Case No. SCSL-2004-15-T THE PROSECUTOR OF THE SPECIAL COURT

V.

ISSA SESAY MORRIS KALLON AUGUSTINE GBAO

TUESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2007

9.50 A.M. TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before the Judges: Benjamin Mutanga Itoe,

Presiding

Ms Peace Malleni Ms Erica Bussey Mr Felix Nkongho

Bankole Thompson Pierre Boutet

For the Registry: Mr Thomas George

For Chambers:

For the Prosecution: Mr Peter Harrison Mr Vincent Wagona

For the accused Issa Sesay: Mr Wayne Jordash
Ms Kevin Hussey

For the accused Morris Kallon: Mr Shekou Touray

Mr Kennedy Ogeto Mr Lansana Dumbuya

For the accused Augustine Gbao: Mr John Cammegh

6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION

|          | 1  |        | [RUF06NOV07A - JS]  |
|----------|----|--------|---|
|          | 2  |        | Tuesday, 6 November 2007                                  |
|          | 3  |        | [The accused present]                                     |
|          | 4  |        | [The witness entered court]                               |
|          | 5  |        | [Open session]  |
|          | 6  |        | [Upon commencing at 9.50 a.m.]                            |
|          | 7  |        | PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning, learned counsel.           |
|          | 8  | Mr Wit | cness, good morning.                                      |
|          | 9  |        | THE WITNESS: Good morning, sir.                           |
| 09:54:37 | 10 |        | PRESIDING JUDGE: Right. I think we will resume our        |
|          | 11 | sessio | on and, Mr Cammegh, you may proceed, please.              |
|          | 12 |        | WITNESS: DIS-149 [Continued]                              |
|          | 13 |        | CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR CAMMEGH: [Continued]                 |
|          | 14 | Q.     | Good morning, Mr Witness.                                 |
| 09:54:53 | 15 | A.     | Good morning.   |
|          | 16 | Q.     | Would you agree with me that all IDU reports made within  |
|          | 17 | Kailah | nun District were directed to the district IDU commander? |
|          | 18 | A.     | Yes.  |
|          | 19 | Q.     | And that man was Francis Musa; correct?                   |
| 09:55:46 | 20 | A.     | Yes.  |
|          | 21 | Q.     | Who was also known as the area or brigade commander;      |
|          | 22 | correc | ct?   |
|          | 23 | A.     | Yes.  |
| duty     | 24 | Q.     | Will you also agree with me, please, that it was the      |

- 09:56:08 25 of the district IDU commander in Kailahun to report to the area
  - or brigade commander, who was Denis Lansana; do you agree?
  - 27 A. Yes.
  - 28 Q. And at his discretion, the district IDU commander would
  - 29 copy those reports to the overall IDU commander; do you agree?

SESAY ET AL

Page 3 6 NOVEMBER 2007

OPEN SESSION

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 PRESIDING JUDGE: At the discretion of who?
- 3 MR CAMMEGH: At the discretion of Francis Musa, the
- 4 district IDU commander. What I've just suggested, and the
- 09:57:06 5 witness agreed, that he had a discretion when reporting to the
  - 6 area or brigade commander, he had a discretion to copy those
  - 7 reports to the overall IDU commander if he wanted to, or if he
  - 8 felt it appropriate.
  - 9 Q. And will you agree that this structure that I have just
- 09:57:28 10 described was put in place by the leader?
  - 11 A. Yes.
  - 12 Q. Thank you.
  - 13 PRESIDING JUDGE: At times we would need some
- 14 specifications as to who the leader is, you know. We've move
- 09:57:52 15 from Sankoh to Bockarie and maybe --

|     |                  | 16 |        | MR CAMMEGH: Well, I will clarify that if I may.          |
|-----|------------------|----|--------|--|
|     |                  | 17 |        | PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes.                                    |
|     |                  | 18 |        | MR CAMMEGH:  |
| Thi | -S               | 19 | Q.     | The leader, I suggest I'll put it a different way.       |
| Zog | 09:58:08<br>goda | 20 | struct | cure was put in place following a big meeting at Camp    |
|     |                  | 21 | in ear | rly 1996; do you agree?                                  |
| to  |                  | 22 | Α.     | Well, I was not in the meeting, so I would not be able   |
|     |                  | 23 | tell t | the exact year.  |
| sug | ggesting         | 24 | Q.     | That's fine. Would you agree that well, I'm              |
| in  | 09:58:38         | 25 | that t | the structure that I've just described was, in fact, put |
|     |                  | 26 | place  | by Foday Sankoh; would you agree with that?              |
|     |                  | 27 | A.     | Yes.   |
| see | <u> </u>         | 28 | Q.     | Okay. I'm going to make a suggestion to you; I want to   |
| two | )                | 29 | if you | would agree with this: That there were, in fact, only    |
|     |                  |    |        |  |
|     |                  |    |        | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I                                   |
|     |                  |    |        |  |

scenarios in which Augustine Gbao would receive reports. The

OPEN SESSION

first one is this: As overall security commander he would

SESAY ET AL

6 NOVEMBER 2007

Page 4

- $\ensuremath{\mathtt{3}}$   $\ensuremath{\mathtt{receive}}$  receive reports when the area commander had failed to implement a
  - 4 Joint Security Board recommendation; do you agree?
  - 09:59:47 5 A. Yes.
- $\ensuremath{\text{G}}$  Q. And the second and final scenario in which Augustine Gbao
- $\,$   $\,$   $\,$  would receive reports was in his role as IDU commander where he
- 8 was receiving reports or -- let me start that again. I'm sorry.
- 9 The second and final scenario was this: He would receive reports
- $10:00:26\ 10$  as the overall IDU commander from the district IDU commander, as
  - I have just described; do you agree?
  - 12 A. Yes.
- $$\tt 13$   ${\tt Q.}$   ${\tt Just}$  to clarify that: In other words, the second scenario
- $\,$  14  $\,$  would be the copies of the reports which were being sent to the
  - 10:00:58 15 area or brigade commander; you agree?
    - 16 A. No. The security reports by then, from the district IDU
    - 17 commander, they would take them to the overall security
- 18 commander, especially those that had to do with investigation so
- 19 that he himself would give his own advice, with the advice that
  - 10:01:40 20 the area commander or the town commander would give. This was
    - 21 the case that would come together, then we decided what to do.
    - 22 That was how we operated.
    - 23 Q. So you don't agree with me that there were only two
    - 24 scenarios where Augustine Gbao would receive reports; is that
  - 10:02:13 25 what you're saying?
    - 26 A. I don't understand what you mean.

| you             | 27 | Q. Well, I'm going to try it gain, Mr Witness, and I want      |
|-----------------|----|--|
|                 | 28 | please just to listen to the question very carefully because I |
| that            | 29 | don't want us to talk at cross-purposes. Now, I suggested      |
|                 |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I   |
| _               |    | SESAY ET AL  |
| Page 5          |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                   |
|                 |    |  |
|                 | 1  | there were two scenarios, and only two scenarios, whereby      |
|                 | 2  | Augustine Gbao would receive reports. The first one, as you    |
|                 | 3  | agreed, was in his role as overall security commander he would |
| failed          | 4  | receive reports in situations where the area commander had     |
| 10:03:12        | 5  | to implement Joint Security Board recommendations?             |
| what?           | 6  | JUDGE THOMPSON: He would, in that context, would be            |
|                 | 7  | Norm, the norm?  |
|                 | 8  | MR CAMMEGH: Sorry, Your Honour. I                              |
| what?           | 9  | JUDGE THOMPSON: He would in that context would mean            |
| 10:03:31 horse. | 10 | The norm, because once more we're back to the usual hobby      |
| So              | 11 | The witness seems to be saying this was not how we operated.   |
| the             | 12 | he would in that context, the subjunctive mode would be what,  |
|                 | 13 | norm? Or actually?   |

|                    | 14 | MR CAMMEGH: The norm, sorry.                                   |
|--------------------|----|--|
| 10:03:54<br>didn't | 15 | JUDGE THOMPSON: That's what I'm trying to say. I               |
|                    | 16 | want to be that explicit.                                      |
|                    | 17 | MR CAMMEGH: Sorry, Your Honour. That's all right.              |
| with               | 18 | JUDGE THOMPSON: We are in that very delicate terrain           |
|                    | 19 | these witnesses, you see.                                      |
| 10:04:03 can.      | 20 | MR CAMMEGH: Well, I'm trying to make it as clear as I          |
| enjoin             | 21 | JUDGE THOMPSON: I can see the effort. In fact, I               |
|                    | 22 | you in doing that. But it seems as if there's a disconnect     |
|                    | 23 | between you and the witness because of this subtle difference. |
| this               | 24 | MR CAMMEGH: I agree. Yes, I agree. Can I just clear            |
| 10:04:22<br>a      | 25 | with Your Honours: That I think you're all aware I'm putting   |
|                    | 26 | thesis that in practice there were two scenarios where, in     |
|                    | 27 | practice, Mr Gbao would receive reports.                       |
|                    | 28 | The first one, I hope we are all agreed, the witness           |
| reports            | 29 | appeared to accept that, in practice, Gbao would receive       |

