



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

TUESDAY, 15 JANUARY 2008
9.30 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Mr William Romans
Ms Sidney Thompson

For the Registry:

Ms Rosette Muzigo-Morrison
Ms Rachel Irura
Mr Vincent Tishakwa

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis
Mr Christopher Santora
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Terry Munyard
Mr Morris Anyah

1 Tuesday, 15 January 2008

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:28:37 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. Perhaps we could begin
6 with the appearances on either side, please.

7 MS HOLLIS: Good morning Madam President, your Honours.
8 Brenda J Hollis and Christopher Santora appear today for the
9 Prosecution.

09:28:59 10 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, your Honours, I myself Terry
11 Munyard and Morris Anyah appear for Mr Taylor.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. We will continue with the
13 examination-in-chief of witness TF1-114.

14 Mr Witness, yesterday you took an oath at the beginning of
09:29:24 15 your testimony to tell the truth. I just wish to remind you that
16 your testimony continues under oath. Do you understand that?

17 THE WITNESS: Yes.

18 WITNESS: TF1-114 [On former oath]

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, please continue.

09:29:44 20 MR SANTORA: Good morning your Honours. Good morning
21 counsel.

22 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR SANTORA: [Continued]

23 Q. Mr Witness, I want to make sure you're hearing me translate
24 into Mende?

09:29:57 25 A. Morning sir.

26 Q. Okay. Now, Mr Witness, yesterday you told the Court your
27 position during the NPRC regime in Sierra Leone. Now I want to
28 ask you what were you doing during the AFRC junta time in Sierra
29 Leone?

1 A. At that time I was an artist in the Sierra Leone Army. I
2 was in the Sierra Leone Army, an artist.

3 Q. Can you tell the Court what you mean by artist?

09:30:57

4 A. I can draw. Like, I can draw human being on a piece of
5 paper, I can draw say, for example, a house. So that was what I
6 did. I will draw military emblems and write on military
7 vehicles. That was what I was doing.

8 Q. Where were you residing during the AFRC junta time?

9 A. At that time I was at Juba workshop, Juba barracks.

09:31:41

10 Q. And that's in Freetown?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And who were you living with?

13 A. My boss. His name was Lieutenant-Colonel EBS Bangura. He
14 was a commander for that unit.

09:32:07

15 Q. And what particular unit was that?

16 A. Electrical mechanical engineers.

17 Q. Now at the time of the intervention when the AFRC regime
18 was driven out of Freetown by ECOMOG what did you do?

09:32:44

19 A. I was at the workshop and I saw a large group of people
20 coming, including Johnny Paul Koroma, they were running and I
21 followed them and we left Freetown. A lot of people.

22 Q. Where was the first place you went to after Freetown?

23 A. At that time when we left Freetown we went to Tombo.

09:33:16

24 Q. Now I want you to describe the composition of the group
25 that left?

26 A. All the soldiers in Sierra Leone including their families,
27 all of us, we left, because they had dispersed us, so we left
28 looking for a way to hide. Old people, children, young men and
29 women, soldiers and their families and some other people who were

1 friends to the soldiers.

2 Q. Can you give an estimate as to the size of this group that
3 left, approximately how many people?

4 A. We were over 5,000.

09:34:20 5 Q. You stated you went first to Tombo?

6 A. Yes.

7 MR SANTORA: Tombo, I believe the spelling is T-O-M-B-U.
8 T-U-M-B - okay, I'm looking at the wrong selling.

9 Q. Can you tell the Court where Tombo is?

09:34:48 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think the proper spelling is T-O-M-B-O.
11 There's no U involved.

12 MR SANTORA: Okay, I'm sorry, I apologise, your Honour.

13 Q. Mr Witness, where's Tombo?

14 MR ANYAH: Madam President, sorry to interrupt, but I have
09:35:14 15 a U in the spelling of Tombo.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Could we ask the witness, are you able to
17 spell the name of this place for us, please.

18 THE WITNESS: I can try. Do you want me to spell it?

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes.

09:35:25 20 THE WITNESS: T-O-M-B-O.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: That settles it.

22 MR SANTORA:

23 Q. Where is Tombo, Mr Witness?

24 A. Tombo is in the western urban area by Waterloo. If you
09:35:47 25 walk through the peninsula - if you are using the peninsula
26 around Freetown it is around there that Tombo is by Waterloo. If
27 you leave Freetown going you pass through Tokay and you come to
28 Tombo on the way coming to York.

29 Q. How did you yourself get from Freetown to Tombo, by what

1 means of travel?

2 A. Well, at that time there was a large crowd, there were
3 vehicles, but most of the vehicles had property in them. When we
4 were coming we would meet our commanders, some soldiers and some
09:36:43 5 others who were civilians, all of us were in that crowd. We
6 walked for some time and we used the vehicle for some time. The
7 things were in the vehicles and we were at the back, we were
8 walking behind the vehicles.

9 Q. So, Mr Witness, if I understand you correctly you walked
09:37:07 10 for part of the time and took a vehicle for part of the time. Is
11 that correct?

12 A. That is correct.

13 Q. Describe what happened when you arrived at Tombo?

14 A. When we got to Tombo then Johnny Paul said he had given
09:37:38 15 some money to the boat people. He asked that every soldier and
16 his family had left Freetown. At that time ECOMOG was chasing
17 us, there was fighting in Freetown.

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness slow down
19 his pace.

