Kono - he said Kono
10:27:12 20 should serve as the first target that we should capture.

21 Q. Were any particular commanders given the role of capturing
22 Kono?

23 A. Well, yes.

24 Q. Who?

10:27:33 25 A. Well, Sam Bockarie told us that this plan was designed in
26 Monrovia with Mr Taylor. He said it was designed in Monrovia so
27 he only brought it to brief us, that this should be the way we
28 should do things so that we will be able to succeed in the war.

29 Q. Who was it that was going to attack Kono?

1 A. Well, the commanders were there, Issa was there, Morris
2 Kallon and Superman. They were the most senior men that were
3 supposed to run this mission in those areas.

10:28:34 4 Q. When you say run this mission in those areas, which areas
5 are you talking about?

6 A. Kono.

7 Q. The plan was then to move on to Makeni, is that right?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What was to take place at Makeni?

10:28:49 10 A. Well, they should clear starting from Kono up to Makeni and
11 those are towns that you cannot just jump over and go to
12 Freetown, they were provincial headquarters, you have to pass
13 through them first.

10:29:16 14 Q. What do you mean when you say, "They should clear"? What
15 do you mean by "clear"?

16 A. Clear in the sense - clear in the sense that when as you
17 push forward you shouldn't spare any town, you shouldn't jump
18 over any town, you shouldn't leave any town untouched. You have
19 to pass through them all and make sure that they are under
10:29:41 20 control. That is what I mean by "clear".

21 Q. What commanders were given the role of clearing Makeni?

22 A. It was Issa who was the overall for that operation and
23 Morris Kallon was his deputy and Superman was third in command.

10:30:23 24 Q. Then you said on to Freetown. Was anyone given the role of
25 moving on to Freetown?

26 A. Yes, they gave the mission to somebody.

27 Q. Who?

28 A. Well, Sam Bockarie sent the message to SAJ Musa even before
29 they attacked Kono but he refused. He rejected the orders. He

1 said he cannot take orders from him, so there was a heated
2 argument over the issue.

3 Q. When you refer to this heated argument, did it take place
4 in this meeting?

10:31:06 5 A. You mean whether the argument took place during the
6 meeting?

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. Yes, after the meeting he called him, but in fact the
9 argument had started for a long time ago.

10:31:25 10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Witness, we did caution you about
11 saying "he called him". Please use names so that we can follow.
12 Please repeat your answer.

13 THE WITNESS: Okay. Well, repeat the question.

14 MS BALY:

10:31:43 15 Q. The question was when you were referring to a heated
16 argument I asked you whether the heated argument took place in
17 the meeting that you have been giving evidence about?

18 A. After the meeting, but there had been arguments even before
19 the meeting, before this mission there had been an argument.

10:32:07 20 Just at the time Sam Bockarie sent the message to all the
21 stations, right from that time SAJ Musa was not happy about it.
22 He was disgruntled right up to this mission time and after they
23 had held the meeting. He sent the same order to SAJ Musa and he
24 refused even before the Kono thing.

10:32:32 25 Q. I am going to come back to this issue about SAJ Musa in a
26 moment, all right? One of the things you said was that the next
27 target was to be Segbwema and Daru.

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Who, if anyone, was given the role of taking Segbwema and

1 Daru?

2 A. I was.

3 Q. Now the second issue that you said that was discussed at
4 the meeting was SAJ Musa.

10:33:21 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What was it about SAJ Musa that was discussed at the
7 meeting?

8 A. Well, Sam Bockarie told us that the complaint had gone up
9 to Mr Taylor, that the man's complaints had been lodged about his
10 disloyalty towards the mission, and he too gave his own piece of
11 advice just so that --

12 Q. Can I just ask you to pause there for a moment. Once again
13 it's important that you use people's names. Sam Bockarie told
14 you that a complaint had gone up to Mr Taylor, "That the man's
15 complaint", who is the man that made the complaint?

16 A. Sam Bockarie lodged the complaint to Mr Taylor against SAJ
17 Musa regarding his attitude.

18 Q. What was it about SAJ Musa's attitude that he complained
19 about?

10:34:30 20 A. He said he was a man who did not take any order from
21 people. He was disloyal to the command.

22 Q. At the meeting was there any other discussion about SAJ
23 Musa, apart from the fact that Sam Bockarie had made a complaint
24 to Mr Taylor?

10:35:02 25 A. Yes, Mr Bockarie made us to understand that that man should
26 not leave to tell the story and the only way we were to --

27 Q. What man?

28 A. SAJ Musa. SAJ Musa.

29 Q. SAJ Musa should not leave to tell the story. Continue from

1 there?

2 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Not live. The record says "leave", but
3 it is actually L-I-V-E, I imagine.

4 MS BALY: Yes:

10:35:34 5 Q. What did you say? Can you repeat your answer? You said,
6 "Mr Bockarie made us to understand that that man should not ..."
7 Can you continue from there?

8 A. He said we should go all out to ensure that that man should
9 not live to tell the story.

10:35:54 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, what word did the witness
11 use?

12 THE INTERPRETER: Live to tell the story.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: L-E-A-V-E?

14 THE INTERPRETER: L-I-V-E.

10:36:04 15 MS BALY:

16 Q. And just so it is clear, what man should not live to tell
17 the story?

18 A. SAJ Musa.

19 Q. Did Sam Bockarie say anything else about SAJ Musa not
10:36:21 20 living to tell the story?

21 A. Yes, yes.

22 Q. Now, take it slowly and tell us what he said.

23 A. He said we should only be able to get him when there was a
24 mission, when there was operation going on. He even made us to
10:36:43 25 understand that that was something he had been discussing with
26 Gullit, that during any mission that man should not live. He
27 should die because he was a traitor. He referred to him as a
28 traitor.

29 Q. Did Sam Bockarie say how SAJ Musa was to die?

1 A. Well, in the military terms they say it should be during
2 operations. You know, if they will mean arms. He should die
3 during the battle. He should be shot.

4 Q. Did he say who should shoot him?

10:37:30 5 A. He just told us that he had spoken to Gullit and that the
6 two of them had been discussing that even before Gullit went to
7 where SAJ Musa was. That was what he made us to understand.

8 Q. He made you to understand that he had been discussing this
9 with Gullit, is that what you are saying?

10:37:53 10 A. Yes, yes.

11 Q. Did he make you understand who was to do the killing of SAJ
12 Musa?

13 A. It was the discussion that he had with Gullit. He did not
14 specify who should do the shooting, but the discussion had been
10:38:13 15 going on together with Gullit.

16 Q. This particular meeting, how long did it go on for?

17 A. It was a very short meeting, just for three hours, because
18 it was at night and we did not even want Johnny Paul to know.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Baly, I am not clear from the record
10:38:41 20 when this meeting took place.

21 MS BALY: I think we actually have that. It is
22 mid-December. He did give the evidence that the meeting took
23 place in December of 1998 and he said around the middle, if I can
24 just find it. I can clear it with the witness now:

10:39:12 25 Q. Mr Witness, I am going to ask you again when was it that
26 this meeting - this second meeting - took place?

27 A. It was at night in December.

28 Q. December what year?

29 A. 1998.

1 Q. Are you able to say - and please tell us if you can't say -
2 when in December the meeting took place, or whenabouts?

3 A. I cannot recall the exact date now, but it was at night
4 that we held the meeting. I cannot recall the date.

10:39:53 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, the witness mentioned a phrase
6 that SAJ Musa was disloyal to the command. What command?
7 I would like to know.

8 MS BALY:

9 Q. What command was SAJ Musa disloyal to?

10:40:10 10 A. The RUF command.

11 Q. Was he disloyal to the RUF command generally, or was it
12 some commander in the RUF specifically?

13 A. Well, I believe in the RUF if somebody was disloyal to Sam
14 Bockarie's command then that should be that you are disloyal to
10:40:35 15 the RUF command because he was the head.

16 Q. Thank you.

17 A. Thank you too.

18 Q. This meeting - this three hour short meeting - was there
19 anything else discussed apart from the plan to attack Freetown
10:40:54 20 and the SAJ Musa issue?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. What?

23 A. Well, at that time even the leader who had his revolution
24 was there. That should be the first target, to go to Pademba
10:41:18 25 Road and to free - to release the leader, and second we were to
26 go to State House and overthrow the President and if possible, if
27 we met him there, we should kill him.

28 Q. Just so it is clear, what President was to be overthrown
29 and if possible killed?

1 A. President Kabbah.

2 Q. And what leader was to be released from Pademba Road?

3 A. Foday Sankoh.

10:42:02 4 Q. The person Jungle who you discussed yesterday, was he at
5 this meeting?

6 A. Yes, yes, he was part of this 12 man meeting.

7 Q. Did Jungle speak at the meeting?

8 A. Yes, later, after the plan had gone on, Sam Bockarie spoke
9 to Mr Taylor about the plan, how the mission was to carry on, and

10:42:37 10 --

11 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness repeat his
12 last answer?

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter asks that you
14 repeat your last answer. Please pick up from the point where you
10:42:48 15 said "... how the mission was to carry on". Continue from there.

16 THE WITNESS: They briefed President Taylor, the former
17 President, about the plan how it was set. After that Jungle too
18 buttressed the same topic to him, how the plan had been made, and
19 he in turn thanked them and told them to carry on and that he
10:43:25 20 said he would pray that the mission would be successful.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just a moment. "Jungle too buttressed
22 the same topic to him", who is him?

23 THE WITNESS: To Mr Taylor.

24 MS BALY:

10:43:42 25 Q. How did --

26 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, the question you asked
27 previously was did this man Jungle speak at the meeting and then
28 the answer that follows doesn't answer your question.

29 MS BALY: I will go back to that:

1 Q. My question - and just listen carefully to the question -
2 is I am referring to in the meeting, this three hour meeting,
3 during the meeting did Jungle speak?

4 A. Yes.

10:44:12 5 Q. What did Jungle say in the meeting?

6 A. Well, in the first place Jungle himself told us about the
7 material that Mr Bockarie had brought and that we should not fear
8 this time round and that there was no force that could withstand
9 us. That was what he said in the meeting and he said he had
10 discussed it with the Pa in Monrovia even before they came.

10:44:39

11 Q. And did he say what the Pa had said in Monrovia?

12 A. Yes, it was just what Sam Bockarie told us. He just spoke
13 about the same issues Sam Bockarie had spoken about, that the Pa
14 had said our first target should be Kono before we should

10:45:13

15 proceed. That was what he too explained.