Page 6 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION

- 1 as overall security commander, wherein the area commander had
- 2 failed to implement Joint Security Board reports. I think if
- 3 anybody wants me to retrace that, I will, but I hope that that is
  - 4 fairly unequivocal.
  - 10:04:57 5 JUDGE BOUTET: When you say that based on what? The
    - 6 evidence of this witness?
- $\,$  7  $\,$  MR CAMMEGH: On the answer of the witness earlier, and it
  - 8 was the second scenario where --
  - 9 JUDGE THOMPSON: That we got into the difficulties.
- $10:05:06\ 10$  MR CAMMEGH: Yes. Now, if any of Your Honours wants me to
  - 11 retrace --
  - 12 PRESIDING JUDGE: And then in the third scenario we got
- into further problems when he shifted grounds, and said that the
- district commander could send reports directly to the overall
  - 10:05:18 15 commander of the IDU, particularly where it concerns
- 16 investigations. So this goes, it cuts right across all what he's
- been saying, and that is where you've made the remark, you know,
  - 18 that it would appear then that you do not agree with me on the
  - 19 two thesis that I have put across to you.
  - 10:05:37 20 MR CAMMEGH: I'm not sure that the witness and I are at
- $\,$  21  $\,$  odds on the second scenario, and that's why I want to retrace it
- $22\,$  and understand exactly what he meant, because it may be that I'm
  - 23 not putting it in a way that's being clearly understood, so
- 24 that's why I want to retrace scenario number two, because I'm not

| 10:05:54<br>sure  | 25 | sure that we were at odds, with respect. And I want to be      |
|-------------------|----|--|
|                   | 26 | that we are unequivocal about it.                              |
| sure              | 27 | JUDGE THOMPSON: My intervention was because I wasn't           |
|                   | 28 | what sort of evidence you were trying to elicit.               |
| again             | 29 | MR CAMMEGH: Well, can I try with the second scenario           |
|                   |    |  |
|                   |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I   |
|                   |    |  |
| Page 7            |    | SESAY ET AL  |
|                   |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                   |
|                   |    |  |
|                   | 1  | and we will see how far we get.                                |
| that              | 2  | Q. Mr Witness, as you've heard, there are two scenarios        |
|                   | 3  | I'm suggesting, and only two scenarios where Augustine Gbao in |
| this:             | 4  | practice, in reality, received reports. The second one is      |
| 10:06:30<br>would | 5  | I suggest that in his role as overall IDU commander Mr Gbao    |
|                   | 6  | receive copies of the reports from the district IDU commander  |
|                   | 7  | which were being sent to the area or brigade commander in      |
|                   | 8  | relation to investigations to investigations. Do you agree     |
|                   | 9  | with me?   |
| 10:07:12          | 10 | A. Yes.  |
| I'm               | 11 | MR CAMMEGH: Right. I hope I can move on from that.             |

12 anxious to move on, but if Your Honours see any equivocality I'd 13 be happy to retrace it. 14 Now, can you just confirm one or two matters for me here, 10:07:33 15 please. The IDU, or the role of the IDU essentially was for or 16 to investigate disputes between civilians and soldiers; do you 17 agree? 18 Α. Yes. 19 Ο. Okay. Where the dispute lay between civilians, am I right 10:08:01 20 it was the role of the G5 to attempt to settle such disputes as amicably as possible? 21 22 Α. Yes. 23 Right. I think you've already told us the IDU had no power 24 of arrest; is that right? 10:08:28 25 Α. Yes. You mentioned yesterday that between 1998 and 2000 the 26 district IDU was, in fact, a man called Sylvester. Can I 27 suggest 28 that you are mistaken about that? I'm not suggesting that you 29 are lying, of course, but can I suggest that the name of that IDU

#### SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I

SESAY ET AL

Page 8

6 NOVEMBER 2007

OPEN SESSION

- district commander was Francis Musa; am I right?
- 2 A. Well, I wouldn't say you are correct or you are lying
- 3 because when we went to Kailahun and they called us he is stood,
  - 4 and he said that he was the one that had been appointed by
- 10:09:17 5 Francis Musa to be a district commander, Sylvester. So I did not
- $\,$   $\,$   $\,$   $\,$   $\,$  know whether it was a legal assignment that was given to him so,
- $\,$  7  $\,$  all of us, we had that in mind that he was the district -- and at
- $\,$  8  $\,$  that time I was at Pendembu -- but all along it was Francis Musa.
  - 9 Q. All right. Well, I'm happy to accept that answer,
  - 10:09:43 10 Mr Witness. Thank you. Can I suggest that in relation to the
- 11 general working and efficiency of the Joint Security Board there
- \$12\$  $\,$  were perhaps two main problems which affected its working. First
- $\,$  13  $\,$  of all, is it true that on occasions the Joint Security Board or,
- 14 sorry, it was difficult to set up a Joint Security Board when the
  - 10:10:21 15 war disrupted its structure?
    - 16 A. Yes.
    - 17 Q. For example, it was sometimes difficult to locate Joint
- 18 Security Board representatives from the various units and collect
- 19 them together because of the pressure from the war front; would
  - 10:10:56 20 you agree?
    - 21 A. Exactly so.

|          | 22 | Q. Okay. And was there a second p      | revailing problem, in    |
|----------|----|--|--------------------------|
|          | 23 | particular in relation to incidents wi | hich had allegedly taken |
| were     | 24 | place at the front lines whereby, whe  | n some when soldiers     |
| 10:11:20 | 25 | informed that they were due to attend  | a Joint Security Board,  |
|          | 26 | they would sometimes go AWOL and run   | away; is that true?      |
|          | 27 | A. Yes.                                |                          |
| final?   | 28 | Q. After the, I'm not sure, is it      | top or tap 20, 40 and    |
|          | 29 | Tap. Is it tap? In the months follow   | wing tap final, were you |
|          |    |  |                          |
|          |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHA                       | MBER I                   |
|          |    |  |                          |
| Page 9   |    | SESAY ET AL                            |                          |
|          |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007                        | OPEN SESSION             |
|          |    |  |                          |
| out      | 1  | familiar with a directive within the   | newly-shaped RUF to wipe |
| wipe     | 2  | armed child soldiers after the Gios h  | ad left? I should say    |
| that     | 3  | out the use of armed child soldiers,   | not kill them all; is    |
|          | 4  | something you remember?                |                          |
| 10:12:38 | 5  | A. Yes. The instruction came.          |                          |
|          | 6  | Q. And who did that instruction co     | me from?                 |
| and      | 7  | A. Well, at that time, it was CO F     | oday who came initially  |
| that     | 8  | gave the instruction. He said that i   | t was Sankoh that gave   |
|          | 9  | instruction and                        |                          |

- 10:13:01 10 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, would the witness go a 11 little bit slow? 12 MR CAMMEGH: 13 Mr Witness, I'm sorry to interrupt you again. It's my 14 fault because I should remind you more often, but please don't 10:13:12 15 rush along. Please let the interpreters have a chance to 16 interpret what you are saying. So could you start that answer 17 again, please, and take it slowly. 18 I said at the time that we were at Mende Buima, when they had driven the Gios, Foday, who was the commander at Mende 19 Buima, 10:13:44 20 came. He said, Sankoh said the little children who had been 21 going with the Gios, once the Gios had gone, he said, all of them 22 should stop. Nobody should give them arms. 23 Okay. Does that complete your answer? The time that we came to Giema, 1993, Peter Vandi 24 himself
- 10:14:31 25 gave the same instructions. He said, no arms should be given to
- 26 children who had been moving with the Gios. See, I used to hear
  - 27 that instruction.
  - 28 Q. Okay. At any time during the war did you see Augustine
  - 29 Gbao accompanied by armed children?