09:37:58 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, just go slowly. Everything
21 you're saying must be interpreted for us to understand. The
22 interpreter is trying to keep up with you. So speak slowly,
23 sentence by sentence. Please start again.

24 THE WITNESS: Okay.

09:38:21 25 MR SANTORA: I'm sorry, I will ask the question again.

26 Q. Mr Witness, describe what happened when you arrived at
27 Tombo?

28 A. When we got to Tombo Johnny Paul himself was among that
29 group. Then he gave some money to people who were using the

1 boat, the boat men, then he said, "All the soldiers that are
2 coming to Tombo, we're not coming here to reside, we're just on
3 our way going. If you see any military man or his family man
4 please cross over with him and go with him to Fogbo." Then we
09:39:11 5 crossed the river, a large group of people, and we got to Fogbo.

6 Q. Where exactly did you see Johnny Paul Koroma in Tombo?

7 A. He was in a vehicle. We walked together from Freetown to
8 Tombo, but he was in a vehicle going slowly, we were walking
9 slowly, together with us, a large group and we got to Tombo and
09:39:47 10 we crossed the river at Tombo.

11 Q. Do you know who was with Johnny Paul Koroma at this time?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Who?

14 A. You want me to name them?

09:40:11 15 Q. If you could name the ones that you remember?

16 A. Colonel Dumbuya was there, alias Savimbi. Major Johnny
17 Moore was there.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm sorry, was that the alias for the
19 colonel or is alias a name?

09:40:38 20 MR SANTORA: I was going to let him list it and then go
21 back and clarify, or if you want me to, as we go through, I can
22 just give you spellings.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: I just wanted a clarification, he said
24 Colonel Dumbuya alias something.

09:40:54 25 THE WITNESS: Alias Savimbi.

26 MR SANTORA: I have a spelling as S-A-V-I-M-B-I.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is an alias for this colonel?

28 MR SANTORA: Yes, your Honour. The spelling for Dumbuya,
29 my understanding is that it is spelt D-U-M-B-U-A.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Are you sure that is not a Y-A at the
2 end?

3 MR SANTORA: That's what I meant. That's what I said, I
4 believe.

09:41:42 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Okay, there's a Y-A at the end.

6 MR SANTORA: Right.

7 Q. You also said - Mr Witness you said the people that were
8 with Johnny Paul Koroma at this time you said Colonel Dumbuya and
9 I believe you said Johnny Moore?

09:42:06 10 A. Yes and my boss himself, EBS Bangura.

11 Q. EBS Bangura?

12 A. Yes, sir. If I say I will name them you will write a lot
13 of names because we were in disarray, all the soldiers.

14 MR ANYAH: Your Honour, I would object, there was no
09:42:35 15 question pending.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Question pending to what? The question
17 is can you name the people that travelled with Johnny Paul Koroma
18 and the witness is doing just that.

19 MR ANYAH: As I understood him when he spoke he named Major
09:42:52 20 Johnny Moore and then he named his boss, EBS Bangura and then he
21 stopped and then there was no question. Counsel was about to ask
22 him a question and he unilaterally started volunteering answers.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Was he not listing further names? He
24 said if I can continue to list more names there will be too many.
09:43:17 25 That's what he's saying. I'm sorry, but I have to overrule this
26 objection and ask Mr Santora to continue.

27 MR SANTORA:

28 Q. Mr Witness, I want you to continue to name the top
29 commanders that you remember being with Johnny Paul Koroma at

1 this time between Freetown and Tombo?

2 A. Johnny Paul himself, Colonel EBS Bangura, Major Johnny
3 Moore, Eldred Collins, Mr Jumu Jalloh, Pa Kosi a.

09:44:10

4 Q. Can you slow down, Mr Witness. I just want to make sure
5 they're recorded. You said Jumu Jallow?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. And I believe the last one you said was Pa Bangura?

8 A. EBS Bangura.

9 Q. You said Pa Kosi a?

09:44:34

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Any others that you remember, any other top commanders with
12 Johnny Paul Koroma at this time?

13 A. Yes, Colonel Mansaray was there, Major Mensa was there.

14 Q. Do you know how to spell Major Mensa?

09:45:13

15 A. I can try. Mensa, M-E-N-S-A.

16 Q. Okay, I just want to ask you about one of the commanders
17 you mentioned. Do you know who Pa Kosi a was?

18 A. Pa Kosi a was an RUF member, retired soldier. He was a
19 squad mate of Pa Sankoh.

09:46:02

20 Q. Now you said you arrived in Tombo and people were getting
21 on boats. Did you yourself get on a boat?

22 A. Yes. I was in a boat with my brothers, all of us.

23 Q. Who was in the boat with you?

09:46:39

24 A. Eldred Collins, Johnny Paul's family, the wife of the chief
25 of staff SFY Koroma, Aunty Rose.

26 Q. You said the wife of the chief of staff for Johnny Paul
27 Koroma?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. So not the chief of staff himself?

1 A. The man himself was Johnny Paul's elder brother, his wife.

2 Q. I just want to clarify that, Mr Witness. Who was Johnny
3 Paul's chief of staff, what was his name?

4 A. SFY Koroma.

09:47:29 5 Q. And you've stated that SFY Koroma's wife was with you in
6 the boat; is that correct?

7 A. Yes, that's correct.

8 Q. But Mr SFY Koroma himself was not in your boat; is that
9 correct?

09:47:49 10 A. He was not there. His family members were there. That's
11 why I said his wife.