16 Q. When you are saying "he", "he too explained", who are you
17 referring to? Who was the "he too that explained"?

18 A. Mr Taylor.

19 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Well, Mr Taylor was not in the meeting.

10:45:40

20 MS BALY: I know, your Honour:

21 Q. The questions I have been asking you are about what Jungle
22 said in the meeting and you have told us that Jungle said he had
23 some discussion with the Pa in Monrovia about the plan. I am
24 going to ask you - my question is did Jungle say in the meeting
25 what the Pa had said to Jungle in Monrovia?

10:46:12

26 A. Yes, that is what I explained. I said they were the ones
27 who came, so he too told us about the materials that had been
28 brought for the mission and that the Pa - that they had discussed
29 with the Pa how the mission should go on. That is Pa Taylor.

1 MR MUNYARD: I am sorry, but now I don't know who the
2 "they" is. I said, "They were the ones who came". Can we please
3 find out from the witness who he is talking about at this stage?

4 MS BALY:

10:46:54 5 Q. Now what you said a moment ago was, "I said they were the
6 ones who came". Who are "they" that came?

7 A. Jungle. Jungle.

8 Q. So, Jungle is one person?

9 A. And Sam Bockarie.

10:47:14 10 Q. And Jungle and Sam Bockarie you have already told us were
11 both at the meeting, is that right?

12 A. Yes, yes.

13 Q. Now apart from Jungle telling you that he had discussed the
14 plan with the Pa in Monrovia, did Jungle say anything else at the
10:47:36 15 meeting? At the meeting?

16 A. Well, that is what he said. That is what he said.

17 Q. After the meeting, immediately after the meeting, what did
18 you do?

19 A. After the meeting, I returned to my area of operation to be
10:48:09 20 able to start preparation for my own responsibility that was
21 given to me so that I would carry it out.

22 Q. Before we go to that, this meeting you said was held at
23 night. About what time in the night was the meeting held?

24 A. That meeting I will think it was 9 o'clock, or thereafter.

10:48:45 25 Q. It went for approximately three hours. Did it finish
26 around midnight?

27 A. Yes, yes.

28 Q. On that night immediately after you left, or immediately
29 after the meeting had finished, did you see Jungle?

1 A. After the meeting had concluded?

2 Q. Yes, immediately after.

3 A. Yes, yes. I saw Jungle.

4 Q. What did Jungle do immediately after the meeting?

10:49:34 5 A. Because that time was night all of us went to bed.

6 Q. You gave some evidence about five or ten minutes ago about

7 Jungle --

8 MR MUNYARD: Can I ask my learned friend to be very careful
9 not to lead. I am simply putting down a marker, that's all.

10:50:00 10 MS BALY: Thank you. I won't lead. I will turn to what he
11 said. Just pardon me for a moment. Excuse me, I am just trying
12 to find a certain place:

13 Q. You gave some evidence earlier when you used the phrase,
14 "They briefed President Taylor".

10:51:21 15 A. Yes, yes, but the question that I heard just now was after,
16 after the meeting. After the meeting and during the meeting are
17 not the same questions. I spoke about after the meeting and
18 after the meeting everybody went to bed. If you had told me
19 during the meeting what everybody said --

10:51:39 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness.

21 THE WITNESS: Yes, yes.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Counsel has a different question. Listen
23 to the question, please.

24 MS BALY:

10:51:48 25 Q. The question is: Who briefed President Taylor?

26 A. First it was Sam Bockarie. He held the phone and spoke to
27 the Pa. He briefed him about the arrangement we had done about
28 the mission and later Jungle himself went on the same phone and
29 spoke on the same topic to President Taylor, that we had arranged

1 everything to run the mission.

2 Q. Where was this phone?

3 A. It was the same veranda at the back of Mr Bockarie's house.
4 The veranda at the back. That was where the phone was.

10:52:39 5 Q. What type of phone was it?

6 A. It was a satellite phone.

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, I am still unclear about this
8 area. This witness, when you asked him what happened in the
9 meeting, he then spoke about this testimony you are considering
10:53:04 10 and he says, "Yes, later after the plan had gone on Sam Bockarie
11 spoke to Mr Taylor about the plan, how the mission was to carry
12 on" and et cetera, et cetera. Now, this later, how much later
13 was this after the meeting is what I would like to know and how
14 this witness knew about this conversation I would also like to
10:53:28 15 know.

16 MS BALY:

17 Q. When you gave some evidence and Justice Sebutinde has just
18 read out some of the things that you said about conversation with
19 Charles Taylor by Sam Bockarie about the plan, where were you
10:53:53 20 when that conversation took place?

21 A. All of us were in the veranda where the meeting was held.
22 I was at the veranda myself. I was part of the meeting.

23 Q. Did this conversation take place during, or as part of the
24 meeting, or at the conclusion, or after the meeting?

10:54:24 25 A. About the time the meeting was to be ended. All of us, 12
26 of us were there.

27 Q. Are you saying the 12 of you were there when the
28 conversation took place?

29 A. Yes, because the meeting had not ended yet so all 12 of us

1 were still there.

2 Q. Just so that it's clear, who was doing the talking on the
3 satellite phone?

4 A. I said first it was Mr Bockarie.

10:55:10 5 Q. Just so it's clear, and I know you have gone over this, but
6 just take it one step at a time, what exactly did Sam Bockarie
7 say at that time on the phone?

8 A. He told him about the mission that had been discussed in
9 Monrovia. He said he had come and put it to the senior officers
10:55:37 10 and that was the meeting that was going on and that the same plan
11 he had given to him was the same plan they had come to discuss.

12 Q. Same plan that they had given to who?

13 A. Sam Bockarie.

14 Q. After Sam Bockarie spoke you said Jungle spoke.

10:56:05 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Who gave the plan?

16 THE WITNESS: Mr Taylor. Mr Taylor.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

18 MS BALY:

19 Q. After Sam Bockarie spoke, did anybody else speak?

10:56:17 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who?

22 A. Jungle.

23 Q. And what did Jungle say?

24 A. He repeated the same thing to Mr Taylor, because he was the
10:56:35 25 representative for him in the RUF, so he explained the same thing
26 to him; that the plan they had discussed in Monrovia, they had
27 come and put it to the senior officers and they had assured him
28 that they would go ahead with the plan.

29 Q. How long did this conversation or did these conversations

1 take?

2 A. They did not take long. It was just short conversations,
3 just as what I have explained. It was not a long thing. I did
4 not, for example, look at my watch to see how many minutes or
10:57:21 5 hours, but it was just a short conversation.

6 Q. After the conversation is that when you went to sleep for
7 the night?

8 A. Yes, all of us went to sleep.

9 Q. The next day --

10:57:41 10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, I would also like to know, and
11 this is why I asked, how does this witness know about this
12 conversation? I don't know how the satellite phone works but
13 I can understand him listening to Bockarie and Jungle. How does
14 he know who was on the other side?

10:58:00 15 MS BALY:

16 Q. Mr Witness, how do you know who was on the other side of
17 the satellite phone who Sam Bockarie and Jungle were talking to?

18 A. Well, they told us that they were talking to Mr Taylor,
19 that they were calling Pa Taylor. And when they called the
10:58:24 20 conversation was going on, we were not hearing what the other
21 side, but when the other side was talking they were responding
22 and the discussion was going on. They said it was Mr Taylor.

23 Q. During the actual talking that was going on did you hear
24 Mr Taylor's name mentioned?

10:58:49 25 A. Yes, sir.

26 MS BALY: I hope that makes it clear how he knew:

27 Q. The next day what did you do?

28 A. Well, the next day he invited us again to go and see the
29 armament that he had brought, the logistics that he had brought.

1 Q. Mr Witness, you are using the word "he" again. It's
2 important that you use names rather than he. So who invited you?
3 Who was it?

4 A. Sam Bockarie.

10:59:38 5 Q. What did Sam Bockarie invite you to do?

6 A. He invited us to go and see the materials he had brought,
7 the logistics he had brought.

8 Q. He had brought from where?

9 A. From Burkina Faso.

10:59:56 10 Q. And did you go and see the materials that he had brought?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Where did you go?

13 A. In his ammo dump.

14 Q. Where was his ammo dump?

11:00:18 15 A. Very close to his house.

16 Q. Where was his house?

17 A. Buedu Road.

18 Q. When you went to this ammo dump what did you see?

11:00:46 19 A. I saw a lot of logistics. I saw AK rounds. I saw the
20 rifle itself, AK. I saw G3. I saw G3 rounds. I saw combats.
21 I saw boots. I saw grenades. I saw mines. I saw the RPG, the
22 rocket and the tubes. Those are the ones I can recall now.

23 Q. What did you do after you saw this material?

11:01:31 24 A. Well, they gave me my own responsibility and they asked me
25 to go and start putting men together. I went and met - I should
26 go and meet the brigade commanders so we should start to put the
27 men together.

28 Q. What were you putting the men together for?

29 A. It was to carry on my own mission that was given to me,

1 that was to capture Segbwema and Daru and, if possible, to go
2 even beyond.

3 Q. And did you put the men together?

4 A. Yes, yes.

11:02:06 5 Q. And did you meet with the brigade commanders?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. Who were the brigade commanders that you met with?

8 A. I met with 1st Brigade commander, Mr Denis Lansana.

9 Q. What did you do after you had put the men together and met
11:02:36 10 with Denis Lansana?

11 A. Well, we informed Mr Bockarie and he said the men should be
12 intact because the attacks should go on concurrently. Kono,
13 Segbwema, those two flanks, the attacks should go on
14 concurrently.

11:03:01 15 Q. So did you commence the attack that you were responsible
16 for?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And what exactly did you do?

19 A. The first target was Segbwema. I cleared Segbwema.

11:03:26 20 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: The witness said something that doesn't
21 make sense. "Mr Bockarie said the men should be entered." What
22 is that?

23 MS BALY:

24 Q. What did you mean when you said Mr Bockarie said the men
11:03:40 25 should be entered?

26 A. Enter where?

27 Q. It was a phrase that you used. I will just read it to you.

28 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the word used was intact.

29 Not enter. It might have been recorded wrongly by the

1 stenographer.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: I heard "intact" as well.

3 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: In that case what does, "The men should
4 be intact" mean?

11:04:11 5 MS BALY:

6 Q. What does it mean, Mr Witness, "The men should be intact"?

7 A. Well when you put men together, if the mission was not
8 ready yet they should not scatter about. They should not go
9 anywhere. That is what I know about intact. They were to be

11:04:33 10 together. Nobody should move away from the group. That is my
11 own understanding about the word intact.