6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION

| were               | 1  | A. No. Augustine Gbao, when we were at Giema, our houses       |
|--------------------|----|--|
|                    | 2  | opposite each other, just about ten feet.                      |
|                    | 3  | Q. Your house was ten feet from his house?                     |
|                    | 4  | A. Yes, when we were at Giema.                                 |
| 10:15:33 questions | 5  | Q. Right. Thank you. Can I just ask you one or two             |
| I                  | 6  | about training after the Gios left, and I want to be sure that |
|                    | 7  | recorded your evidence correctly; the questions asked by       |
|                    | 8  | Mr Jordash here, and answers that you gave. Did you tell the   |
|                    | 9  | Court, and correct me, please, if I'm wrong, did you tell the  |
| 10:16:02           | 10 | Court  |
|                    | 11 | A. Mm-hmm.   |
| and                | 12 | Q in 1994 you heard of training I'm sorry, in 1994             |
| right?             | 13 | 1995 you heard of training in Baima and Bunumbu; is that       |
|                    | 14 | A. Yes.  |
| 10:16:27           | 15 | Q. And did you say that after the intervention you heard no    |
|                    | 16 | more about a training base in Bunumbu?                         |
| where              | 17 | A. No. I said that I heard about it, but I did not know        |
|                    | 18 | the people went and how many there were.                       |
| this               | 19 | Q. All right. Did you, and I'm sorry if you've answered        |
| 10:17:08           | 20 | question already, but I just need to be sure of what you said. |
| training           | 21 | Did you receive any complaints from any of the Kailahun        |

|                  | 22 | bases at any time up until the end of the war?               |
|------------------|----|--|
| because          | 23 | A. No. Except the time that the Gio people were there        |
| So               | 24 | when we went there, you see, we only spent two months there. |
| 10:17:44<br>been | 25 | when I left the base that complaint came, that the Gios had  |
| hear             | 26 | beating people at the base. But, apart from that, I did not  |
|                  | 27 | any other complaint about that.                              |
| the              | 28 | Q. Okay. Mr Witness, after the Gios left, did people join    |
|                  | 29 | Kailahun District training bases voluntarily?                |

| Page 11  |   | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                  |
|----------|---|---|
|          |   |   |
|          | 1 | A. That, I would not be able to look into somebody's mind.    |
| did      | 2 | Q. Well, let me put it another way: After the Gios left,      |
| at       | 3 | you at any stage become aware of anyone being forced to train |
|          | 4 | any of those Kailahun bases against their will?               |
| 10:18:58 | 5 | A. No.  |
|          | 6 | Q. Okay.  |
| boasting | 7 | A. Because I used to see even the G5s, they had been          |
|          | 8 | to go to the base, like Brima Jamiru, who was at Pendembu, he |

SESAY ET AL

- 9 himself spoke. He is the one that he said he was going to be
- 10:19:15 10 trained and he went. He did not spend a long time there, a week
- 11 or two; he came back. Apart from that, I did not have any other
  - 12 complaint.
  - 13 Q. Can you spell that man's name, please, if you can?
  - 14 A. Brima Jamiru. B-R-I-M-A.
  - 10:19:39 15 Q. Yes.
    - 16 A. J-A-M-I-R-U.
    - 17 Q. All right. From what you could see, and from what you
    - 18 heard, was it your impression that people were going to these
    - 19 training camps in a desire to support the RUF in Kailahun
  - 10:20:19 20 District?
    - 21 A. I don't quite understand.
- $22\,$  Q. I will try it again, Mr Witness. Was it your impression,
  - 23 because you were living in Kailahun District at the time --
  - 24 A. Hm-mm.
  - 10:20:36 25 Q. Was it your impression that those people who went to the
    - training camps were doing so because they supported the RUF in
    - 27 Kailahun District?
    - 28 A. Oh, yes. I used to hear about that.
    - 29 MR CAMMEGH: Can I ask you to pause for a moment, Mr

- 1 Witness. Forgive me.
- 2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, are you objecting to the

question?

- 3 MR HARRISON: Yes.
- 4 PRESIDING JUDGE: It has been answered.
- 10:21:06 5 MR HARRISON: Yes.
  - 6 PRESIDING JUDGE: It has been answered.
  - 7 MR HARRISON: Yes.
  - 8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Okay. You may proceed, please.
  - 9 MR CAMMEGH:
- $10:21:22\ 10$  Q. I want you to refer to what you personally saw and what you
  - 11 heard, Mr Witness, when you answer this next question. Was it
  - 12 your impression that many of those who went to those training
- 13 camps did so because they wanted to become soldiers and have an
  - 14 occupation?
- 10:22:08 15 A. Well, the impression that I used to have was that they went
  - 16 to train, according to what I have been hearing, so as to
  - 17 liberate. They said that they were going to join so as to
  - 18 liberate this country. That was what I used to hear.
- - 10:22:40 20 commander, whose name was O'Jalley?
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, just to liberate this country
  - 22 from what?

| people    | 23 | THE WITNESS: That word was too rampant. A lot of              |
|-----------|----|---|
|           | 24 | had been using that word, that they said they were going to   |
| 10:23:06  | 25 | liberate this country. What they meant, I wouldn't be able to |
| civilians | 26 | tell the meaning of the word liberation. But even the         |
|           | 27 | used to utter those words that word. They said they would     |
|           | 28 | liberate this country.  |
|           | 29 | MR CAMMEGH:   |
|           |    |   |
|           |    |   |
|           |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I  |
|           |    |   |
|           |    | SESAY ET AL   |
| Page 13   |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                  |
|           |    |   |
|           |    |   |
|           | 1  | Q. Mr Witness   |
|           | 2  | A. Yes, sir.  |
| ask       | 3  | Q referring to His Honour Judge Itoe's question, can I        |
| asic      | 4  | you to go a little bit further. What was it exactly that the  |
| 10:23:42  |    | civilians said that they wanted to be liberated from? Can you |
| _, _,     | 6  | help us?  |
|           | 7  | A. Well, the civilians, the idea that they had, it was from   |
|           | 8  | the ideology which they had. Sankoh had been showing          |
| everybody |    |   |
|           | 9  | that the war came to liberate this country from corrupt       |
| 10:24:29  | 10 | practices. So that was why the civilians had been using that  |
|           | 11 | word frequently.  |

| couple           | 12 | Q. Okay. I was going to come on to the MP, but just a          |
|------------------|----|--|
|                  | 13 | more questions on training, if I may. Do you agree that there  |
| the              | 14 | was virtually no training in 1997, following the arrival of    |
| 10:25:02         | 15 | junta in May of that year?                                     |
|                  | 16 | A. I did not hear about training because everybody was just    |
| were             | 17 | going wherever he wanted. So I did not know whether people     |
|                  | 18 | in the base. I did not know.                                   |
|                  | 19 | Q. Okay. What effect did the advent of the junta, in May       |
| 10:25:35         | 20 | 1997, have upon the morale of the people of Kailahun District; |
|                  | 21 | can you help us?   |
|                  | 22 | A. Well, what I saw, even the AFRC soldiers who went, the      |
| gave             | 23 | people of Kailahun District, they welcomed them because they   |
| they             | 24 | them a place to lodge. They would come near them and then      |
| 10:26:26<br>went | 25 | would play with them. That I used to see because the junta     |
| District         | 26 | with civilians. So that just proved that the Kailahun          |
| during           | 27 | really provided encouragement for the civilians that went      |
|                  | 28 | that 1997. That was what I observed.                           |
| any              | 29 | Q. Okay. And from that time, May of 1997, did you observe      |

SESAY ET AL

- desire or willingness to wage war amongst the civilians and,
- 2 indeed, the soldiers within Kailahun District?
- 3 A. According to my own observation, what I had been hearing,
  - 4 civilians or soldiers, nobody was ready to fight during that
  - 10:27:49 5 time. Everybody had been feeling that the war had come to an
    - 6 end.
- 7 Q. Okay. Now, again, referring purely to what you personally
  - 8 observed, or what you personally heard, did there come a time
  - 9 again when people would voluntarily go to join the training
  - 10:28:17 10 bases?
    - 11 A. That, I cannot tell now.
- $12\,$  Q. But what about after the intervention in February of 1998,
  - 13 Mr Witness?
- ${\tt 14}$  A. I cannot tell, because I did not hear about a base. 1998,
  - 10:29:00 15 Kailahun, I only heard about societies, but I did not know
    - 16 whether there was a base.
- $\ \ \,$  17  $\ \,$  Q. All right. Thank you. In the Pendembu area -- I think the
  - 18 MP commander O'Jalley was based in the Pendembu -- sorry,
  - 19 Pendembu area for some time; do you agree?
  - 10:29:39 20 A. Yes.
    - 21 Q. Can you roughly give us the dates or the period during
    - which O'Jalley was based there, to your knowledge?
    - 23 A. O'Jalley was there 1996. 1996.