12 Q. Okay, thank you, Mr Witness. Now where did you arrive then
13 after you got on the boat?

14 A. We went to Fogbo.

09:48:14 15 Q. And after --

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Counsel, there is a standing practice to
17 spell these names. These are strange names.

18 MR SANTORA: I apologise, your Honour. I will ask the
19 witness.

09:48:27 20 Q. Mr Witness, do you know how to spell the name of Fogbo?

21 A. F-O-G-B-O.

22 Q. Mr Witness, after Fogbo did you - where did you go after
23 Fogbo?

24 A. We stayed in Masiaka.

09:49:03 25 Q. Mr Witness, I want you to describe the situation in Masiaka
26 when you arrived?

27 A. When we got to Masiaka there were a lot of people. In fact
28 the people were more than the town could contain. All the
29 soldiers who were in Freetown in the barracks, we were sent in

1 disarray, so we were just civilians now, we were rebels and
2 rebels were amongst us too.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Are you going to spell Masiaka?

4 MR SANTORA: I apologise, your Honour.

09:50:09 5 Q. Do you know --

6 A. Yes, M-A-S-H-A-I-K-A.

7 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, the spelling I have is
8 M-A-S-I-A-K-A.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is why I ask you always, as soon as
09:50:26 10 you mention a name of the location, then and there for the record
11 spell it.

12 MR SANTORA: Okay. Your Honour, if you want me to just
13 give the spelling that I have, if that's preferable, or I can ask
14 the witness each time.

09:50:39 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: We would prefer that you would spell if
16 you know the spelling. If you don't know it's best to ask the
17 witness. For the record that is M-A-S-I-A-K-A. There's no H in
18 there.

19 MR SANTORA: That's correct, your Honour.

09:50:57 20 Q. Now, Mr Witness, how long did you stay in Masiaka?

21 A. We did not even spend the night in Masiaka. We were in
22 Masiaka and they told us that Issa had sent a message to disarm
23 the Guineans, there were armoured tanks there and they got the
24 information. We were there when the Alpha Jet came, the Guinean
09:51:44 25 Alpha Jet.

26 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, just in answer to the question then you
27 did not spend more than one night in Masiaka; is that correct?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. You mentioned Issa. Who is Issa?

1 A. Issa at that time was the second in command for RUF, the
2 RUF movement.

3 Q. Do you know his full name?

4 A. Yes, I can try. His name is Issa Sesay.

09:52:33 5 MR SANTORA: That is spelled, your Honour, S-E-S-A-Y.

6 Q. Mr Witness, you mentioned that there were now rebels in
7 Masiaka. Did you see any commanders of rebels in Masiaka when
8 you were there?

9 A. Yes. Some of these that I have named, in fact Eldred
09:53:08 10 Collins himself were all there, Mr Jumu Jalloh, Pa Kosia, all of
11 us were there. All of us who were in Freetown, the rebels, all
12 of us had come to Masiaka that day.

13 Q. So you mentioned Eldred Collins, Jumu Jalloh and Pa Kosia
14 as commanders of the rebels who were in Masiaka. Is that
09:53:43 15 correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Now, Mr Witness, what was happening in relation to the
18 civilians in Masiaka when you were there?

19 A. When we got to Masiaka - in fact the civilians were
09:54:07 20 confused. Some of our colleagues were going to take - they took
21 food from the civilians because they hadn't food to eat, so they
22 used to take the food from the civilians, enter into their
23 houses, take their property, some of them were taking motorcycles
24 and bicycles from people too, and they were even capturing
09:54:33 25 people, giving them loads to carry, looted property.

26 Q. Who was doing this exactly?

27 A. The group in which I was, RUF, the juntas, we were all one
28 group now.

29 Q. You said they were capturing people?

1 A. Yes. They were capturing people.

2 Q. Describe what you mean?

3 A. They were capturing civilians. The civilians whom we met
4 at Masiaka and the surrounding villages who had nothing to do
09:55:46 5 with the war, they were capturing them. At times if they met a
6 civilian and they met you with food, rice or anything that is
7 beautiful they take it from you.

8 Q. Mr Witness, just to clarify, this was happening in Masiaka
9 when you were there?

09:56:12 10 A. Yes. Whatever I'm saying here, I have taken an oath. I
11 saw that myself.

12 Q. After Masiaka where did you proceed?

13 A. We walked all night and we went to Makeni, all of us,
14 including the civilians who were captured from Masiaka and were
09:56:49 15 carrying the loads.

16 Q. How long did you stay in - well, I'm sorry, I strike that.
17 Let me ask you a question first. You said you walked through the
18 night to get to Makeni?

19 A. Yes.

09:57:11 20 Q. Now again I'm asking you the same question as I asked in
21 Masiaka. What commanders did you see present in Makeni.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is Makeni is M-A-K-E-N-I?

23 MR SANTORA: I'm sorry, your Honour. I apologise.
24 M-A-K-E-N-I.

09:57:44 25 Q. Mr Witness, I will again ask the question. As I asked you
26 in Masiaka, in Makeni now which commanders did you see present
27 from the soldiers and the rebels?

28 A. When we got to Makeni Johnny Paul Koroma was there, Issa
29 Sesay was there, even this Johnny Moore, Major Johnny Moore too

1 was there, Eldred Collins was there, Mr Jumu Jalloh was there.
2 Honourable Sammy AFRC was there sane.

3 Q. Sammy is spelled S-A-M-M-Y?

4 A. S-A-M-M-I.

09:58:51 5 MR SANTORA: And Eldred I have not spelled. It is spelled
6 E-L-D-R-E-D.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: And is more spelled M-O-O-R-E?