12 Q. You said you were - the first target was Segbwema and that
13 you had cleared Segbwema. What do you mean by you cleared
14 Segbwema?

11:04:53 15 A. Well the enemies who were there, I pushed them out of the
16 town. That means I cleared the town.

17 Q. What did you do after you had cleared Segbwema?

18 A. I headed for the other target.

19 Q. Where did you head?

11:05:17 20 A. Daru barracks.

21 Q. And what did you do when you got to Daru barracks?

22 A. I attacked Daru barracks also.

23 Q. Were you successful in your attack upon Daru barracks?

24 A. No.

11:05:41 25 Q. Why?

26 A. The force that was there, the ECOMOG force, was too heavy.
27 That was why I was unable.

28 Q. Where did you go after you were unable to attack
29 successfully Daru barracks?

1 A. I had to return to Segbwema.

2 Q. Where were you when Freetown was invaded on 6 January 1999?

3 A. Well, at that time I had returned. Because we were unable
4 to capture Daru, we feared that the enemy would return - would

11:06:46 5 advance to Kailahun and so I was asked to go to my area, Baiima.

6 Q. So were you --

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, that doesn't actually answer the
8 question. He was asked to do something. I don't know whether he
9 did it, or not.

11:06:59 10 MS BALY:

11 Q. Where were you when Freetown was invaded on 6 January?

12 Just say where you were.

13 A. Baiima.

14 Q. Thank you. And just so that it is clear, did you play any

11:07:20 15 role at all in the invasion of the city of Freetown on 6 January
16 1999?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Your evidence yesterday was that you remained in Baiima

19 until --

11:07:51 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- the end of 1999. Is that correct?

22 A. Yes, yes, end of 1999. At the end of 19 - around December,
23 or November/December.

24 Q. When you were in Baiima during 1999, what were your duties?

11:08:22 25 A. Well I was on the defensive, because ECOMOG was in Daru and
26 so I was on the defensive.

27 Q. Did you receive any particular assignments during that year
28 apart from generally being on the defensive?

29 A. 1999?

1 Q. Yes.

2 A. No.

3 Q. I want to turn now to a topic involving arms and
4 ammunition. Can you tell the Court generally while you were with
11:09:09 5 the RUF where you got the arms and the ammunition that you used
6 from?

7 A. When I was with the RUF?

8 Q. Yes.

9 A. Well first in 1991, after we had been trained, the
11:09:43 10 Liberians were mainly leading the war. The ammunition was coming
11 from Liberia. That was 1991 right up to --

12 Q. Just pause there, please. You said the ammunition was
13 coming from Liberia. Where were the arms coming from?

14 A. Even the arms they were coming from the same direction,
11:10:13 15 Liberia.

16 Q. And for how long did the arms and the ammunition continue
17 to come from Liberia?

18 A. From 1991 to 1992.

19 Q. And what happened in 1992?

11:10:36 20 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, what does "arms and ammunition
21 were coming from Liberia mean"? Liberia is a country.

22 MS BALY: I was going to turn to that, your Honour:

23 Q. When you say the arms and ammunition were coming from
24 Liberia, where, if you know, in Liberia were the arms and
11:10:59 25 ammunition coming from?

26 A. Well I couldn't tell the part of the country where the
27 ammunition was coming from, but the NPFL fighters who came were
28 the ones who brought the ammunition because at that time I was a
29 junior man in the movement.

1 Q. And did these NPFL fighters tell you where they got the
2 ammunition from?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Did they tell you where they got the arms from?

11:11:44 5 A. No.

6 Q. So at that time your state of knowledge, that is from 1991
7 to 1992, was that the arms and ammunition were coming from
8 somewhere in Liberia? Is that your evidence?

9 MR MUNYARD: Well, with respect, what he said is that they
11:12:06 10 were brought by the NPFL fighters. We have not established
11 whether he knows where they got their arms from; whether it was
12 Liberia, Burkina Faso, Libya, or anywhere else.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Or for that matter where exactly the NPFL
14 fighters came from.

11:12:23 15 MS BALY:

16 Q. Can I ask you firstly where the NPFL fighters came from?

17 A. It was in Liberia.

18 Q. And where did the NPFL fighters get their arms and
19 ammunitions from?

11:12:39 20 A. Well at that time I did not ask them where they got their
21 arms and ammunition, but only that we got our arms and ammunition
22 from the NPFL fighters.

23 Q. Earlier in your evidence you did say that you got arms and
24 ammunition in 1991 to 1992 from Liberia. Do you remember giving
11:13:08 25 that evidence?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. How do you know that the arms and ammunition at that time
28 came from Liberia?

29 A. When we were in here, we were pushed to Liberia and we went

1 to Bomi. I explained this story, when Pa Sankoh and Mr Ghankay
2 came and met us and they issued materials to us to come and fight
3 in Sierra Leone, so by that I know it was Liberia. We were not
4 in any other country but in Liberia, so through that I knew it
11:13:47 5 was in Liberia that the arms were coming from.

6 Q. And just so that it is clear, did you know whereabouts in
7 Liberia the arms and ammunition had actually come from?

8 A. No.

9 Q. In 1992, did something change in relation to where you got
11:14:15 10 your arms and ammunition from?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What was the change?

13 A. That was the time ULIMO took the border from us. Between
14 us and NPFL, when they came from Lofa they fortified the border
11:14:44 15 right up to --

16 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness repeat?

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter needs you to
18 repeat part of your answer. Continue from where you said,
19 "Between us and the NPFL, when they came from Lofa they fortified
11:15:00 20 the border right up to ..." Continue from there, please.

21 THE WITNESS: I said the relationship in 1992, that was the
22 time the ULIMO forces came from Lofa end and they ensured that
23 the entire border was fortified between us and the NPFL. They
24 captured right up to Robertsport. From that time, the
11:15:39 25 relationship had started cutting off between us and the NPFL.

26 Q. What effect did that have on the arms and ammunition that
27 you had?

28 A. Well, that affected the movement greatly. The war was not
29 progressing because we were not having any other place to get

1 ammunitions from, so it affected us greatly.

2 Q. What was it that affected the getting of the ammunitions
3 and the arms?

4 A. I would like you to repeat that so I will get it clearly.

11:16:30 5 I don't understand what you mean.

6 Q. You said, "The war was not progressing because we were not
7 having any other place to get ammunitions from, so it affected us
8 greatly". Why was it that you had no other place to get
9 ammunitions from?

11:16:53 10 A. Well, at that time the enemy had cut off the supply line
11 between us and the NPFL where we used to get our ammunition to
12 fight with. That was why the war was not progressing, because we
13 could not fight without the logistics and so that affected us
14 immensely.

11:17:17 15 Q. Because of the situation that you had at that point with
16 logistics, what happened to the movement?

17 A. Well, the movement collapsed a little. We were just on
18 defensive. Our only offensive was to lay ambush and we returned
19 to our same base where we were, so that really created a problem
20 for us.

11:17:46 21 Q. Where did you return to?

22 A. Like for us the chiefdom where we were, Sogbewema, any time
23 we came to look for materials in the enemy zone where enemies
24 would not expect us we will come and set our ambush and, if they
25 fell into the ambush, we will return to the same base where we
26 would have come from. That was the Pujehun District.

11:18:05 27 Q. For how long did that situation last?

28 A. It started in 1992 up to 1993. It stopped there and then
29 phase 2 started when we went and met with the leader, but from

1 1992 right up to 1996 the boundary between us and NPFL was cut
2 off. We had no relationship with them from 1992 right up to
3 1996.

11:18:56 4 Q. When you say you had no relationship with the NPFL from
5 1992 right up to 1996, what do you mean by "no relationship"?

6 A. Well, we were all brothers in arms. They were the ones who
7 mainly assisted the revolution and so it came to a time that we
8 were getting ammunition from them, but then when ULIMO had cut
9 off the border we could not get any ammunition from them any
11:19:31 10 more.

11 Q. And you said that that situation lasted until about 1996.
12 Is that correct?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. And in relation to the getting of arms and ammunition, what
11:19:49 15 happened in 1996?

16 A. Well in 1996 we had serious pressure from the Kamajors and
17 it was almost at the point of collapsing - the movement was
18 almost at the point of collapsing - but at that time we were able
19 to get connection again with Liberia, because there was now peace
11:20:25 20 in Liberia and so we had some connection with Liberians again.

21 Q. And what was the result of the connection you had with
22 Liberia when it comes to the getting of arms and ammunition?

23 A. That was the time Foday Sankoh came from Abidjan and met us
24 in Kailahun. He gave some money to Sam Bockarie, some dollars.
11:20:58 25 At that time we had so much pressure, we hadn't materials to
26 fight against the Kamajors, so he gave some money to that man to
27 try by whatever means for us to get logistics to fight with.

28 Q. And when you say "he gave some money to that man", what
29 man?

1 A. Sam Bockarie.

2 Q. Do you know how much money was given to Sam Bockarie?

3 A. No, he did not disclose the total to us. He only said the
4 Pa had left some money for us to try and get ammunition.

11:21:39 5 Q. When you say "the Pa", who are you referring to?

6 A. Foday Sankoh.

7 Q. And do you know whether Foday Sankoh - do you know whether
8 Sam Bockarie was able to get arms and ammunition with that money?

9 A. Yes, we started getting some ammunition that sustained the
11:22:09 10 movement.

11 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, what is "small small"?

12 THE INTERPRETER: Some. In this case, your Honour, it
13 means unspecified amount.

14 MS BALY: It has come up as "some":

11:22:27 15 Q. Mr Witness, was there a time when you yourself were
16 involved in getting arms and ammunition?

17 A. Can you explain that a little clearer?

18 Q. Were you ever involved yourself in obtaining arms and
19 ammunition for the RUF movement?

11:23:00 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. How many times were you involved in obtaining arms and
22 ammunition for the RUF?

23 A. Three times.

24 Q. When was the first time?

11:23:24 25 A. The first time it was after the intervention.

26 Q. Where were you based at this time?

27 A. I was in Baiima then.

28 Q. How was it that you became involved in obtaining arms and
29 ammunition on that occasion?

1 A. I had a call from our high command, who was Sam Bockarie.
2 He called me at his base in Buedu.

3 Q. What did Sam Bockarie say to you?

11:24:24

4 A. He said Pa Taylor was to send some ammunition for the RUF
5 that we were to go and collect it.

6 Q. And did he say to you why you were selected to go and
7 collect it?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What did he say?