| you              | 24 | Q. Until when? If you can't be sure, please say so. If        |
|------------------|----|---|
| 10:30:37         | 25 | can't be sure, it doesn't matter, Mr Witness. It's            |
|                  | 26 | A. That, I can't tell exactly.                                |
| it               | 27 | Q. All right. That's fine. Can you help me with this: Is      |
| of               | 28 | correct that within the Pendembu area the actually, in view   |
|                  | 29 | the previous witness's testimony, I don't think I need to ask |
|                  |    |   |
|                  |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I  |
|                  |    |   |
| Page 15          |    | SESAY ET AL   |
| ruge 13          |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                  |
|                  |    |   |
| Witness,         | 1  | that question, so I'm going to move on. Forgive me, Mr        |
|                  | 2  | for taking you down that path. I just want you to comment,    |
|                  | 3  | please, on something you told my learned friend Mr Lansana    |
|                  | 4  | yesterday.  |
| 10:31:32<br>copy | 5  | MR CAMMEGH: Your Honours, I'm afraid I don't have a           |
|                  | 6  | of the final transcript or, indeed, a draft for yesterday     |
|                  | 7  | evening, but my legal assistant I hope took an accurate note. |
| is               | 8  | I'm going to read back to you what you said, and I think this |
|                  | 9  | more or less correct. You said this: "It was not so easy to   |
| 10:31:58         | 10 | share information if the fighters knew that you are an IDU."  |
|                  | 11 | A. Yes.   |

- 12 Q. And then I will continue: "They would not allow you to
- 13 take even a paper. They would say that the IDU were passing
- 14 information to the commanders and they didn't like it."
- 10:32:26 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Then you went on to say: "To transfer information was very
  - 17 difficult. Sometimes we got information if the agent could
  - 18 escape and ran with the report, but usually" --
  - 19 A. Yes.
  - 10:32:44 20 Q. "But usually didn't have the chance to move about. This
    - 21 happened so many times."
    - 22 A. Yes.
    - 23 Q. You agree with the truth of what you said there, do you?
    - 24 A. Yes.
  - 10:33:03 25 Q. Okay. Now, forgive me, but I would like you, please, to
- 26 explain in a little bit more detail what you were attempting to
  - 27 convey to the Court yesterday. What exactly did you mean by
  - 28 that?
  - 29 A. Which one?

SESAY ET AL

Page 16 6 NOVEMBER 2007

OPEN SESSION

 $\ensuremath{\mathtt{1}}$  Q. Well, can you explain the reputation that the IDU had with

- 2 the other fighters?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Can you explain a little about that?
- 10:33:43 5 A. Well, the IDUs, the fighters considered the IDUs as [speaks
  - 6 Krio].
  - 7 Q. As what, sorry?
  - 8 A. As inquisitive. [Speaks Krio]
  - 9 PRESIDING JUDGE: It's not inquisitiveness, as such.
  - 10:34:21 10 MR CAMMEGH: I wonder if His Honour Judge Thompson
    - 11 could enlighten us?
    - 12 JUDGE THOMPSON: I think it's gossip, or something.
    - 13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Gossip.
    - MR CAMMEGH:
- 10:34:31 15 Q. Please carry on, Mr Witness, and give us as much detail on
  - this as you can, if you will?
- $\,$  17  $\,$  A. Anyone who, if they came to know you an IDU, if you try to
  - 18 go to the front line where there are arms, unless you said you
  - 19 would stay near the commander who was on the ground every day,
  - 10:35:14 20 but if --
    - 21 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, it's not clear from the
    - 22 witness.
    - JUDGE BOUTET: We don't have -- we have absolutely no
    - translation what's going on now.
  - 10:35:38 25 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, it's not clear from the
    - 26 witness. Can he repeat the answer?
    - MR CAMMEGH:

| problem        | 28 | Q. Mr Witness, I'm sorry, there seems to have been a          |
|----------------|----|---|
| again?         | 29 | with the translation. Can I ask you to start that answer      |
|                |    |   |
|                |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I  |
| Page 17        |    | SESAY ET AL   |
|                |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                  |
|                | 1  | I'm sorry.  |
| it             | 2  | JUDGE BOUTET: Mr Witness, you were at the stage where         |
| an             | 3  | was translated that if you tried to go to the front lines as  |
|                | 4  | IDU, what happened. If you can take it from there, slowly     |
| 10:36:19       | 5  | please.   |
| line,          | 6  | THE WITNESS: If any IDU agent was sent to the front           |
|                | 7  | except he was with a commander, and he should stay close with |
| with a         | 8  | him, and that would not even happen for an IDU man to stay    |
| they           | 9  | commander for the whole of the day. So when we sent them,     |
| 10:37:01<br>of | 10 | were at the battalion headquarter town. So that was why some  |
|                | 11 | the front line information we did not receive them, because   |

fighters would not do something, if it's something bad at the

front, and he himself would -- he comes to report himself that

12

13

he

| wind            | 14 | did bad things that day, except, after a while, if you get     |
|-----------------|----|--|
| 10:37:49<br>you | 15 | of it, you would be in doubt whether to report him because if  |
|                 | 16 | made the report, they would ask you when that happened and who |
|                 | 17 | did it, and, if you show the person, he would deny, and there  |
| get             | 18 | would be no proof. So that was the problem to for us to        |
|                 | 19 | accurate information from the front line.                      |
| 10:38:31        | 20 | MR CAMMEGH:  |
|                 | 21 | Q. So, to put it simply, was this the case: That it was in     |
|                 | 22 | fact frequently difficult for the IDU to receive reports of    |
|                 | 23 | crimes from the front lines because combatants would sometimes |
|                 | 24 | obstruct IDUs from doing their job properly; was that right?   |
| 10:38:59        | 25 | A. Yes.  |
|                 | 26 | Q. Even though the IDUs were doing their best?                 |
|                 | 27 | A. Yes.  |
| by              | 28 | MR CAMMEGH: Your Honours, there were two transgressions        |
|                 | 29 | me yesterday, questions that should have been put in closed    |
|                 |    |  |
|                 |    |  |

SESAY ET AL

Page 18

6 NOVEMBER 2007

OPEN SESSION

 $\ensuremath{\text{1}}$  session. I wonder if I could do that now? I'll be very brief.

JUDGE BOUTET: I'm trying to understand what you are 2 trying 3 to get at, Mr Cammegh, but you asked a question of this witness if the role of the IDU was to investigate disputes between 10:39:40 5 soldiers and civilians. Now we are at the front line. So I'm at 6 a bit of a loss to try to follow your line of questioning. MR CAMMEGH: Okay. I'll clear that up. 8 JUDGE BOUTET: I'm very confused on this. I'm not sure of 9 that time if you had asked a question if it was civilians only or 10:39:56 10 was it G5, then you moved the IDU does this. 11 MR CAMMEGH: Your Honour makes a valid point and I'm grateful because I've left an element out of the question 12 which I 13 should put in now, if I may. 14 When you talk of IDUs being obstructed sometimes from doing 10:40:15 15 their job at the front line, are you talking about crimes at the 16 front line in which the victims were civilians? 17 I don't understand. Α. 18 All right. You've just said that the IDUs were sometimes prevented from doing their job at the front line by combatants? 10:41:01 20 Α. Yes. 21 Did it sometimes happen that crimes were committed by 22 soldiers against civilians on the front lines, but that the IDUs 23 were obstructed in investigating these crimes properly? Did that 24 sometimes happen?