8 MR SANTORA: That is my spelling, your Honour.

9 THE WITNESS: Yes.

09:59:10 10 MR SANTORA: And Jumu Jalloh I do not believe has been
11 spelled for the Court yet, G-U-M-M-O J-A-L-L-O-H. I believe that
12 covers the spellings that we have at this point encountered.

13 Q. Mr Witness, any other commanders? Can you just continue
14 with any of other commanders you remember present in Makeni while
09:59:43 15 you were there?

16 A. Major Dumbuya himself was there.

17 MR SANTORA: That's been spelled for the Court already.

18 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, now you mentioned what was happening in
19 relation to the civilians in Masiaka. What was happening in
10:00:20 20 relation to the civilians in Makeni?

21 A. When we got to Makeni we met - we met houses being set on
22 fire, taking property from houses, and Issa said nobody should
23 burn a house in Makeni and they started shooting at people,
24 killing them and setting houses on fire. And I asked Collins - I
10:01:03 25 say, "Why when they went to the Mende land they burnt houses and
26 when we got to Makeni they've asked us not to burn houses and
27 they were burning houses in Freetown when we were there and even
28 these days they were burning houses, they were taking property
29 from people, now that we have got here" and he said, "It's an

1 order from Issa." They were burning houses there.

2 Q. Mr Witness, so if I understand what you said it's that Issa
3 ordered people to stop burning houses. Is that correct?

4 A. He said they should stop burning houses there.

10:01:43 5 Q. And did the burning stop?

6 A. Well, it only stopped when they started shooting at people.

7 Q. Okay. First of all who was burning houses?

8 A. RUF and the juntas.

9 Q. Then you said that Issa stopped the burning of houses. Is
10:02:21 10 that correct?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. And then you said that he stopped the burning of houses,
13 you learned the reason from Eldred Collins. Is that correct?

14 A. Yes.

10:02:45 15 Q. According to what you learned what was the reason Issa
16 stopped the burning of the houses?

17 A. Because it is his home town.

18 Q. And did the burning stop?

19 A. Yes.

10:03:21 20 Q. You also said that the soldiers and rebels continued to
21 take property. Is that correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Did anybody stop the taking of property?

24 A. No, he did not stop that. He only stopped burning, the
10:03:49 25 burning of houses.

26 Q. Now you stated in Masiaka that the AFRC and RUF - you
27 stated that the soldiers and the rebels were capturing people.
28 Was this continuing in Makeni?

29 A. Yes. Civilians, children, adults, women, men.

1 Q. What were the - what would happen to the captured
2 civilians?

3 A. The civilians, at this time their work was to carry loads.
4 Some of them, if you are a woman they would marry you. If you
10:05:07 5 are a small kid you will be with their wives, the madam, doing
6 house chores.

7 Q. When you say marry, what do you mean?

8 A. They would make them their wives.

9 Q. You also said that civilians were carrying loads. What did
10:05:41 10 these loads consist of?

11 A. The looted property, wearings, household property. If I
12 want to name names I will not finish.

13 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Interpreter, did you say wearings?

14 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour.

10:06:24 15 JUDGE DOHERTY: What kind of a word is that?

16 THE INTERPRETER: Clothing, clothing.

17 JUDGE DOHERTY: Translate properly, please.

18 MR SANTORA:

19 Q. Now after you were in Makeni did there come a time when you
10:06:42 20 reached the Kono District?

21 A. Yes, we even went to Kono.

22 Q. Where in Kono District did you arrive?

23 A. Koidu Town. When we went we stopped at Mortema and we
24 fought there against the Kamajors.

10:07:32 25 MR SANTORA: Mortema spelling is M-O-R-T-E-M-A.

26 Q. Now you stated you fought against the Kamajors; is that
27 correct?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. And then after Mortema you proceeded to where?

1 A. When we had driven the Kamajors from Kono including SLAs
2 then we went to Koidu Town.

3 MR SANTORA: Koidu, K-O-I-D-U.

4 Q. About how long were you in Mortema for?

10:08:27 5 A. When we got to Mortema we fought there for the whole day.

6 Q. Were you yourself fighting?

7 A. At that time I was not fighting because I hadn't a gun at
8 that time. I had just come from the workshop when I followed
9 them.

10:08:57 10 Q. Now after you fought the - after Mortema for the whole day
11 where did you go next? Koidu Town, you said? Is that correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Can you estimate for the Court from the time you left
14 Freetown to the time you arrived in Koidu Town about how much

10:09:24 15 time had passed?

16 A. We took about - we spent about a week. When we left
17 Freetown we spent about a week to get to Koidu.

18 Q. Now when you arrived in Koidu Town were the groups still
19 fighting - was the group still fighting the Kamajors?

10:10:21 20 A. At that time some of the Kamajors had been killed. Some
21 others had hidden and went to Guinea and some others went towards
22 Tongo. So we drove them from the place and Kono was for us now.

23 Q. When you say "us" you mean who exactly again?

24 A. I was among the group myself. RUF and RUF/AFRC juntas.

10:11:07 25 Q. Where did you personally go to in Koidu when you arrived?

26 A. I and Eldred Collins and his people and the caught children
27 who had been captured, all of us were at Guinea Highway close to
28 the mosque.

29 Q. Is this where you were residing?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Now when you say Guinea Highway close to the mosque, about
3 how far away were you from the centre of Koidu Town?