11:24:45

10 A. Well, one of the reasons was that I was one of the
11 commanders in that Kailahun area where he was based and the
12 second was I had a vehicle. That was the reason why I was
13 involved in that ammunition issue.

14 Q. What kind of vehicle did you have at that time?

11:25:14

15 A. I had a Land Rover.

16 Q. What did you do after the phone call you had with Sam
17 Bockarie?

11:25:42

18 A. When he called me, he told me that ammunition was to be
19 brought to Foya and so we should go and collect it. And I was
20 happy because if you are fighting a war and you are without
21 materials that is not good, but if there is material that is a
22 success to you.

23 Q. So, what did you do? What action did you take?

11:26:08

24 A. So I joined him and we travelled. We took his two jeeps
25 that he had and mine and we moved to Foya.

26 Q. Who did you join?

27 A. Mosquito. I joined Mosquito.

28 Q. And you said, "We took his two jeeps that he had and mine
29 and we moved to Foya", so how many jeeps went to Foya?

1 A. Three. Three vehicles.

2 Q. And who were the people that went to Foya?

3 A. I went - the two of us went with few of his security men
4 and his radio man.

11:26:51 5 Q. Do you know the names of the security men that went?

6 A. I cannot recall their names now.

7 Q. Do you know the name of the radio man that went?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Who?

11:27:14 10 A. Elevation.

11 Q. What did you do when you got to Foya?

12 A. Well at that time we went, but the helicopter had not
13 arrived yet because he told us that the helicopter was to bring
14 the materials and we went to the commander.

11:27:44 15 Q. Who was the commander that you went to?

16 A. One Commander Joseph.

17 Q. Where was this Commander Joseph?

18 A. In Foya, near the roundabout. The main junction.

19 Q. And what did you do when you went to this Commander Joseph?

11:28:11 20 A. We were based there until - my commander told me to wait
21 until the helicopter would land and we will go to the field.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Baly, we have been advised that the
23 time has run out and so we will take the mid-morning break now.
24 I am sorry to interrupt your examination-in-chief.

11:28:41 25 Mr Witness, it is now time for the mid-morning break. We
26 are going to take 30 minutes break and we will resume court at
27 12 o'clock. Please adjourn court until 12.

28 [Break taken at 11.30 am.]

29 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed, Ms Baly.

2 MS BALY: Thank you, your Honour:

3 Q. Just one matter that I wish to return to from your evidence
4 this morning. When I was asking you questions about the meeting
12:01:57 5 that took place in December 1998, the three hour meeting, and you
6 said one of the issues was the SAJ Musa issue, I asked you this
7 question, "Did Sam Bockarie say how SAJ Musa was to die?", and
8 you gave this answer, "Well, in the military terms they say it
9 should be during operations. You know, if they will mean arms.
12:02:25 10 He should die during the battle. He should be shot."

11 Can you just explain what you meant by that answer?

12 A. Please repeat it.

13 Q. Listen carefully, if you would. This is a question that I
14 asked you in the context of that three hour meeting which took
12:02:51 15 place in December 1998 when there was the SAJ Musa issue being
16 discussed and I asked you this question, "Did Sam Bockarie say
17 how SAJ Musa was to die?", and this was your answer, "Well, in
18 the military terms they say it should be during operations. You
19 know, if they will mean arms. He should die during the battle.
12:03:21 20 He should be shot." That was the answer you gave. I want you to
21 explain what you meant by that answer.

22 A. What I meant, when they said somebody should die, he should
23 be killed in a battle, or in operation, we were not fighting with
24 sticks, a commander will not come to tell you that you should use
12:03:51 25 a knife or a stick. During battles we were using rifles. That's
26 why I said the man should be killed with an arm, by an
27 [indiscernible] that was why I said he should be killed during
28 the battle. Arms should be used. I don't know if that is clear
29 enough.

1 Q. Let me just ask a couple of questions arising out of your
2 answer. When you say the man should be killed with an arm,
3 should be killed during the battle, arms should be used, what do
4 you mean by arms should be used, he should be killed with arms?

12:04:39 5 A. Well, these people were using arms. They were playing with
6 arms and so if somebody said a person should be killed in that
7 operation, or in that mission, so I just thought that that person
8 should not be killed using a knife, or any other thing, but arms.

9 Q. And what did you mean when you said he should be killed
10 during the battle?

11 A. Well, that man was a commander and he had a lot of soldiers
12 under his command. He cannot be lying in his house while there
13 were securities and you would go there and kill him, that would
14 be not be easy. The only time you would get your colleague, that
15 should be when firing was going on, when everybody would be
16 concentrating on the enemy. That was the easiest time you would
17 kill somebody that you had targeted.

18 Q. Can I take you back to just before the break you said you
19 had gone to Foya and you went to a person by the name of
12:05:55 20 Commander Joseph near a roundabout at the main junction. Can I
21 ask you do you know this person Commander Joseph's full name?

22 A. No, that is the name I knew for him, because that was the
23 first day I saw him.

24 Q. And I just want to clarify the timing of this event a
12:06:24 25 little bit. You said it was just after the ECOMOG intervention.
26 When was it in relation to the death of Abacha who you've
27 referred to earlier?

28 A. This happened - it took some months before Abacha died.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, what does that mean

1 exactly, "it took some months before Abacha died"?

2 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, except the witness says it
3 again, because that was the same way he said it. It's confusing
4 even to the interpreter.

12:07:13 5 MS BALY:

6 Q. What do you mean when you say it took some months before
7 Abacha died?

8 A. When you spoke about Abacha - okay, repeat the question. I
9 cannot repeat it.

12:07:32 10 Q. The question is: You said that this occasion, when you
11 went to Foya with Sam Bockarie to get the arms and ammunition,
12 took place just after the ECOMOG intervention. Can you relate
13 this incident to the death of Abacha? Was it before or after the
14 death of Abacha?

12:07:58 15 A. Well, this mission took place, then Abacha died thereafter.

16 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, the witness has used this
17 particular time marker, the death of Abacha, as if we all know
18 what day Sani Abacha died. Now, it so happens that I do, but I
19 don't imagine anybody else necessarily does and I wonder if we
12:08:27 20 can find out from him when he thinks Sani Abacha died, if it is
21 indeed Sani Abacha and not another Abacha.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: And I do not recall that Sani Abacha's
23 death is a matter that has been an accepted fact. Is it?

24 MS BALY: I think it is an accepted fact. I will just have
12:08:49 25 that checked. I know there's some other evidence on the record
26 concerning it, but I will ask the witness when he --

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please do so.

28 MS BALY: It's an agreed fact. Your Honour, it's agreed
29 fact number 11, in June 1998:

1 Q. In any event, Mr Witness, when do you understand - when do
2 you think that Sani Abacha died?

3 A. The time that Abacha died was in 1998 that I can think of.
4 In 1998.

12:09:47 5 Q. When abouts in 1998?

6 A. After we had withdrawn. After the intervention when we had
7 withdrawn into the jungle.

8 MS BALY: I'm going to leave it at that, your Honour:

9 Q. Now, you went to Foya and you went to this person Joseph
12:10:13 10 and you said you were waiting for a helicopter. How long did you
11 wait for?

12 A. We were there for up to an hour, because when we went there
13 it did not take long.

14 Q. Was this in the day, or was this at night?

12:10:38 15 A. It was day time.

16 Q. What happened after the hour had expired?

17 A. We saw a helicopter coming.

18 Q. Where did the helicopter come to?

19 A. It came to Foya. It was flying over Foya.

12:11:05 20 Q. And did it continue to fly over Foya, or did it do
21 something else?

22 A. It was looking for the location where to land.

23 Q. Did it land?

24 A. Yes.

12:11:26 25 Q. Where did it land?

26 A. Foya airfield.

27 Q. What did you do after it landed?

28 A. We were already on the field before it landed.

29 Q. Can you describe this helicopter, please?

1 A. It was a military helicopter.

2 Q. What do you mean by "military"? Just describe what it
3 looked like.

4 A. It had a green colour.

12:12:14 5 Q. Did it have anything written on it?

6 A. No, I did not see anything written on it. It could have
7 something written, but I cannot recall now.

8 Q. Did you see how many people were in this helicopter?

9 A. I saw the two pilots that were there and I saw up to five
12:12:51 10 people, those who alighted the helicopter that I saw.

11 Q. Of the five people, did you know any of them?

12 A. When they came I did not know anybody from amongst them.
13 That was my first time to see them.

14 Q. After they came, did you come to know any of the five
12:13:21 15 people?

16 A. Yes, later there was introduction.

17 Q. When did the introductions take place?

18 A. After we had unloaded the materials and brought them into
19 the vehicles, that was when the introductions were done.

12:13:49 20 Q. Who were you introduced to?

21 A. Mr Bockarie introduced me to a man whom he said was
22 Mr Taylor's chief bodyguard. He said his name was Benjamin
23 Yeaten and they used to call him Director.

24 Q. Were you introduced to any of the other men who had come on
12:14:19 25 the helicopter, apart from Benjamin Yeaten?

26 A. No.

27 Q. Did you see the person who was the pilot of this
28 helicopter?

29 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. Can you describe what that person looked like?

2 A. He was white. They were white people.

3 Q. When you say "They were white people", how many of the five
4 were white people?

12:14:58 5 A. Two.

6 Q. Did you know where they had come from?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Apart from the fact that the pilot was white, was there
9 anything else that you can describe about that particular person?

12:15:28 10 A. Well, later I asked Mr Bockarie and he said they were
11 Ukrainians.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Baly, you said, "Do you know where
13 they came from?" When you ask that question do you mean where
14 did they travel from prior to arriving in Foya, or what was their
15 country of origin?

12:15:49 16 MS BALY: I'll just clarify that:

17 Q. Did you know where this helicopter had flown from?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. Where?

12:16:04 20 A. Monrovia.

21 Q. Whereabouts in Monrovia, do you know?

22 A. Well even before we came to that place Sam Bockarie had
23 told me that Mr Taylor was to send materials, so when the
24 helicopter came from Monrovia I knew it came from him.

12:16:33 25 Q. And you've already told us that you learnt from Sam
26 Bockarie that the two white men were Ukrainians. Is that
27 correct?

28 A. Yes, sir.

29 Q. Did Sam Bockarie tell you anything else about these two

1 Ukrainian men?

2 A. No.

3 Q. When the helicopter landed, what happened?

4 A. We all went there. After the blacks had alighted, we went
12:17:22 5 there and offloaded the materials and put them into the vehicles.