| 10:41:44             | 25 | A. Yes.  |
|----------------------|----|--|
|                      | 26 | MR CAMMEGH: Does that clear the issue up, Your Honour?       |
| in                   | 27 | Q. And when you say the IDU were being obstructed, are you   |
|                      | 28 | fact saying that the IDU would occasionally be obstructed by |
| into                 | 29 | combatants because the combatants didn't want the IDU prying |
|                      |    |  |
|                      |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I                                       |
|                      |    |  |
| Page 19              |    | SESAY ET AL  |
| rage 19              |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                 |
|                      |    |  |
|                      | 1  | their business; is that what you're saying?                  |
|                      | 2  | A. Yes.  |
|                      | 3  | MR CAMMEGH: Your Honours, can I briefly wrap up this         |
| just                 | 4  | cross-examination by going into closed session, please, for  |
| 10:43:02             | 5  | one or two questions?  |
|                      | 6  | PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, we may.                                |
|                      | 7  | MR CAMMEGH: I'm grateful.                                    |
| there?               | 8  | PRESIDING JUDGE: Court Management, are we not yet            |
|                      | 9  | MR GEORGE: Not yet, Your Honour.                             |
| 10:45:38<br>Honours, | 10 | MR CAMMEGH: May I take brief instructions, Your              |
|                      | 11 | please?  |
|                      | 12 | PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, you may.                               |

|                   | 13 | [At this        | point            | in the  | pro   | ceedings,  | a portio  | on of the  |
|-------------------|----|-----------------|------------------|---------|-------|------------|-----------|------------|
|                   | 14 | transcript, pag | es 20            | to 27,  | was   | extracted  | d and sea | aled under |
| 10:45:42 session] | 15 | separate cover, | as t             | he proc | eediı | ng was hea | ard in a  | closed     |
|                   | 16 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 17 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 18 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 19 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 20 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 21 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 22 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 23 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 24 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 25 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 26 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 27 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 28 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 29 |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   |    |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   |    |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   |    |                 |                  | SCSL -  | TRIZ  | AL CHAMBEF | R I       |            |
|                   |    |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   |    | SESAY ET AL     |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
| Page 28           |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 |                  |         |       |            | OPEN      | SESSION    |
|                   |    |                 |                  |         |       |            | 01210     |            |
|                   |    |                 |                  |         |       |            |           |            |
|                   | 1  |                 | [ O <sub>]</sub> | pen ses | sion  | ]          |           |            |
|                   | 2  | MR GEORGE       |                  |         |       |            | sion.     |            |
|                   | 3  | PRESIDING       | JUDG:            | E: Yes  | , tha | ank you.   | Mr Wagon  | na, just a |

- 4 minute.
- 11:08:58 5 We are now resuming this trial in a public session. This
  - 6 is the ruling of the Chamber in respect of the closed session
- 7 application made, first of all, by learned counsel for the
- first
- 8 accused, and later on backed by learned counsel for the third
- 9 accused in his cross-examination of this witness. Consistent
- 11:09:35 10 with the general requirement that criminal proceedings be
  - 11 conducted in public, as enjoined by Rule 78 of the Rules of
  - 12 Procedure and Evidence of this Court, and taking into
  - 13 consideration Article 17(2) of the Statute of the Court, but
- 14 exceptionally as authorised by Rule 79(A)(ii) of the said Rules,
  - 11:10:00 15 and the need to protect witnesses as provided for in Rule 75,
    - 16 this Chamber, on the application of counsel for the first
- 17 accused, and subsequently learned counsel for the third accused,
- \$18\$ for a certain portion of the testimony of witness number DIS- 149
  - 19 to be heard in closed session did, by way of an exceptional
- 11:10:34 20 procedure, grant the said application for the reasons advanced in
  - 21 support thereof.
  - Let us now proceed, following this ruling, to conducting
  - these proceedings in an open session. And, Mr Wagona, having
- conducted part of your cross-examination in closed session,
- you
  - 11:10:58 25 may now proceed in conducting the rest of it in open session.
    - MR WAGONA: Thank you.
    - 27 Q. Witness, we are now in open session, so be careful when
    - answering the questions not to reveal your identity; okay?

# 29 A. Okay. All right.

## SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I

| Page 29         |    | SESAY ET AL   |   |  |  |  |
|-----------------|----|---|---|--|--|--|
| rage 25         |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                  |   |  |  |  |
|                 |    |   |   |  |  |  |
|                 |    |   |   |  |  |  |
| reports         | 1  | Q. Now, witness, I suggest to you that when you sent          |   |  |  |  |
| to              | 2  | to your overall unit commander, he would in turn send reports |   |  |  |  |
|                 | 3  | the overall security commander; do you accept?                |   |  |  |  |
|                 | 4  | A. Yes.   |   |  |  |  |
| 11:11:52<br>not | 5  | Q. And the overall security commander was Augustine Gbao,     |   |  |  |  |
|                 | 6  | so?   |   |  |  |  |
|                 | 7  | A. Yes.   |   |  |  |  |
| that            | 8  | Q. And from what you have testified, it's correct to say      |   |  |  |  |
| unit            | 9  | there were two sets of reports prepared; reports to overall   |   |  |  |  |
| 11:12:34        | 10 | commanders and the then combined reports to the brigade       |   |  |  |  |
|                 | 11 | commander; is that correct?                                   |   |  |  |  |
|                 | 12 | A. Yes.   |   |  |  |  |
| receive         | 13 | Q. And earlier on you had said that Augustine Gbao did        |   |  |  |  |
|                 | 14 | reports where area commanders did not implement Joint Securit | У |  |  |  |
| 11:13:23        | 15 | Board recommendations; you remember?                          |   |  |  |  |
|                 | 16 | A. Yes.   |   |  |  |  |

| reports            | 17 | Q. I    | But it is also correct, Mr Witness, that security       |
|--------------------|----|---------|---|
|                    | 18 | were a  | lways sent to Augustine Gbao by district IDU commanders |
|                    | 19 | not so  | ?   |
| 11:14:04<br>word I | 20 | I       | MR CAMMEGH: Can I just, forgive me, interrupt: The      |
| this               | 21 | used, a | advisedly, was copied to Augustine Gbao, not sent, in   |
|                    | 22 | context | t.  |
| put                | 23 | ľ       | MR WAGONA: My Lord, I'm aware that that's how counsel   |
|                    | 24 | it.     |   |
| 11:14:20           | 25 | ]       | PRESIDING JUDGE: And you are not bound to use the same  |
|                    | 26 | words.  | You're in cross-examination. You may proceed, please    |
|                    | 27 | 1       | MR WAGONA: Thank you.                                   |
|                    | 28 | Q. 7    | Witness, did you hear the question?                     |
|                    | 29 | 1       | PRESIDING JUDGE: Take it again, please, Mr Wagona.      |
|                    |    |         |   |
|                    |    |         |   |

|         | SESAY ET AL     |      |         |
|---------|-----------------|------|---------|
| Page 30 |                 |      |         |
|         | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 | OPEN | SESSION |

- 1 MR WAGONA:
- Q. Witness, I'm saying that it is correct, isn't it, that
- district IDU commanders always sent reports to the overall
- security commander, Augustine Gbao, not so?
- 11:15:11 5 A. They usually sent copies.

- 6 Q. And you said that that was for him to give his own advice; not so? 7 Yes. 9 Now, witness, is it correct that the common complaints that 11:16:00 10 the IDU office would receive were complaints by civilians against 11 fellow civilians? 12 No. Complaints were, from civilian against civilians, were referred to the G5. 13 14 But I suggest to you that the civilians were afraid to 11:16:33 15 complain against RUF combatants; not so? No. That was in 1991, 1992, when that was happening. 16 Α. Before that, the civilians were bold to report any fighter. 17 THE INTERPRETER: Correction, interpreter. After that 18 the 19 civilians were bold to report any fighter. 11:17:25 20 MR WAGONA:
- $\,$  21  $\,$  Q. Now, witness, the incident concerning Kallon Nabieu was a
- 22 case of an RUF combatant taking over a civilian's wife; not so?
  - 23 A. He did not take her. She [sic] wanted to take her,
- 24  $\,$  according to the statement when I explained what transpired; that
  - 11:17:56 25 was how it happened.
    - Q. And the IDU office had known about the incident before
    - 27 Mr Lansana reported, not so?
    - 28 A. No. The IDU office received the information. The very
- $\,$  29  $\,$  hour that the IDU office wanted to send someone to find out, it

| Page 31  |    | SESAY ET AL  |  |  |  |
|----------|----|--|--|--|--|
|          |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                   |  |  |  |
|          |    |  |  |  |  |
|          |    |  |  |  |  |
|          | 1  | did not even take an hour when Pa Lansana himself came because |  |  |  |
|          | 2  | Gagor was a place far from the front line. It's more than 20   |  |  |  |
|          | 3  | miles off from the front line.                                 |  |  |  |
|          | 4  | Q. And the way that case was dealt with was that Kallon was    |  |  |  |
| 11:18:54 | 5  | advised to leave the woman; not so?                            |  |  |  |
| husband. | 6  | A. The lady, we persuaded the lady to go back to her           |  |  |  |
|          | 7  | For Kallon, he was disciplined. In fact, they changed his      |  |  |  |
|          | 8  | assignment. They fired him to Bunumbu, Yawei Chiefdom.         |  |  |  |
|          | 9  | Q. Now, the incident involving Bockarie, in the incident       |  |  |  |
| 11:19:36 | 10 | involving Bockarie, Bunduka, the woman was a civilian; not so? |  |  |  |
|          | 11 | She was not an RUF combatant; is that correct?                 |  |  |  |
|          | 12 | A. Yes.  |  |  |  |
|          | 13 | Q. And Bunduka gave her a serious beating, didn't he?          |  |  |  |
| we       | 14 | A. That was what the lady reported, that she was beaten up;    |  |  |  |
| 11:20:06 | 15 | were not present.  |  |  |  |
|          | 16 | Q. And in that case, the case was concluded by the woman       |  |  |  |

escorted to her people; not so?