4 A. It's over 200 yards.

10:12:26 5 Q. You stated you were residing with Eldred Collins?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Were any other commanders residing with you?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Who?

10:12:45 10 A. Mr Jumu Jalloh was there. We were together in that house.

11 Close to us again Isaac was there.

12 Q. Okay, Isaac you said. First of all, Isaac spelling is
13 I-S-A-A-C.

14 A. Morris Kallon was there. Pa Kai Banja was there.

10:13:24 15 Q. I'm going to ask for your assistance in spelling that, if
16 you can try to spell his name?

17 A. Kai Banja, K-A-I B-A-N-J-A.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please go over that again.

19 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, I recorded K-A-I BANJA.

10:14:10 20 Q. Now you mentioned Isaac. Do you know who Isaac was?

21 A. I did not know him well. I knew him there. He was a
22 Liberian from what they were saying and I did not even ask him,
23 but I used to hear him speaking Liberian.

24 Q. When you say speaking Liberian, what do you mean?

10:14:42 25 A. The Liberian language in West Africa, whoever comes from
26 West Africa, when a Liberian person speaks you would know that
27 he's a Liberian. There is the word that they say [foreign
28 language], they have it a lot when they speak. As long as you
29 are a Liberian you would never say a word without saying [foreign

1 language], just like a Sierra Leonean would say [foreign
2 language].

3 Q. Did you know Isaac's full name?

10:15:23

4 A. I never knew him. I only knew him on that day. That was
5 the day I saw him ever.

6 Q. Now I know I was asking you to list some commanders who
7 were residing near you, but first of all how long did you reside
8 - how long did you stay in Koidu after you arrived?

9 A. I took a week there.

10:16:03

10 Q. Now you mentioned you saw Issa Sesay previously in Makeni.
11 Was he present in Koidu?

12 A. Yes, Issa was there and Superman Denis Mingo.

13 MR SANTORA: Okay. Mingo, M-I-N-G-O. Denis, common
14 spelling.

10:16:40

15 Q. Who is Denis Mingo?

16 A. Denis Mingo was a Liberian. At that time he was the
17 operation commander. He was the one who led the attack.

18 Q. Attack on where?

19 A. Koidu. He captured Koidu from Kamajors and the government.

10:17:15

20 Q. Did you see any commanders from the AFRC in Koidu?

21 A. Yes. Gullit was there. Alex Tamba Brima was there.

22 Honourable Sammy was there. Even Johnny Paul was there. Pa

23 Morlai was there.

24 Q. You said Pa Morlai?

10:17:51

25 A. Yes, sir.

26 Q. Pa Morlai, did you mention him previously?

27 A. Pa Morlai, I saw him in Kono. Those whom I saw in Kono. I
28 don't want to tell lies.

29 MR SANTORA: In my understanding the Morlai spelling is

1 M-O-R-L-A-I.

2 Q. Now you said Issa was present in Koidu. Where exactly did
3 you see him in Koidu?

4 A. At that time when we arrived at Five-Five I met Ovaltine
10:18:47 5 tins, they were all on the floor and I gathered all of them
6 because at that time food was difficult to come by because Issa
7 was in a jeep and he came and those things that we put together,
8 he said we should hand over some to him. At that time I saw him
9 standing with a set in his hand, a hand set.

10:19:06 10 Q. First of all before I ask you about that, you mentioned a
11 reference to Five-Five. What are you referring to when you say
12 Five-Five in Koidu?

13 A. Five-Five, it's a place they called Five-Five in the centre
14 of the town where the mosque is.

10:19:31 15 Q. So Five-Five refers to a specific location in Koidu Town.
16 Is that correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And you said you saw Issa and he had a handset?

19 A. Yes.

10:19:51 20 Q. What do you mean?

21 A. He came and met us there. He was in a Suzuki jeep, those
22 short jeeps, green in colour, together with his bodyguards, and
23 he alighted. Those things that we had gathered, he took some
24 from us.

10:20:15 25 Q. Okay, and you said he had a handset. What do you mean?

26 A. A satellite phone.

27 Q. Describe what you saw in terms of the satellite phone?

28 A. Well, I myself, I am an engineer, electrical engineer,
29 whatever electrical device I see I could identify. When I say it

1 was a satellite phone. A satellite phone, he was having the
2 Ericsson type.

3 Q. Can you describe what it looked like?

4 A. The one that had a long antenna.

10:21:22 5 Q. So let me ask you did you see - what was he doing with it?

6 A. He was having it in his hand and he was talking.

7 Q. From your vantage point did you have the opportunity to
8 hear what he was saying?

9 A. Yes, I heard what he was saying. He was standing by me and
10:22:04 10 I went close to him and what he was saying I heard. He was
11 saying - he was telling Mosquito that Kono was now under their
12 control.

13 Q. How did you know it was Mosquito that he was talking with?

14 A. At that time he wouldn't be able to talk to Mr Kabbah. He
10:22:41 15 would only talk to Mosquito.

16 Q. How exactly did he address him?

17 A. He said, "Master, Kono is under our full fledged control."

18 Q. So he used the word "master"?

19 A. Yes, and Master - Mosquito, even when they went to Freetown
10:23:19 20 that's what they called him, Master.

21 Q. So did you recognise he was speaking with Mosquito because
22 he was using the term Master?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And what is Mosquito's full name?

10:23:41 25 A. His name is Samuel Bockarie, but they cut it short to say
26 Sam Bockarie, but his nickname is Master. Even kids knew that.