6 Q. Can you remember what the materials were?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What were they?

9 A. They were AK rounds and there were RPG rockets and there
12:17:54 10 was RPG tube.

11 Q. How many AK rounds, or how much AK rounds, were there?

12 A. 40 boxes of AK rounds were there.

13 Q. How many RPG rockets were there?

14 A. We had ten boxes of RPG rockets.

12:18:21 15 Q. And how many RPG tubes?

16 A. I did not count that one. It was just few.

17 Q. Was there any other material?

18 A. And some arms were there too.

19 Q. What arms?

12:18:41 20 A. AK-47.

21 Q. How many AK-47s?

22 A. No, I cannot recall.

23 Q. What did you do after you loaded the material into the
24 vehicles?

12:19:03 25 A. After we had loaded the materials Sam Bockarie and Benjamin
26 Yeaten were standing elsewhere, they were talking, and he
27 introduced me to him and he said I was one of the commanders in
28 the RUF and we greeted each other and we were happy to see one
29 another.

1 Q. What were Sam Bockarie and Benjamin Yeaten talking about?

2 A. Well, there was a distance between us and so I did not get
3 what they were saying. They did not invite me to listen.

4 Q. And when you were introduced to Benjamin Yeaten, did you
12:19:50 5 have a conversation?

6 A. Yes, we greeted each other. We were happy to see each
7 other. We greeted each other. We only greeted each other. We
8 did not have any other conversation.

9 Q. What happened after that?

12:20:12 10 A. That evening we moved.

11 Q. Where did you move to?

12 A. We left Foya and we came to Buedu.

13 Q. What did you do when you went to - when you came to Buedu?

14 A. The materials were put into the store - the ammunition
12:20:42 15 dump.

16 Q. Where was the ammunition dump?

17 A. It's on the Foya Road, very close to his house.

18 Q. When you say "his house", whose house do you mean?

19 A. Sam Bockarie.

12:20:59 20 Q. After you put the materials at the ammunition dump, what
21 did you do?

22 A. Well I too had some constraints in my area regarding
23 materials, so he gave me some that I took to my area of
24 responsibility.

12:21:26 25 Q. Now, you're using "he" again. It's important that you use
26 people's names, rather than "he". So, who gave you some
27 materials?

28 A. Sam Bockarie.

29 Q. And what did you do with the materials that he gave you?

1 A. I moved and took them to my base at Baiima.

2 Q. What were the materials that Sam Bockarie had given you?

3 A. He gave me AK rounds and RPG rockets.

4 Q. Was there another subsequent occasion when you were
12:22:17 5 involved with obtaining arms and ammunition for the RUF?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. When was this second occasion?

8 A. That was in 1998 still.

9 Q. Whenabouts in 1998?

12:22:48 10 A. Well after this mission, because this other one was around
11 March to April, it was not too long. It was a short time. That
12 was the time ULIMO and the LURD forces invaded Lofa.

13 Q. At the time that the ULIMO and the LURD forces invaded
14 Lofa, where were you?

12:23:21 15 A. I was in Baiima at my battalion.

16 Q. And how did you become involved on that occasion in
17 obtaining the arms and the ammunition?

18 A. The commander called me again - that is Mosquito - at the
19 same place, Buedu, and explained the issue to me, that that was
12:23:57 20 what the Pa had told him that those men had invaded his men at
21 Lofa County.

22 Q. Just pause there, please. When you say "that was what the
23 Pa had told him", the Pa had told who?

24 A. He had told Mosquito.

12:24:20 25 Q. And who had told Mosquito?

26 A. Mr Taylor.

27 Q. Now you said that, "those men had invaded his men at Lofa
28 County". Who were those men who invaded and who were his men?

29 A. The LURD forces.

1 Q. And who had the LURD forces invaded?

2 A. Charles Taylor.

3 Q. And what else did Sam Bockarie tell you?

12:25:02

4 A. So, he said we were to put men together and to go and help
5 to clear the enemy from that place.

6 Q. And what did you do when you were told to put men together
7 and to go and help to clear the enemy?

8 A. Well, he gave me my own task that I was to go and prepare
9 men in Kono and that Issa Sesay and --

12:25:30

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

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause, Mr Witness. You have to
13 speak a little slower for the interpreter and he has asked you to
14 repeat part of your answer. Go to the point where you said, "I

12:25:44

15 was to go and prepare men in Kono and that Issa Sesay", pick up
16 from there, please.

17 THE WITNESS: I was to go and prepare manpower for that
18 same mission and he said he had told Issa and Morris Kallon to do
19 the same preparation in Kono.

12:26:08

20 MS BALY:

21 Q. Did you prepare manpower?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What did you do in relation to the manpower?

24 A. I brought them to Buedu.

12:26:22

25 Q. How many men did you bring to Buedu?

26 A. One platoon.

27 Q. How many in one platoon?

28 A. 62 in number.

29 Q. What did you do when you got to Buedu?

1 A. We waited for the troops. All the troops were brought
2 together and we called a formation.

3 Q. After the troops came together and you called a formation,
4 what happened then?

12:27:06 5 A. We divided the number into two groups and we divided them
6 and told them that they were to enter at two flanks.

7 Q. Where were you to enter?

8 A. Well, Sam Bockarie and I were to enter by the Foya axis.

9 Q. Where were you entering into?

12:27:38 10 A. Foya. Foya.

11 Q. Where was the other flank to enter?

12 A. They too were to enter by Vahun.

13 Q. And did you and Sam Bockarie enter by the Foya axis?

14 A. Yes.

12:28:01 15 Q. What did you do?

16 A. We attacked the Foya Town.

17 Q. Who did you attack?

18 A. The LURD forces.

19 Q. Were you successful in attacking the LURD forces?

12:28:24 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Where did the LURD forces go after you attacked them?

22 A. They went to Kolahun.

23 Q. And where did you go?

24 A. We chased them and we went to that same Kolahun.

12:28:43 25 Q. Where did you chase them to?

26 A. Voinjama.

27 Q. What happened when you got to Voinjama?

28 A. When we got there, that was their base. We fought against
29 them for the whole day. Thankfully we were able to capture the

1 place.

2 Q. When you say you thankfully you were able to capture the
3 place, what place did you capture?

4 A. Voinjama.

12:29:16 5 Q. What happened after you captured Voinjama?

6 A. We had an order from Benjamin Yeaten to chase the men right
7 to where they had come from.

8 Q. Where had they come from?

9 A. They said they had come from Guinea.

12:29:39 10 Q. Did you chase them to Guinea?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What happened after you chased them to Guinea?

13 A. We captured a town that was called Bayalo in Guinea.

14 Q. What did you do after you captured the town?

12:30:11 15 A. We received order to burn the entire town and that we did.

16 Q. Who did you receive the order from?

17 A. From Benjamin Yeaten.

18 Q. What happened after you had burnt the entire town?

19 A. We withdrew back to Voinjama.

12:30:36 20 Q. And what happened after you got to Voinjama?

21 A. We passed the night there and in the morning we put our men
22 together and we returned to Foya. Then we left the Liberians
23 there.

24 Q. Where did you go?

12:30:56 25 A. Then Sam Bockarie took me to go to Monrovia.

26 Q. Did Sam Bockarie tell you why you were going to Monrovia?

27 A. He said Mr Taylor had invited him for us to go and receive
28 morale booster.

29 Q. Did you go to Monrovia?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Who went to Monrovia?

3 A. I went and Sam Bockarie went too and one of his bodyguards
4 called Magazine. All of us went.

12:31:42 5 Q. You, Sam Bockarie and Magazine. Did anybody else go?

6 A. Well, we were the ones who went.

7 Q. How did you get to Monrovia?

8 A. That same military helicopter with the combat colour picked
9 us from Foya.

12:32:08 10 Q. And where did you go when you got to Monrovia?

11 A. We landed at a field that I did not know. That is in the
12 Monrovia city.

13 Q. Had you been to Monrovia city before?

14 A. No.

12:32:37 15 Q. When you landed in this field that you didn't know, where
16 did you go to from there?

17 A. A vehicle came to receive us and we drove together with
18 Benjamin Yeaten and we went to Benjamin Yeaten's place, White
19 Flower.

12:33:03 20 Q. Where did you meet Benjamin Yeaten?

21 A. Well, this helicopter that came, all of us travelled in it.

22 Q. Where did you meet Benjamin Yeaten?

23 A. Foya. Foya.

24 Q. Had he come in the helicopter?

12:33:26 25 A. Yes, yes.

26 Q. You went to Benjamin Yeaten's place at White Flower. What
27 did you do when you went to --

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. -- his place at White Flower?

1 A. He took us and we went and entered into his place and we
2 were there.

3 Q. Again you've used "he" instead of someone's name. Who took
4 you and entered into his place?

12:33:59 5 A. He himself.

6 Q. Who?

7 A. Benjamin Yeaten.

8 Q. Please use names rather than pronouns.

9 A. Okay.

12:34:13 10 Q. You entered his house and what did you do when you went
11 into his place, Benjamin Yeaten's?

12 A. That was where we were lodged, because he had taken us
13 there.

14 Q. How long did you spend in Monrovia on this occasion?

12:34:39 15 A. We spent some days in Monrovia.

16 Q. How many days?

17 A. Like three days.

18 Q. What did you do during the three days you were in Monrovia?

19 A. I was at Mr Benjamin's place and in the morning the two of
12:35:03 20 them would go out to meet with the President. They'll say they
21 were going to meet with the President.

22 Q. Who are the two of them, please use names, that went to
23 meet with the President?

24 A. Benjamin Yeaten and Sam Bockarie.

12:35:21 25 Q. How do you know that they went to meet the President?

26 A. All of us travelled together. When they would want to go
27 out, they would tell me that they were going to meet with
28 Mr Taylor.

29 Q. Did you yourself ever go to meet with Mr Taylor on that

1 occasion?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Did you speak to Sam Bockarie after he had met with
4 Charles Taylor?

12:36:05 5 A. Yes, he told me that they had come from the President's and
6 that was the Mansion Ground.

7 Q. Did he tell you what had taken place in his meeting with
8 Charles Taylor?

9 A. The Pa said we should wait, that he had promised to give us
12:36:31 10 morale booster and some ammunition for us to go back with.

11 Q. And did you wait?

12 A. Yes, yes, we waited.

13 Q. What happened after you waited?

14 A. The day that we were to move was when I saw some ammunition
12:36:55 15 and Sam Bockarie told me that the Pa had given \$10,000.