A. Yes, we decided on that, since she said she would not

being

17

18

|                  | 19 | breastfeed the child again and she was                        |
|------------------|----|---|
| 11:20:57<br>that | 20 | THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness take           |
|                  | 21 | bit again?  |
|                  | 22 | MR WAGONA:  |
|                  | 23 | Q. Please repeat your answer, Mr Witness.                     |
|                  | 24 | A. Bunduka, since he was annoyed, he said he would not feed   |
| 11:21:01<br>beat | 25 | the child again because he was jealous, and he said he would  |
| that             | 26 | him beat her up since she had reported him and he said        |
| not              | 27 | the lady should not go back to his house; in fact, he would   |
|                  | 28 | feed her any more. So we decided that if you have made this   |
|                  | 29 | decision, this lady has relatives, and she's married. His     |
|                  |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I  |
|                  |    | SESAY ET AL   |
| Page 32          |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                  |
|                  |    |   |
| them.            | 1  | mother's alive, his father's alive, so we would send her to   |
|                  | 2  | If you are ready, you would take her. So the G5 gave someone, |
|                  | 3  | someone to escort her, to escort her to her relatives.        |

Okay. Thank you. Now, you spoke about people displaced

from the war front and being brought to Giema; do you

6 A. Yes.

11:22:05 5

remember?

- 7 Q. And you said those who were newly brought would be given
- $\,$  8  $\,$  food like bananas and so on, brought by the other civilians; do
  - 9 you remember?
  - 11:22:29 10 A. It was not only civilians. That was a concerted effort.
- 11 Soldiers -- the fighters were going with civilians to find banana
  - 12 and they would bring it back. It was not only civilians.
- 13 Civilians were not only -- they were not going alone to find food
  - in the bush at that time.
- 11:22:51 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Okay. Can you now answer the question?
  - 16 THE WITNESS: Should I repeat?
  - 17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Counsel asked you a question that when
  - 18 people were brought from the war front, they were given food
  - 19 which had been brought by other people before, which had been
  - 11:23:15 20 brought by others. You did not answer the question. You went
- 21 and said that food was not only for civilians, it was brought by
  - 22 soldiers, by everybody --
  - THE WITNESS: Yes, yes.
  - 24 PRESIDING JUDGE: -- and so on.
  - 11:23:31 25 MR WAGONA:
    - Q. So the answer is "yes"?
    - 27 A. Yes.
- $28\,$  Q. Thank you. Okay. My next question, then, is this: Is it
  - 29 correct that the civilians who would have come earlier before

not

6 NOVEMBER 2007

OPEN SESSION

| the      | 1  | would participate in going to find this food, together with    |
|----------|----|--|
|          | 2  | other civilians?   |
|          | 3  | A. Yes. Because the fighters, they were in the lead. They      |
|          | 4  | would go with them and they would find the food and they would |
| 11:24:08 | 5  | carry it, the G5, the civilians, and they would bring it back. |
|          | 6  | Q. Is it also correct that the displaced civilians who came    |
|          | 7  | earlier would participate in farming on the community farms?   |
|          | 8  | A. Yes.  |
|          | 9  | PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, what you're saying is that        |
| 11:24:45 | 10 | the civilians would go food-finding and soldiers too would go  |
|          | 11 | food-finding with them; it was a combined effort. Soldiers     |
| were     |    |  |
|          | 12 | food-finding, civilians were also food-finding and they would  |
|          | 13 | bring the food?  |
|          | 14 | THE WITNESS: Yes.  |
| 11:25:06 | 15 | PRESIDING JUDGE: Is that what you're saying?                   |
|          | 16 | THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.                               |
|          | 17 | MR WAGONA:   |
| asked    | 18 | Q. Witness, you were asked by Mr Cammegh, the lawyer who       |
| that     | 19 | you questions before now, about the children. Is it correct    |
| 11:25:57 | 20 | when the Gios left, they left behind these children; they did  |

|                  | 21 | go with them, not so?  |
|------------------|----|--|
| except           | 22 | A. No. The Gio people's children, they took them back,       |
| the              | 23 | the Sierra Leone children, who were moving around with them, |
| were             | 24 | Sierra Leone children who were moving around with them, they |
| 11:26:24<br>left | 25 | the ones who remained. But the children of the Gios, they    |
|                  | 26 | with them. They all went.                                    |
| Leonean          | 27 | Q. And when the Gios were still around, these Sierra         |
| them,            | 28 | children who later remained behind had been fighting with    |

29 not so?

Page 34

answer.

SESAY ET AL

### SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I

| rage or  |   | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                          |
|----------|---|---|
| around.  | 1 | A. No, they did not give them guns when the Gios were |
|          | 2 | They used to use guns even                            |
| that     | 3 | THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness take   |
|          | 4 | bit again?  |
| 11:27:23 | 5 | MR WAGONA:  |
|          | 6 | Q. Witness, the interpreter asked you to repeat your  |

- $7\,$  A. When the children of the Gios were around, they were using
- $\,$  guns at that time. But wherever these Gio children went, since
  - 9 they were armed, the Sierra Leonean children were moving along
- 11:27:47 10 with them because of that, so they would move around with them,
  - 11 but they did not give the Sierra Leonean children guns because
- $\,$  12  $\,$  they said the guns were their mothers and their fathers, so they
  - 13 did not give it to anyone.
  - 14 Q. Witness, I suggest to you that you are not telling the
- 11:28:26 15 truth; that you know that even after the Gios left the children
  - 16 continued using guns; what do you have to say?
- $\,$  17  $\,$  A.  $\,$  I am not lying. When the Gio children were present, they
  - 18 were not giving guns to any Sierra Leonean child.
  - 19 Q. Witness, ever since you joined the RUF in 1992, you
  - 11:29:31 20 remained a loyal RUF officer; not so?
    - 21 A. Yes.
    - 22 Q. And that's because you strongly believed in the RUF
    - ideology; not so?
    - 24 A. Yes.
  - 11:29:59 25 Q. And until now you believe in the RUF ideology; not so?
    - 26 A. Yes.
    - 27 Q. And you also remained loyal to the commanders under whom
    - you worked in the RUF; not so?
    - 29 A. Yes. Even though the war was over, wherever I see them

SESAY ET AL

| Page | 35 |   |          |      |  |
|------|----|---|----------|------|--|
|      |    | 6 | NOVEMBER | 2007 |  |

OPEN SESSION

- 1 would respect them.
- 2 Q. And one of those commanders is Mr Issa Sesay, on whose
- behalf you have come to testify; not so?
- 4 A. I did not purposely come to testify for him. I came to
- 11:31:19 5 clear the doubt the Court had --
  - 6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, answer the question first.
  - 7 Are you loyal -- you said you were loyal to your commanders.
  - 8 THE WITNESS: Yes.
  - 9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Are you loyal to Issa Sesay or not?
- 11:31:37 10 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes. Yes.
  - 11 MR JORDASH: May I ask that the witness be allowed to
  - 12 answer the question? The witness was about to say something.
  - 13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Let him answer the question. I wanted
  - 14 him, you know, before he runs around to answer the question
- 11:31:58 15 first; he can come back to his explanation.
  - 16 MR JORDASH: With the greatest respect, he was answering
  - 17 the question, and he was making it quite clear the distinction
  - 18 between --
  - 19 PRESIDING JUDGE: I wanted him to answer the question
- 11:32:09 20 first. It was on loyalty and then he can now explain himself.
  - 21 MR JORDASH: With respect, in my submission, he was.
  - 22 PRESIDING JUDGE: He wasn't. Mr Witness, you may now

|                  | 23 | explain.   |
|------------------|----|--|
|                  | 24 | THE WITNESS: My Lord, the answer is "yes."                     |
| 11:32:31<br>come | 25 | PRESIDING JUDGE: No, you were explaining why you have          |
|                  | 26 | to testify. You said "yes" to your loyalty to Sesay and your   |
|                  | 27 | commanders, your RUF commanders, and you were going to explain |
|                  | 28 | why you are here to testify.                                   |
| only             | 29 | THE WITNESS: Yes, to testify. One, firstly it is not           |

### SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I

| Daga 26          |   | SESAY ET AL                                 |                     |
|------------------|---|---|---------------------|
| Page 36          |   | 6 NOVEMBER 2007                             | OPEN SESSION        |
|                  |   |   |                     |
|                  |   |   |                     |
| network          | 1 | for Issa Sesay, but to give an idea of how  | the security        |
| one              | 2 | was running within the RUF, because I thoug | ht that would be    |
| yes,             | 3 | of the problems the Court had. That's why   | I decided to say    |
|                  | 4 | to say that I would go and testify about th | at.                 |
| 11:33:34<br>that | 5 | JUDGE BOUTET: Can you explain what y        | ou mean by this,    |
|                  | 6 | you were to give an idea as to how the situ | ation that what was |
|                  | 7 | running in the RUF and you thought that     |                     |
|                  | 8 | THE WITNESS: Yes.                           |                     |
|                  | 9 | JUDGE BOUTET: Why are you saying so?        | Is it in the        |

11:33:54 10 security network that would be in the RUF, as it existed,

would

|           | 11       | be of, in your view, of assistance to the Court?   |
|-----------|----------|--|
| civilians | 12       | THE WITNESS: Well, how we were working with the  |
| soldiers, | 13       | and how we were working between the civilians and the  |
| meant.    | 14       | the fighters, how we were protecting them; that was what I                                   |
| 11:34:31  | 15       | JUDGE BOUTET: Mr Witness, did you have a rank as an IDU                                      |
|           | 16       | commander?   |
|           | 17       | THE WITNESS: I don't understand.   |
|           | 18       | JUDGE BOUTET: Did you have a rank?   |
| rank      | 19       | THE WITNESS: No, I had no rank. I was not given any  |
| 11:34:56  | 20       | to say that I was a corporal or a captain because that was the                               |
| because   | 21       | instructions we received, that they would not give ranks                                     |
|           | 22       | if they give you a rank you will hide from the fighters. How                                 |
| not       | 23       | much more if they give you a rank? Me, in particular, I did                                  |
|           | 24       | have a rank.   |
| 11:35:22  | 25       | JUDGE BOUTET: But the IDU agents that would go to the  |
|           |          |  |
|           | 26       | front line, they had no rank either?   |
|           | 26<br>27 | front line, they had no rank either?  THE WITNESS: I did not take notice of that to say that |
|           |          |  |

### SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I

SESAY ET AL

- 1 agent, or IDU officer, whatever you called them, you were not
- given any rank at any time?
- 3 THE WITNESS: No.
- 4 JUDGE BOUTET: An agent was reporting to you, for
- example,
  - 11:36:16 5 because you were, by assignment, his superior?
    - 6 THE WITNESS: That was why they were reporting to me.
- 7 JUDGE BOUTET: Because of the function you were occupying?
  - 8 THE WITNESS: Yes.
  - 9 JUDGE BOUTET: Okay. Thank you very much.
  - 11:36:40 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Wagona, it is 11.30. It is past
    - 11 11.30. We would recess and we will continue your
    - 12 cross-examination after we recess. The Chamber will rise,
    - 13 please.
    - 14 [Break taken at 11.32 a.m.]
  - 12:13:59 15 [RUF06NOV07B JS]
    - 16 [Upon resuming at 12.10 p.m.]
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE: We are resuming the session. Mr Wagona,
  - 18 you may continue.
  - 19 MR WAGONA:
- $12:14:41\ 20$  Q. Witness, may I remind you to be careful when answering the
  - 21 questions because we are in open session; yes?
  - 22 A. Okay.
  - 23 Q. Now, you spoke about a time when there was brushing in
  - 24 Pendembu; do you remember?

| 1    | 2:15:06 | 25 | A.     | Yes.     |          |                   |        |        |              |
|------|---------|----|--------|----------|----------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------------|
|      |         | 26 | Q.     | And you  | said it  | was done by civi  | lians; | do y   | ou remember? |
|      |         | 27 | Α.     | I have   | not said | only civilians.   | I sai  | .d civ | rilians and  |
|      |         | 28 | fighte | ers who  | that     | the MP commanders | gave.  |        |              |
|      |         | 29 | Q.     | Okay.    | Did any  | civilian refuse t | o part | cicipa | te in that   |
|      |         |    |        |          |          |                   |        |        |              |
|      |         |    |        |          |          |                   |        |        |              |
|      |         |    |        |          |          | SCSL - TRIAL CHAM | BER I  |        |              |
|      |         |    |        |          |          |                   |        |        |              |
| Page | 38      |    | SESAY  | ET AL    |          |                   |        |        |              |
|      |         |    | 6 NOVE | EMBER 20 | 07       |                   |        | OPEN   | SESSION      |
|      |         |    |        |          |          |                   |        |        |              |
|      |         |    |        |          |          |                   |        |        |              |

- 1 exercise?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 PRESIDING JUDGE: What was the question? Did any civilian
  - 4 refuse to participate?
    - 12:15:58 5 MR WAGONA: Yes, My Lord.
      - 6 PRESIDING JUDGE: What was the question again? Was it
      - 7 could any civilian refuse or did any civilian refuse?
- 8 MR WAGONA: My question was: Did any civilian refuse? Did
  - 9 any civilian refuse to participate in that exercise?
  - 12:16:24 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.
    - 11 THE WITNESS: No.
    - 12 MR WAGONA:
    - 13 Q. And I suggest that civilians could not have refused to
    - 14 participate; not so?

| 12:16:51 | 15 | A. Not at all because it was they themselves that made the     |
|----------|----|--|
|          | 16 | suggestion. They were willing to work.                         |
| evidence | 17 | Q. Now, concerning training of civilians, is it your           |
| to       | 18 | that you do not know that there were civilians who were forced |
|          | 19 | train?   |
| 12:17:27 | 20 | PRESIDING JUDGE: Repeat the question, please.                  |
|          | 21 | THE WITNESS: Repeat the question, please.                      |
|          | 22 | MR WAGONA:   |
|          | 23 | Q. I said concerning training by civilians, is it your         |
| were     | 24 | evidence that you do not know that there were civilians who    |
| 12:17:42 | 25 | forced to train?   |
|          | 26 | A. Generally.  |
| up       | 27 | PRESIDING JUDGE: Generally what, Mr Witness? Don't end         |
|          | 28 | with generally, because give us a response, please.            |
| all      | 29 | THE WITNESS: I said I wouldn't be able to tell whether         |
|          |    |  |
|          |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I   |

| Page 39 | SESAY ET AL     |              |
|---------|-----------------|--------------|
|         | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 | OPEN SESSION |

- $\ensuremath{\mathtt{1}}$  the civilians who were asked to go for training were not willing.
  - 2 MR WAGONA:

lied when you said they were only used by commanders as house boys 12:18:55 5 because they were also armed and used as bodyquards; what do you 6 say? 7 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, would the learned attorney 8 repeat the question? 9 THE WITNESS: I did not lie because I did not see little 12:19:15 10 boys who were bodyguards to any commander who had arms. 11 MR WAGONA: 12 Now, you stated that IDU had difficulties investigating 13 crimes committed by RUF combatants at the front line; do you remember? 14 12:19:59 15 Α. Yes. 16 Did IDUs mention these difficulties in reports to Ο. district 17 IDU commanders? 18 Yes; they used to make reports.

Witness, I suggest to you that concerning children you

3

19

12:20:42 20

so?

Q.