27 Q. Now you said that you, when you saw him you stated, "Those
28 things we had gathered he took some." Describe what you mean?

29 A. The food stuff that was thrown all over the place, because

1 when we went to Kono food was difficult to come by. You see food
2 like rice, it would be scattered on the street. So those food
3 stuffs that were in the street we gathered, just so that we would
4 have them to feed ourselves so that when we were getting ready to
10:24:41 5 go to Kailahun we would feed ourselves. Overtime that we
6 gathered, he came and took a carton from us.

7 Q. Now at this time while you were in Koidu were there any
8 operations going on?

9 A. Yes.

10:25:04 10 Q. What was happening?

11 A. When we were there we had taken our own room - we had taken
12 somebody's house and transformed it into ours on the Guinea
13 Highway. I too said let me go around to go and find food that we
14 will be living on and when I went out and I saw people burning
10:25:32 15 houses and I asked them, "Why are you burning this house" and
16 they said, "It's an order" and I asked them where this order had
17 come from and they said, "It's from the high command" and when I
18 went there even my colleague soldiers were burning houses.

19 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness please
10:25:51 20 repeat the last bit of his testimony.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: You are going too fast again. Please
22 repeat that last bit of your testimony for the interpreter. He
23 didn't catch you. The bit when you went out, what you saw, the
24 burning of the houses, et cetera. Repeat that, please.

10:26:12 25 THE WITNESS: When I went to go and find food, when I came
26 I met my colleagues, the juntas and RUF guys, they were entering
27 people's houses and setting houses on fire, setting houses on
28 fire, and I call one of my colleague soldier and said, "Look now
29 we've come here and we were passing through up to Kailahun, why

1 are you burning houses?" He said, "It's an order for us to burn
2 these houses."

3 And I myself, I went and met Eldred Collins and I said, "I
4 have heard that burning of houses has started again" and he said
10:27:08 5 yes. He admitted it to me. He said yes. He said, "Operation No
6 Living Thing - this is Operation No Living Thing." And I asked
7 him, "How is this happening?" He said, "This is an order from
8 Mosquito."

9 And I returned and asked him again, "Why are they burning
10:27:29 10 these houses?" He said, "Well, we are burning these houses so
11 that when ECOMOG comes they wouldn't stay in Kono, when the
12 government forces come they wouldn't stay in Kono. So if that
13 happens we will burn the houses and we will take the zinc, the
14 roof, and build houses. So if that happens Kono would be under
10:27:56 15 our control and we would be working there."

16 Q. Who did you see burning the houses?

17 A. RUF and the juntas.

18 Q. And you said you learned it was an order?

19 A. Yes.

10:28:34 20 Q. What exactly did you learn - what exactly do you mean when
21 you say that?

22 A. What I mean is what I am going to explain. When we came
23 there was no burning of houses. When we arrived and I found that
24 they were burning these houses, this person with whom I was in
10:28:57 25 the same house, I tried to find out what was happening in Kono,
26 then I asked him, "Why are they burning - why are people burning
27 houses: And he said, "It's an order that has come" and he said
28 the order had come from Mosquito and he said that order is called
29 Operation No Living Thing, that we are going to burn all the

1 houses in Kono. If that happens no soldier will be able to stay
2 in Kono, when the government forces come they wouldn't be able to
3 stay in Kono, when ECOMOG comes they wouldn't stay in Kono. We
4 would be the only ones that will be staying in Kono and if Kono
10:29:34 5 happens like that it will be under our control, complete control,
6 RUF and juntas.

7 Q. Who was in the houses? Whose houses were they?

8 A. Those houses? Wherever in this world it's the truth that
9 is good they were owned by civilians. Those civilians who had
10:30:00 10 been born in Kono. That was their homeland. They were owned by
11 Konos.

12 Q. Now can you describe what was happening in Koidu with
13 relation to civilians?

14 A. I myself sitting down here, I am talking for God, not for
10:30:43 15 anybody. When we arrived in Kono they were shooting civilians
16 and it angered me but I couldn't speak. I used to see them
17 capture civilians, looting property, asking them to carry them.
18 They were capturing kids, boys and girls. I saw that in Kono.
19 If they asked you to carry load, if you said you were unable they
10:31:19 20 would shoot you and give it to somebody else to carry.

21 Q. You stated that in Makeni also women and children civilians
22 were being captured. Was this happening in Koidu as well?

23 A. That was how they were finding reinforcement to fight for
24 them, just so that the movement would have a large crowd. That's
10:31:55 25 what they did. They wouldn't enter application to you, they
26 would capture you forcefully and initiate you forcefully. There
27 was no application.

28 Q. What do you mean when you say no application?

29 A. For instance, like I am here in your presence and I say I

1 want you to - I want you and I to be friends. It was not like
2 that. I would just come and say, "You, stand there" and if that
3 person refuses and I shoot him and I tell the other person, "Go
4 this way." That was how it was happening.

10:32:37 5 Q. Now I asked you were women and children among those that
6 were being captured in Koidu?

7 A. Yes, many.

8 Q. Now you said civilians were being captured while you were
9 in Koidu, but where were they being captured from, do you know?

10:33:09 10 A. In Koidu Town and the surrounding villages in Koidu, Kono.
11 Kono District. Because when we went and captured Kono all of us
12 - some people even went into those surrounding villages. All
13 those villages were under our control. So the civilians who were
14 there, they couldn't withstand the situation. They ran away and

10:33:34 15 went to Guinea. Those who stayed behind, they captured all of
16 them. Some of them, they took them and they were staying with
17 them in the houses and they turned them into their own people.