16 Q. Where did you see this ammunition?

17 A. It was at the Pa's house where Benjamin Yeaten was, at the
18 back of the house, Pa Taylor's house, White Flower.

19 Q. And whereabouts was this ammunition at the back of the
12:37:20 20 house?

21 A. It was very close to Benjamin Yeaten's residence where he
22 used to sleep.

23 Q. What was this ammunition that you saw there?

24 A. They gave us AK rounds and some RPG rockets.

12:37:48 25 Q. How many AK rounds?

26 A. I cannot recall the total now because at that time we did
27 not actually go particularly for ammunitions.

28 Q. And how many RPG rockets, can you recall?

29 A. No.

1 Q. You said that Sam Bockarie told you that the Pa had given
2 \$10,000. Did you see \$10,000, or did you see any money?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. Where did you see the money?

12:38:32 5 A. He told me there and when we got to Foya all of us met
6 together with Issa and others and they got out the money and it
7 was counted.

8 Q. After Sam Bockarie received the money and the ammunition in
9 Monrovia, what did you do?

12:38:59 10 A. They were loaded into a vehicle. That same airfield where
11 they had landed was the same place that we went back.

12 Q. You said the ammunition was loaded into a vehicle and you
13 went back to the airfield. What happened when you got to the
14 airfield?

12:39:27 15 A. We saw the same helicopter. It came and picked us up.

16 Q. Where did it take you to?

17 A. Foya.

18 Q. When you got to Foya what did you do?

19 A. He invited the commanders, Issa, Morris Kallon and the
12:39:55 20 other officers, and he explained to them about the few materials
21 that we had gone with and the \$10,000 that the Pa had given us,
22 morale booster.

23 Q. You're using "he" again. Who invited the commanders?

24 A. Mosquito.

12:40:15 25 Q. And who explained to them about the few materials and the
26 \$10,000?

27 A. He, the Sam Bockarie. He explained to them about the
28 materials and the \$10,000 that the Pa had given.

29 Q. What happened, if you know, to the \$10,000?

1 A. We saw that the number was more than the number of people
2 and we knew it would not be sufficient if we decided to
3 distribute it amongst everybody, so we had wounded soldiers and
4 we decided that, well, let the money be used to buy drugs for the
12:41:01 5 wounded soldiers so that they would be treated.

6 Q. You said that the money - that Sam Bockarie had said the
7 money was for a morale booster. What do you mean by a morale
8 booster?

9 A. Well when you do something and somebody's happy for you,
12:41:27 10 he's appreciative, in military terms whatever he gives to you as
11 compensation is what we refer to as morale booster.

12 Q. Was there any other occasion when you were involved in
13 obtaining arms and ammunition --

14 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, before you leave this subject,
12:41:45 15 what is it on this occasion that they were supposed to have done
16 for Mr Taylor for which he was rewarding them?

17 MS BALY: Thank you. Thank you, Justice Sebutinde:

18 Q. What was it that you had done for which you received this
19 morale booster?

12:42:04 20 A. The invasion that the LURD forces had done, when we had
21 cleared them and those three big targets, that was the
22 encouragement. A sign of encouragement for us.

23 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: What three big targets? I'm sorry, I
24 don't --

12:42:24 25 MS BALY:

26 Q. You've given some evidence earlier about when you fought
27 the LURD and just now you mentioned that you had cleared them and
28 those three big targets. What do you mean by the three big
29 targets?

1 A. Foya was one of the big targets, Vahun was another and
2 Kolahun. In fact it was four, sorry. Kolahun was another and
3 Voinjama, which was the main target.

4 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: And these are all places in?

12:43:05

5 MS BALY:

6 Q. Whereabouts are these places?

7 A. They were in Lofa County.

8 Q. And you gave some evidence not so long ago about fighting
9 the LURD. Were these four places places that you fought the

12:43:23

10 LURD?

11 A. Yes, yes, yes, that was where we fought against the LURD
12 forces first. The first target.

13 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: It's also not clear to me this ammunition
14 that was given, what it was for.

12:43:43

15 MS BALY: I was coming to that:

16 Q. The ammunition that you were given when you were in
17 Monrovia, do you know what it was for?

18 A. For us to bring it to our zone when we would be returning,
19 because we captured a large cache of ammunition for arms during
20 that attack.

12:44:07

21 Q. When you say "for us to bring it to our zone when we would
22 be returning", what do you mean?

23 A. The RUF zone where we were. RUF territory.

24 Q. And where had you captured this large cache of ammunition
25 for arms during that attack? What do you mean by that?

12:44:28

26 A. That was their main base, Voinjama, and we captured the
27 whole ammo dump.

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: So these arms were to be brought to
29 Voinjama, right?

1 MS BALY: No, your Honour, I'll clarify that:

2 Q. The arms that you captured, you captured from Voinjama. Is
3 that so?

4 A. Yes, sir.

12:44:57 5 Q. And the ammunition that you got from Monrovia later and
6 that you took back with you was to be used --

7 A. What?

8 Q. You gave some evidence that you got some ammunition in
9 Monrovia from Charles Taylor?

12:45:24 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What was that ammunition to be used for?

12 A. Already we had accomplished the mission. We had come to
13 the base where we captured first, that is Foya. That was where
14 they waited for us. It was for us to bring it to Sierra Leone,
12:45:51 15 that was why he gave it to us, because the mission had been
16 accomplished there.

17 Q. And the mission that you're referring to is what mission
18 that had been accomplished?

19 A. The four towns where the LURD forces had occupied, we had
12:46:11 20 already cleared the towns and they had returned to Guinea. That
21 was the mission I was talking about its accomplishment.

22 Q. And it was during that mission that you captured the arms
23 and ammunition from the Voinjama LURD base, is that so?

24 A. Yes, sir.

12:46:32 25 Q. And the ammunition that you got separately from Monrovia
26 was also - was taken back to Sierra Leone?

27 A. Yes, sir.

28 Q. And what was it used for?

29 A. Well, at that time we were at war. That was not during

1 peace time. We brought it to our bases - our base. That is
2 Buedu.

3 Q. And was it left at Buedu?

12:47:16

4 A. Yes, the ones that the commanders were able to see we left
5 them there and the ones that we were able to take to our various
6 targets we did.

7 Q. Did you take any of the ammunition?

8 A. Yes, I too took some with me.

9 Q. And what did you do with that ammunition?

12:47:35

10 A. I was on the defensive. Whenever ECOMOG would attack, I
11 would go to repel them using the ammunition.

12 Q. Was there a third occasion when you yourself were involved
13 in obtaining arms and ammunition for the RUF?

14 A. Yes, I was involved in another one again.

12:48:12

15 Q. When was this other one?

16 A. That was 2000, after the May incident that occurred in
17 Freetown.

18 Q. What was the May incident that occurred in Freetown?

12:48:43

19 A. There was some problem between RUF and the Government of
20 Sierra Leone.

21 Q. What was the problem?

12:49:07

22 A. Our men and the UN had some clash in the Northern Province
23 and a lot of the UN personnel were captured. That was the
24 problem that went right up to Freetown. Even the civilians and
25 the soldiers, the government demonstrated against the RUF who
26 were in Freetown because that was their own zone. So, that was
27 the problem.

28 Q. And when abouts in May did this incident take place, if you
29 know?

1 A. No, I cannot recall the date. It was in May I know that it
2 occurred.

3 Q. And where were you based in May of 2000?

4 A. I was in Bo - Bo Town. I was based there.

12:49:43 5 Q. What were you doing in Bo Town? What was your position at
6 that time?

7 A. Well, we were there to monitor the peace. It was because
8 of the peace that I went there. I was working with CMC; that is
9 Ceasefire Monitoring Committee or Commission.

12:50:09 10 Q. And what was your role with CMC?

11 A. We were there to represent the RUF for the peace building,
12 that any time they were to go to the RUF zone we were to lead
13 them to go and monitor, pass around, to prove that RUF indeed was
14 observing the peace. That was our own role and that we were
12:50:42 15 involved in it.

16 Q. And who were you to prove that the RUF were observing the
17 peace to?

18 A. The members. The RUF members.

19 Q. And who were you working with?

12:51:07 20 A. We were working with - please repeat that. I did not get
21 that area clearly.

22 Q. You said you were working for the CMC, Ceasefire Monitoring
23 Commission. Who were you working with? Who else was a member of
24 that?

12:51:28 25 A. From the RUF?

26 Q. No, were there any other organisations?

27 A. Well there were the UN themselves, those who had come to
28 broker the peace, the white men who were amongst us, and there
29 was Mr Kai kai who was the liaison between the factions, because

1 it was not just RUF. He was the liaison between us and the peace
2 makers who had come.

3 Q. I just want to get that one name again, please. Mr Who?

4 A. Kai kai. Kai kai.

12:52:15 5 MS BALY: That's K-A-I-K-A-I:

6 Q. At that time, that is in May 2000, where was Sam Bockarie?

7 A. May 2000, at that time Sam Bockarie was in Liberia.

8 Q. And who was the head of the RUF at that time?

9 A. Well, it was General Sesay.

12:52:48 10 Q. Where was Foday Sankoh?

11 A. Foday Sankoh was in Freetown.

12 Q. Whereabouts in Freetown?

13 A. He was at Spur Road.

14 Q. What was he doing at Spur Road?

12:53:10 15 A. Well it was as a result of peace that he was there, because
16 at that time they had now signed the final peace accord and it
17 was after that that he finally based in Freetown.

18 Q. And you said at that time you were in Bo Town and you
19 became involved in a third mission to obtain arms and ammunition
20 for the RUF. How did you become involved in that third mission?

12:53:38 21 A. Well the time that incident took place in Freetown most of
22 our men, our RUF members, were captured, and even those of us who
23 were in Bo the same thing happened to us. They tried to ransack
24 we and then they captured some people, but I escaped and I went
12:54:15 25 to Kenema. When I went to Kenema, the same thing started there.
26 I also escaped and I went to Tongo.

27 Q. Just pause there for a moment. Who was capturing the RUF
28 members?

29 A. The Government of Sierra Leone.

1 Q. And you escaped and you ended up - you said you went to
2 Tongo. What happened in Tongo?

3 A. Well when I got there I sent a message to Mr Sesay, General
4 Sesay, that I have arrived there, and then he ordered me not to
12:54:53 5 stay there but that I should go to Kailahun. That is Pendembu.