21 A. Yes; they used to give the advice, peace of advice to the

I would therefore take it that the overall security

commander, Augustine Gbao, knew about these difficulties; not

- $\,$  22  $\,$  fighters. But while the problem was the fighters wanted -- when
- $\,$  23  $\,$  the commanders had been advising them, so as not to disturb IDUs  $\,$
- $\,$  24  $\,$  at the front line, that the commander should show the person who
  - 12:21:27 25 could be with them at the front line, and that that led the

| IDU,               | 26 | commander, they themselves, not to accept because they said    |
|--------------------|----|--|
| identity.          | 27 | as long as he was at the front line, will not show his         |
| problems.          | 28 | Nobody should know his identity. That was what created         |
|                    | 29 | When you have given advice                                     |
|                    |    |  |
|                    |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I   |
|                    |    | SESAY ET AL  |
| Page 40            |    | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                   |
|                    |    |  |
| asked              | 1  | THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, would the witness be            |
|                    | 2  | to repeat the last segment of his testimony?                   |
|                    | 3  | MR WAGONA:   |
|                    | 4  | Q. Witness, please repeat the last part of your testimony.     |
| 12:22:13 concerned | 5  | A. Augustine Gbao was aware of these reports which             |
|                    | 6  | the disturbances that the IDUs used to have at the front line, |
| SO                 | 7  | and they used to give pieces of advice to battalion commander, |
|                    | 8  | that he could advise the front line commanders. While the      |
| they               | 9  | problem arose, the front line commanders, they asked so that   |
| 12:23:04           | 10 | could know the IDU men who were with them.                     |
|                    | 11 | Q. So are you saying, therefore, the problem persisted?        |
|                    | 12 | A. Yes, it continued.  |

| you                | 13 | JUDGE BOUTET: Mr Witness, just your previous answer,           |
|--------------------|----|--|
|                    | 14 | said are you saying that Gbao would give advice to the         |
| 12:23:38<br>advise | 15 | battalion commander so that the battalion commanders could     |
|                    | 16 | the front line commanders about IDUs, that the front line      |
| on                 | 17 | commanders did not know who were the IDUs working with him, or |
|                    | 18 | the front lines with him? How did that work?                   |
|                    | 19 | THE WITNESS: I said Gbao, Augustine Gbao, used to give         |
| 12:24:05<br>could  | 20 | pieces of advice to the battalion commanders so that they      |
| IDU                | 21 | advise the front line commanders so as to stop disturbing the  |
|                    | 22 | agents at the front line.                                      |
| or                 | 23 | JUDGE BOUTET: But would the front line commanders know         |
|                    | 24 | did they know at the time who the IDU agents were?             |
| 12:24:38           | 25 | THE WITNESS: That was what they wanted to know. The            |
|                    | 26 | agents that would be with them at the front line because the   |
| send               | 27 | agents were at the battalion headquarters, so they wanted to   |
| what               | 28 | agents who could be with them at the front line. That was      |
|                    | 29 | they wanted to know, but Mr Gbao did not accept.               |

# SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I

SESAY ET AL
Page 41
6 NOVEMBER 2007

OPEN SESSION

JUDGE BOUTET: I don't understand what you're saying. 2 You're saying that there were no IDU agents at the front line? 3 THE WITNESS: That is what I'm saying. I said any agents that we sent was at the battalion headquarters, so that -- so 12:25:21 5 that if you could --THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, would the witness be 7 instructed to go a little bit slow? 8 JUDGE BOUTET: Witness, can you speak slowly, please, and repeat your last answer, please, slowly. 12:25:40 10 THE WITNESS: Okay. I said that the agent that we had been 11 sending, they were at the battalion headquarters, so that even the commanders would be able to know them. But the front 12 line, 13 if we sent any agent at the front line, who had been moving with 14 the fighters, they would be able to get information. If he asked permission to come with it, if the front line would ask him 12:26:13 15 where are you going and why are you going, and the agent, he, 16 himself, 17 would not like to disclose the identity, he would not explain. 18 So because of this they were not given passes. So at any time 19 this advice came from Augustine Gbao, the front line commanders, 12:26:47 20 they would ask the battalion commanders about the agents that they had been talking about at the front line. We do not know 21 22 you. Who are they? This was the problem and Augustine Gbao, he 23 himself, would not disclose the person's identity as the agent

| headquarters | 24<br>s | who was at the headquarters. The agent that was the          |
|--------------|---------|--|
| 12:27:13     | 25      | was the only one that was known. That was how it went.       |
|              | 26      | JUDGE BOUTET: So, in short, there were no agents at th       |
|              | 27      | front line?  |
| order        | 28      | THE WITNESS: Oh, my God. They were there. But in             |
|              | 29      | for them to get information, and to be able to transfer that |
|              |         |  |
|              |         | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I                                       |
|              |         |  |
| Page 42      |         | SESAY ET AL  |
| 1030 11      |         | 6 NOVEMBER 2007 OPEN SESSION                                 |
|              |         |  |
| and          | 1       | information, that was the problem, because if a fighter went |
| going?       | 2       | asked for a permission to go, they would ask where are you   |
|              | 3       | There was a problem for them to leave. So because of that, w |
|              | 4       | will just assign people at the battalion headquarters.       |
| 12:28:11     | 5       | Initially, that was how it worked.                           |
|              | 6       | JUDGE BOUTET: Thank you.                                     |
|              | 7       | MR WAGONA:   |
|              | 8       | Q. And did the area commanders also know about these         |
|              | 9       | difficulties being faced by IDU?                             |
| 12:28:38     | 10      | A. Yes.  |
| such         | 11      | Q. So did Issa Sesay, when he was in Pendembu, know about    |

|             | 12 | difficulties?  |
|-------------|----|--|
| the         | 13 | A. No, because at that time, 2000, there was no problem at     |
|             | 14 | front line, 2000, when Issa Sesay had taken over the RUF.      |
| 12:29:22    | 15 | Q. But in 1998, when he was supervising the front lines in     |
|             | 16 | Pendembu, as you have testified, he knew about these problems, |
|             | 17 | didn't he?   |
|             | 18 | A. Yes.  |
| examination | 19 | MR WAGONA: My Lords, that concludes my cross-                  |
| 12:30:22    | 20 | PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Jordash, any re-examination?          |
|             | 21 | MR JORDASH: No, thank you.                                     |
| end         | 22 | PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, Mr Witness, we have come to the         |
| Tribunal    | 23 | of your testimony. Thank you for coming to assist the          |
| you a       | 24 | with the evidence that you have given before it and we wish    |

12:31:16 25 safe trip back to your place of residence. Thank you for

- 26 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.
- 27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. Can the witness be escorted out,
- 28 please? Yes, you can take him out.
- [The witness withdrew]

## SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I

SESAY ET AL

Page 43 6 NOVEMBER 2007

coming.

CLOSED SESSION

| 1                    | PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Jordash, do we have                 |
|----------------------|--|
| 2                    | MR JORDASH: The next witness, the 14th witness, is           |
| 3<br>is              | DIS-281, who will give evidence in Krio. Whilst the witness  |
| 4                    | being brought in, may I leave the Court for two minutes? The |
| 12:33:00 5<br>today, | last witness is leaving straight away to go home, I think    |
| 6                    | and I would appreciate being able to see him for 30 seconds  |
| 7                    | before he leaves.  |
| 8                    | PRESIDING JUDGE: You may, please.                            |
| 9                    | MR JORDASH: I'm grateful, thank you.                         |
| 12:34:23 10          | [The witness entered court]                                  |
| 11                   | WITNESS: DIS-281 [Sworn]                                     |
| 12                   | [The witness answered through interpreter]                   |
| 13 session,          | MR JORDASH: May I make an application in a closed            |
| 14                   | please?  |
| 12:36:07 15 closed   | PRESIDING JUDGE: Court Management, may we move to a          |
| 16                   | session for Mr Jordash to make his application, please?      |
| 17<br>of             | Mr Jordash, are you making this application for the entirety |
| 18                   | his testimony or for just a portion of it?                   |
| 19                   | MR JORDASH: For the entirety.                                |
| 12:37:18 20          | [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of the          |
| 21                   | transcript, pages 44 to 102, was extracted and sealed under  |
| 22 session]          | separate cover, as the proceeding was heard in a closed      |
| 23 p.m.,             | [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 5.40                     |
| 24                   | to be reconvened on Thursday, the 8th day of                 |

|    | 17:45:37 | 25 | November 2007 at 9.30 a.m.]  |   |
|----|----------|----|------------------------------|---|
|    |          | 26 |                              |   |
|    |          | 27 |                              |   |
|    |          | 28 |                              |   |
|    |          | 29 |                              |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    | SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER I       |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    | WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENCE:   |   |
|    |          |    | WITNESS: DIS-149             | 2 |
|    |          |    | CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR CAMMEGH | 2 |
| 24 |          |    | CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR WAGONA  |   |
|    |          |    |                              |   |
|    |          |    | WITNESS: DIS-281             |   |
| 43 |          |    | MIINESS. DIS-201             |   |

EXAMINED BY MR JORDASH

46