18 Q. So you stated that those that weren't captured ran away
19 towards Guinea. Is that your understanding?

10:33:56 20 A. Yes. They ran away and went to Guinea as refugees.

21 Q. How do you know that?

22 A. I learnt about war. I know how somebody seeks refuge. I
23 know how somebody is rescued. But they were not rescued.

24 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
10:34:24 25 repeat this last bit.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you please repeat what
27 you just said, that last sentence or something.

28 THE WITNESS: The civilians, they were not rescued. They
29 were captured. Because they put them under gunpoint and they

1 halted them. Some of them when they came, they would give them
2 warning shots just so that the civilians would be frightened and
3 they put them under their control. That was happening many
4 times.

10:35:06

5 MR SANTORA:

6 Q. Now you said that in Makeni women were captured to be
7 wives. Was this continuing in Koidu?

8 A. Yes. That one, since the war started, it was like you
9 would serve yourself tea to drink.

10:35:30

10 Q. Can you explain what you mean by that, Mr Witness? First
11 of all, did you say serve yourself tea to drink?

12 A. Yes, that was something that was common. Just so that what
13 they wanted happened. It was very common. Wherever we went it
14 used to happen. It happened in Freetown, it happened in Masiaka,

10:36:01

15 it happened in Makeni and it continued in Kono and I saw it
16 myself.

17 Q. And, Mr Witness, was this activity of capturing civilians
18 occurring also between the various places you just listed?

19 A. Yes, that was why I said I wouldn't be afraid to explain
20 it. Whatever went on, I wouldn't be afraid to explain this.

10:36:36

21 Q. Now you said that you learned that this was called
22 Operation No Living Thing. Is that correct?

23 A. Yes. I saw it with my own very eyes. I was there. I'm
24 not telling stories.

10:37:02

25 Q. About how long did Operation No Living Thing - well, let me
26 rephrase the question. About how long was Operation No Living
27 Thing going on as you observed from your observation?

28 A. All that week that we spent in Kono, every day, every night
29 they would burn a house. All of Kono. Even concrete houses were

1 burnt. In fact, for mud houses they would burn it and it would
2 collapse and they would take the zinc.

3 Q. And did there come a time when you left Koidu?

4 A. Yes.

10:38:00 5 Q. Now when you left can you describe what you observed in
6 terms of the houses that were in Koidu Town. About how many had
7 been burned down approximately?

8 A. I started counting and I went up to a point and I said I
9 can't count this any more. It was over 100 houses. That day
10:38:34 10 when I went around counting and I said no, this I can't count any
11 more.

12 Q. After Koidu where did you go?

13 A. We went to Gandorhun.

14 Q. Now the civilians that you mentioned that were captured,
10:38:59 15 did they accompany you?

16 A. Yes, they asked them to carry the loads and we all came to
17 one and went to Gandorhun.

18 MR SANTORA: Gandorhun is spelled G-A-N-D-O-R-H-U-N.

19 Q. I just want to clarify one thing about Koidu, Mr Witness.
10:39:40 20 Did you say - you said you saw Morris Kallon as well there. Is
21 that correct?

22 A. Yes, it's true. And his family members.

23 Q. Why did you leave Koidu?

24 A. I was finding a way to reach Kailahun because that was my
10:40:15 25 motherland and that's the route we were using to reach Kailahun.

26 Q. Do you have any information as to why the group itself was
27 moving towards Kailahun?

28 A. Yes. I would like to explain a little. Would you allow me
29 to explain?

1 Q. Yes, but please proceed slowly when you explain?

2 A. Okay. I am talking about Koidu and Kailahun. When they
3 had broken into this bank and taken money and some diamonds and
4 they said this money and these things, let's open a route to
10:41:17 5 Kailahun. I myself saw the money. They were in those big bags.
6 They were 18 in number. They called me and they said, because I
7 was a soldier and my brother Staff Kanneh --

8 Q. I'm sorry, what did you say? Your brother what?

9 A. Staff Kanneh. They said we should become security so that
10:41:54 10 this money could reach Kailahun. But when I saw this money I was
11 frightened and I ran away in the meantime.

12 Q. Before you proceed, and I will ask you to continue, but I
13 just want to clarify, you said they broke into the bank. Is that
14 correct? Who exactly do you mean?

10:42:16 15 A. In Koidu they broke into the bank. There is a bank - you
16 would have to use a bypass. When you are coming towards the
17 field. Because on that day - it was on that day that I went to
18 Koidu, Kono. I have never known Koidu, but I myself came and I
19 met them breaking into this bank and I saw the money with my own
10:42:44 20 very eyes. RUF and AFRC. That was why - that is why I'm saying
21 us or we, because I don't want to exclude myself. I was there
22 and I saw it all.

23 Q. So if I understand you you said you saw RUF and AFRC
24 breaking into the bank in Koidu. Is that correct?

10:43:06 25 A. Yes. Yes, that is what I said. That's true.

26 Q. And you also said you were asked to be security to carry
27 some of this money to Kailahun; is that correct?

28 A. Yes. Then --

29 Q. Before you proceed you also mentioned somebody else was

1 assigned to security with you and you mentioned a name, but can
2 you please repeat the name you said?

3 A. That person with whom I was standing, his name is Staff
4 Kanneh. He was Maada Bio's bodyguard, Julius Maada Bio's
10:43:49 5 bodyguard. He too was a soldier.