6 Q. And did you go to Kailahun?

7 A. Yes, yes, I went there.

8 Q. What happened when you went to Kailahun?

9 A. Well, when I went to Kailahun I - at that time I realised
12:55:18 10 that the Indians were captured and that was the same place where
11 I went to and then he said to me that they were going to change
12 the command, that was the 1st Brigade commander who was there,
13 that I was supposed to replace him, and then at that time he gave
14 me a new promotion and a new assignment to serve as brigade
12:55:39 15 commander.

16 Q. You said that when you went to Kailahun you knew at that
17 time that the - I think you used the word Indians were captured.
18 Is that what you said, the Indians were captured?

19 A. Yes, the Indians.

12:55:58 20 Q. Who were these Indians?

21 A. Peacekeeping force.

22 Q. And also you said they were going to change the command.
23 What command was going to change?

24 A. Well, the commander who was there, the brigade commander
12:56:22 25 who was there, Denis Lansana, was the person that I replaced.

26 Q. And what were your duties when you replaced Denis Lansana
27 at that time?

28 A. Well, my first duty after taking up the command was that I
29 should put pressure on the commanders to free those men, that is

1 the UN peacekeepers who had been arrested, who had been taken
2 hostage by the men.

3 Q. Did you do that? Did you put pressure on the commanders to
4 free those men?

12:57:12 5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. And were they freed?

7 A. Yes. We freed them.

8 Q. And what was your next assignment?

9 A. Well, after I had taken over, the UN - the other Indians in
12:57:42 10 the UN also came to receive their brothers in Kailahun, but that
11 resulted to a serious disaster that led to destruction of places
12 in Pendembu and other areas. So I went there and I tried to put
13 things under control, but my men incurred serious casualties and
14 I lost the lives of most of my men in that mission.

12:58:11 15 Q. How were the lives of most of your men lost in that
16 mission?

17 A. Well, we did not expect that kind of battle to confront us
18 and they took us unawares. It was very early in the morning that
19 they attacked, they raided us in the air and then they bombarded
12:58:41 20 us on the ground and I was living around that same area in
21 Pendembu, so both soldiers and civilians lost their lives on that
22 ground and more than 50 houses were burnt down.

23 Q. After that had taken place did you receive a fresh
24 assignment?

12:59:05 25 A. Yes, that was my assignment, but I went on one operation
26 and I was still brigade commander.

27 Q. What was the operation that you went on?

28 A. Well, that was the last invasion that Damate Conneh, the
29 same LURD that we were talking about, the commander that brought

1 them, that is Sekou Damate Conneh's own troops, they came and
2 based in Voijnama.

3 Q. Just pause there for a moment. This person that you've
4 said, Damate Conneh, I'll just get the spelling for that. Who
12:59:57 5 was it that came and based in Voijnama?

6 A. Say that again.

7 Q. Your answer to the last question was, "Well, that was the
8 last invasion that Damate Conneh, the same LURD that we were
9 talking about, the commander that brought them, that is Sekou
13:00:19 10 Damate Conneh's own troops, they came and based in Voijnama."

11 Who came and based in Voijnama?

12 A. That is the LURD forces.

13 Q. And what was your particular operation that you were to do?

14 MR MUNYARD: I'm sorry to interrupt, but I'm not following
13:00:38 15 who or what Damate Conneh is.

16 MS BALY:

17 Q. Damate Conneh is what or who?

18 A. Well, the forces that were fighting against Mr Taylor, he
19 was one of their leaders. That was the leader.

13:01:00 20 Q. The leader of what?

21 A. The leader of their group, the LURD forces. He was their
22 leader.

23 Q. Your mission was to do what?

24 A. Well, I received the similar instruction from the
13:01:28 25 commander, Mr Sesay, that I should put men together to go and
26 join Benjamin Yeaten at Kolahun.

27 Q. And is that what you did?

28 A. Yes, sir.

29 Q. And what happened after you did that?

1 A. Well, we went on with the operation.

2 Q. What did you do?

3 A. We put the men together and we went to Foya and from Foya
4 we went to Kolahun and we were there, within two to three days we
13:02:11 5 saw the same helicopter and when we got to Foya in fact it was it
6 that came and picked us up to go to Kolahun, because they thought
7 the men were going to advance that particular day, so immediately
8 the helicopter came and picked us up from Foya, the same military
9 helicopters, and it did two trips to Kolahun.

13:02:35 10 Q. The helicopter did two trips to Kolahun. Did you go to
11 Kolahun?

12 A. Yes, yes. I was the first person to move with the first
13 troops.

14 Q. And what happened when you got to Kolahun?

13:02:55 15 A. When we got to Kolahun we were there for two to three days
16 and we were waiting for more ammunition.

17 Q. Did more ammunition arrive there?

18 A. Yes, yes.

19 Q. And what happened after the ammunition arrived?

13:03:17 20 A. Well, we moved on the operation. We were loaded on board
21 vehicles and we moved.

22 Q. Where did you go?

23 A. We went close to Voinjama and we alighted and then we
24 started walking, we took the road marks. We took it like two
13:03:45 25 flanks. Whilst other troops were coming from the Monrovia side,
26 these other troops were going from the Kolahun side.

27 Q. Just stop there for a moment. When you say "we started
28 walking", why did you start walking?

29 A. Well, when you go to fight your enemy, in the first place

1 the sound of a vehicle in the enemy zone would not be good,
2 because the enemy would know that enemies are advancing towards
3 them. So if you took the enemy unawares, however the enemy is
4 aware of your coming, then you will succeed against the enemy,
13:04:30 5 you will score some goals. So that was the reason why we left
6 the vehicles and then we started walking.

7 Q. And you said you took the road marks, what did you mean by
8 you took the road marks?

9 A. Well, that is a military term. When you alight from the
13:04:54 10 vehicle and then you stand in lines by the side of the road and
11 you start going, that is military marching, then you start
12 marching to go.

13 Q. You said that you took it like two flanks, "Whilst other
14 troops were coming from the Monrovia side, these other troops
13:05:13 15 were going from the Kolahun side." You were going from the
16 Kolahun side, is that right?

17 A. Yes, sir.

18 Q. Who was leading the troops from the Kolahun side?

19 A. Well, I did not actually know the particular commander at
13:05:34 20 that time, because they were all Liberians. I cannot tell the
21 commander who was leading the troops from that side.

22 Q. Do you know who was leading the troops coming from the
23 Monrovia side?

24 A. No, that is what I have just answered.

13:06:04 25 Q. Where did you go to, these two flanks?

26 A. Well, we hit from two flanks. When we hit by the Kolahun
27 highway the others hit from the Monrovia highway and thanks to
28 God we were able to contain the men. We were able to capture the
29 men. We took them unawares.

1 Q. And where did you capture and where did you contain these
2 men?

3 A. Well, we captured Voinjama and the enemies withdrew.

4 Q. Just, again, who was the enemy at this point?

13:06:44 5 A. The LURD forces.

6 Q. Where did the LURD forces withdraw to?

7 A. Guinea.

8 Q. And where did you go after the LURD forces withdrew?

9 A. We received instruction to chase them up to the border and
13:07:12 10 we did that.

11 Q. What happened after you chased them up to the border?

12 A. Well, when we chased them we told Benjamin Yeaten and then
13 we withdrew back to Voinjama.

14 Q. How did you tell Benjamin Yeaten?

13:07:38 15 A. Well, we told him that we have patrolled up to the border
16 and we have not been able to see them around, so he said we
17 should come back.

18 Q. Where was Benjamin Yeaten when you told him this?

19 A. He was in Voinjama. After we had captured Voinjama he
13:08:03 20 stayed there.

21 Q. And how was it that you communicated with him? What
22 method?

23 A. Well, we had radios. We had few radios. He had a radio
24 and even the division that moved ahead, those of us who went
13:08:26 25 ahead, we had a radio.

26 Q. And on this particular operation did you have a person - a
27 radio operator assigned to you?

28 A. Yes, sir.

29 Q. What was the name of that radio operator?

1 A. Mortiga.

2 MS BALY: M-O-R-T-I-G-A.

3 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, did you get that spelling of
4 that long name, Sekou something, before we lose it.

13:09:13 5 MS BALY: I've got it here. Sekou Damate Conneh, S-E-K-O-U
6 D-A-M-A-T-E C-O-N-N-E-H. Apparently it has been spelt before on
7 16 January.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: There's no "H" in the Sekou?

9 MS BALY: No:

13:09:47 10 Q. The radio operator, Mortiga, you said he was assigned to
11 you at that point. Was he assigned to you permanently, or just
12 for that operation?

13 A. Well, it was for that operation. It was for that
14 operation.

13:10:07 15 Q. Now after you had spoken to Benjamin Yeaten, what did you
16 do?

17 A. Well, he took me back. Mr Yeaten took me back. We went to
18 Monrovia.

19 Q. And on this occasion do you know why Benjamin Yeaten took
13:10:32 20 you back to Monrovia?

21 A. Well, he was so happy with the mission and he said we
22 should go for me to see - meet the President, Mr Taylor.

23 Q. How did you get to Monrovia on that occasion?

24 A. We used the same helicopter - excuse me, the military
13:11:14 25 helicopter, a green colour. It was that same helicopter that
26 came and took us up again and we went to Monrovia.

27 Q. Where did it pick you up from?

28 A. We came back to Foya, because in all those other areas we
29 were in fear that we did not want the helicopter to land there

1 because we suspected enemies.

2 Q. How did you get back to Foya?

3 A. We used vehicles.

4 Q. The helicopter came to Foya. Where did it take you?

13:11:51 5 A. The same airfield in Foya.

6 Q. And where did the helicopter take you from Foya?

7 A. Foya airfield. There is an airstrip in Foya. They call it
8 Foya airfield.

9 Q. When the helicopter arrived in Foya, did you get on to the
13:12:22 10 helicopter?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Where did the helicopter take you?

13 A. Straight back to the main field where myself and Sam
14 Bockarie had landed. That was the same playing field that we
13:12:43 15 landed.

16 Q. Which place? Whereabouts were you?

17 A. That was in Monrovia. In the centre of Monrovia.

18 Q. And where did you go after you arrived in Monrovia?

19 A. We went to White Flower.

13:13:08 20 Q. And when you say "we", who was it that went on this
21 particular trip to Monrovia?

22 A. Benjamin Yeaten and me.

23 Q. Was there anybody else in Monrovia that you met after you
24 arrived?

13:13:36 25 A. Well, no, we did not meet some other person, but somebody
26 met us there.

27 Q. Who was the person that met you there?

28 A. General Sesay. Issa Sesay.

29 Q. And whereabouts in Monrovia did General Issa Sesay meet

1 you?

2 MR MUNYARD: I'm sorry to interrupt, but I just want to
3 clarify what they landed on. Was it a "main field", or a
4 "playing field"?

13:14:12 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: I heard "same field", but let us make
6 sure that --

7 MR MUNYARD: I've got both. On the transcript we've got
8 both "main field" and "playing field". I don't know if it's an
9 airfield, or a playing field.

13:14:25 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, what did you hear the
11 witness say?

12 THE INTERPRETER: The witness said they landed at the same
13 plane field where he and Sam Mosquito Bockarie had landed
14 initially.

13:14:42 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Interpreter.

16 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Was that "plane field", or "playing
17 field"?

18 THE INTERPRETER: He said "plane field", otherwise we might
19 want to clarify from the witness.

13:14:54 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think in the circumstances, Ms Baly,
21 please clarify it with the witness.

22 MS BALY:

23 Q. Just listen carefully to this question and just answer it
24 slowly and clearly if you can. At this time when you landed in
13:15:09 25 Monrovia, whereabouts did you land?

26 A. That was the same field where Mr Bockarie and I had landed
27 before. That was the same field we landed, in the centre of
28 Monrovia.

29 Q. What kind of a field was it?

1 A. Well it was actually not something like a plane field like
2 the one that was in Foya, but it was a place where so many
3 helicopters were.

4 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, are you say "playing
13:15:56 5 field", or are you saying "plane field"?

6 THE INTERPRETER: Plane, your Honours. Plane.

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: As in aeroplane?

8 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour.

9 MS BALY:

13:16:13 10 Q. The person you met or who met you in Monrovia you said was
11 Issa Sesay. Whereabouts did he meet you?

12 A. Well, he met us at Benjamin Yeaten's place. That is at the
13 back of the President's house.

14 Q. On this occasion, for how long were you in Monrovia?

13:16:42 15 A. Well, we were there for some days. For about four to five
16 days.

17 Q. What did you do during those four to five days?

18 A. Well, after Mr Issa Sesay had arrived I did not actually
19 know what their discussion was and my meeting - even my meeting
13:17:13 20 with the President was cancelled. It did not work out again.

21 Q. Please pause there. When you say you did not actually know
22 what their discussion was, whose discussions?

23 A. Well, sometimes in the morning I saw himself and the
24 Director.

13:17:34 25 Q. Who is "himself"?

26 A. They will say they were going to see the President and they
27 left me in the Director's place.

28 Q. Who is "himself"?

29 A. Benjamin Yeaten and Issa Sesay.

1 Q. And you said, "Even my meeting with the President was
2 cancelled. It did not work out again". What do you mean by
3 that?

4 A. Well the first plan after the mission was that after
13:18:06 5 accomplishing the mission I should come and see the Pa and that
6 was the reason why he moved me to that place, but after the
7 arrival of Issa I did not see that happen again. After Issa's
8 arrival, I was - I did not see Mr Taylor.

9 Q. Do you know why your meeting with Mr Taylor was, to use
13:18:27 10 your words, cancelled?

11 A. No, I did not know and I did not ask any more.

12 Q. Who told you that it had been cancelled?

13 A. Well it was something they had said that they were going to
14 do, but after my return if the thing did not happen again then I
13:18:58 15 knew it was cancelled. They actually did not tell me that they
16 have cancelled it, but I knew it was something they had cancelled
17 because it did not work out again.

18 Q. When you were in Monrovia for those days what, if anything,
19 did you do?

13:19:18 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Just let me ask you that again. What were you doing during
22 the days that you were there?

23 A. Well, in the morning they left me in Benjamin Yeaten's
24 place and they would move out. Normally they went to the mansion
13:19:52 25 and when they normally came they told me.

26 Q. Who would go to the mansion?

27 A. Issa Sesay and Benjamin Yeaten.

28 Q. And would they return from the mansion?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Were you ever told what they had done when they went to the
2 mansion?

3 A. No, I did not ask them that. It was only the final day
4 that we were about to move that Director took me to the mansion
13:20:32 5 for me to see around, but in actual fact I did not meet with the
6 President.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Baly, your question has not been
8 answered. The question was what did the witness do.

9 MS BALY:

13:20:47 10 Q. So you've come to the final day, but just before this final
11 day what were you yourself doing during the days you were in
12 Monrovia?

13 A. Well, it was because of their mission that we went. I did
14 not do any other thing but only that I was there when Mr Bockarie
13:21:13 15 came and met me there, but besides that I was not doing any other
16 thing.

17 Q. Okay, I'll go over that.

18 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Baly, also the witness keeps
19 mentioning the mansion. What is this?

13:21:26 20 MS BALY: I will go over that:

21 Q. When you say, "... on the final day we were about to move
22 that Director took me to the mansion", what mansion were you
23 taken to?

24 A. Well, that is the Liberian mansion where the President was.
13:21:45 25 That was where they took me to.

26 Q. Whereabouts in this mansion were you taken to?

27 A. Say that again.

28 Q. Whereabouts in the mansion did you go to?

29 A. Well the Director's office, where his own office was. That

1 is the fourth floor.

2 Q. When you say "the Director", who are you referring to?

3 A. Benjamin Yeaten.

4 Q. Do you know whether this mansion that you were taken to had
13:22:20 5 a name?

6 A. No, that was the name I knew. It was the mansion where the
7 President went to work.

8 Q. How is it that you knew it was a mansion where the
9 President went to work? How did you know that?

13:22:52 10 A. Well, it was Director who told me that. And for instance
11 even in Sierra Leone when they say "the State House" I know that
12 that is where the President's office was, and in Liberia when
13 they say "the mansion" I knew that that was where the President's
14 office was.

13:23:10 15 Q. When you went - were taken to this mansion and you said you
16 went to the office on the fourth floor, whose office was it?

17 A. That was Benjamin Yeaten, the Chief Security Officer and
18 Director.

19 Q. What happened when you went to that office?

13:23:36 20 A. Well in the morning usually I will just sit down home and
21 then watch around, but on that final day before we could leave to
22 go finally he asked me that I should join him so that we go and
23 for me to see around the mansion.

24 Q. Did you see around the mansion?

13:24:04 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. Whereabouts around the mansion did you see?

27 A. Well we went around there, we came down, we went through
28 some areas and then on the fourth floor that was where I stopped.
29 The first floor and the fourth floor, those were the areas I went

1 to.

2 Q. Once you went to this office that was on the fourth floor,
3 the office of Benjamin Yeaten's, what happened after you'd got to
4 the office?

13:24:42 5 A. Well, in the morning they usually left me home and went.

6 Q. Just pause there, please. You've told us about on the
7 final day you went to this office of Benjamin Yeaten's which was
8 on the fourth floor of the mansion. Just on that occasion, on
9 this final day, what happened when you went to this office?

13:25:07 10 A. Well, that is what I have said. I said he asked me to go
11 and take a stroll with him because usually in the morning they
12 just left me home and I would just sit down there. So he asked
13 me to join him to go and stroll around.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you have described to us
13:25:26 15 going to the first and the fourth floor and then you got to
16 Mr Yeaten's office. When you got to that office what did you
17 actually do when you got there?

18 THE WITNESS: Well, I did not do any other thing there. I
19 did not say - just for me to go and sit down, for me to see the
13:25:47 20 office. That was the most important thing that happened.

21 MS BALY:

22 Q. Did you spend any time at all in that office?

23 A. Yes. I was there for some hours.

24 Q. Was there anybody else there when you were there?

13:26:03 25 A. Yes. Benjamin was there and even the signal boy was there.
26 He later came there.

27 Q. Who was the signal boy who later came there?

28 A. There was a boy that used to work with the director. He
29 was in charge of the signal. He was working with him. Later he

1 also came and met us there.

2 Q. What was the signal boy's name?

3 A. No, I can't recall his name now.

4 Q. What were the signal boy's duties?

13:26:44 5 A. Well, he operated director's radio, the radio that he had
6 in his house in Monrovia, he operated it.

7 Q. Apart from the signal boy and Benjamin Yeaten did you meet
8 anybody else in that office?

9 A. No.

13:27:10 10 Q. When you left the office where did you go?

11 A. We returned to his house.

12 Q. When you say his house, whose house did you return to?

13 A. Benjamin Yeaten.

14 Q. And you've said this was on your final day. Did you do
13:27:31 15 anything else apart from go to this office on your final day?

16 A. No, I did not go to anywhere else.

17 Q. Did you meet with anybody else?

18 A. Yes, when - you mean when I went to Monrovia?

19 Q. Yes.

13:27:57 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who did you meet with?

22 A. Well, Sam Bockarie met me there the day I arrived, the next
23 day.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, what does that mean, "the
13:28:16 25 day I arrived, the next day"?

26 THE INTERPRETER: The day after I arrived.

27 MS BALY:

28 Q. The day after you arrived you met Sam Bockarie. Where did
29 you meet him?

1 A. Well, he met me in director's place, Benjamin Yeaten.

2 Q. Whereabouts in the director's place?

3 A. White Flower, at the back of the President's house.

13:28:52

4 Q. When you met Sam Bockarie at White Flower how long had it
5 been since you'd seen Sam Bockarie?

6 A. Well, when Sam Bockarie left around December 1998 I saw him
7 once and it was on that same mission. He was the one who brought
8 the ammunitions for us, but I did not discuss with him until
9 after I came to Monrovia.

13:29:25

10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Baly, I'm loathe to interrupt you in
11 your line of questioning, but we are in fact up to our time limit
12 and this is where we normally adjourn on a Friday.

13:29:47

13 Mr Witness, today is Friday and normally on Fridays we do
14 other work and have other meetings so we finish court at this
15 time, which is the lunch break. We will be starting court again
16 on Monday morning at 9.30. For elimination of doubt we are all
17 aware that Monday is a public holiday in Holland, but it is not
18 an official holiday for either this Court, or the ICC, so any of
19 you that were hopeful of a day off it will not materialise. We
20 will resume at 9.30 on Monday morning.

13:30:13

21 I will just remind the witness of his oath. Mr Witness, I
22 again remind you that you've taken the oath and you should not
23 discuss your evidence with any other person until all your
24 evidence is finished. Do you understand?

13:30:32

25 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please adjourn court.

27 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 1.30 p.m.
28 to be reconvened on Monday, 12 May 2008 at
29 9.30 a.m.]

I N D E X

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EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MS BALY 9402