6 Q. Do you know how to spell staff?

7 A. Yes. Staff is a position, a rank in the military.

8 Q. Then I understand. Staff Kanneh?

9 A. Staff Sergeant Kanneh.

10:44:10 10 Q. Do you know his first name?

11 A. Yes. He too is my brother. Saliu Kanneh. He was born in
12 Kailahun.

13 MR SANTORA: Okay. I'm going to spell Saliu Kanneh,
14 S-A-L-I-U K-A-N-N-E-H who was, according to the record, the
10:44:38 15 former bodyguard of Julia Maada Bio. Julius common spelling,
16 M-A-A-D-A B-I-O.

17 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, so you stated that you were assigned to
18 be part of a security - part of the security to carry the money.
19 Who first of all gave you that assignment?

10:45:16 20 A. It was Eldred Collins who handed us over - who handed us
21 over there because Kanneh was his driver.

22 Q. So then after the bank was broken into did you proceed to
23 leave Koidu?

24 A. Yes, we went to Gandorhun.

10:45:43 25 Q. Who exactly were you personally travelling with?

26 A. Johnny Paul was there and his people. Morris Kallon and
27 his people were there. Pa Kosi a was there and his people.
28 Mr Jumu Jalloh too was there. Aunty Rose was there.

29 Q. And Aunty Rose, who is Aunty Rose, just to clarify?

1 A. Johnny Paul's eldest brother's wife.

2 Q. Now these people were present in the convoy; is that
3 correct?

4 A. Yes.

10:46:38 5 Q. When you left Koidu who were you personally travelling
6 with, who was closest to you?

7 A. All this journey that we were doing, my aunt too was there.
8 Her name was Madam Jemba Ngobeh. She too was in that convoy
9 together with us.

10:47:08 10 Q. Just one moment. Can you spell your aunt's name?

11 A. Yes. M-A-D-A-M J-E-M-B-A N-G-O-B-E-H.

12 Q. So you were travelling with your aunt at this point?

13 A. Yes, and Eldred Collins and his family.

14 Q. Now you said that you became fearful of something with
10:47:47 15 relation to the money. Can you explain what you were talking
16 about?

17 A. Yes, because I had taken an oath in the military that if
18 this - if the war came I would fight it in truth, good or bad.
19 And now we reached a point and we had no respect, but God wants
10:48:20 20 the truth, but I know because I am educated a little and I have
21 studied some small small courses in the military and they have
22 explained to me how to fight a war and I saw that this money had
23 been looted in the bank and for the sake of my family I said that
24 it would be a disgrace to my family in Freetown. I became
10:48:58 25 reluctant. But Kanneh was not able to escape so he stood over
26 this money that went to Baoma.

27 Q. I'm sorry, Kanneh did what in relation to the money?

28 A. He helped them to escort the money and they went to Baoma.
29 When I went to Baoma I found Kanneh sitting down naked and he

1 said they had accused him of having taken some from the money.

2 Q. So did you yourself not end up carrying the money then; is
3 that correct?

4 A. Yes, the money went ahead. I reached there in the evening.
10:49:43 5 The money arrived there in the morning. Because when we left
6 Gandorhun we returned to Koidu. When we came back we went ahead
7 to Baoma.

8 Q. Baoma spelling B-A-U-M-A?

9 A. B-A-O-M-A.

10:50:01 10 Q. I apologise. Now you said that this money was to be
11 brought to Kailahun. Is that correct?

12 A. Yes, but it was not to stop there as well. It would reach
13 Kailahun, go to Buedu and not stop there and go to Liberia.

14 Q. How did you learn that?

10:50:36 15 A. We met our colleagues in this thing and they were saying
16 that whatever good, whatever beneficial they had in the war on
17 that end they would take to Charles Taylor. But God wants the
18 truth. I did not see them discuss that business with
19 Charles Taylor, but I used to see them take them to Liberia.

10:51:08 20 Q. After Baoma did there come a point when you did reach
21 Kailahun Town?

22 A. Yes. We went to Kailahun together with Issa. We were all
23 in Kailahun. I went and reached Kailahun. I and Eldred Collins
24 and his family and others. Then we went. We reached Kailahun
10:51:45 25 and we slept and in the morning they called me and gave me a gun,
26 because I had said today that I hadn't a gun during this occasion
27 and they gave me a gun and they said that we should take
28 ammunition to Joki bu.

29 Q. Before you proceed, first of all who called you?

1 A. Eldred Collins called me and took me to Issa at the
2 turntable in Kailahun.

3 Q. Did you say "constable", what was the word you said in
4 Kailahun?

10:52:21 5 A. When we arrived in Kailahun Collins took me to Issa at the
6 roundabout in Kailahun and they gave me a gun. He said we should
7 take arms and ammunition at the war front in Jokibu.

8 MR SANTORA: Jokibu is J-O-K-E-B-U.

9 Q. What kind of gun were you given?

10:52:57 10 A. AK-58 model.

11 Q. And what was your specific instruction in relation to this?

12 A. The AK that was given to me, 58 model, so that I can use it
13 for my own personal offensive and defensive. Those guns and
14 ammunition we took to the others at the war front.

10:53:38 15 Q. You stated that you took the ammunitions to Jokibu. Is
16 that correct?

17 A. Yes, that's true.

18 Q. Is that what you mean by war front?

19 A. Yes.

10:53:59 20 Q. And Jokibu, do you know approximately how far away it is
21 from Kailahun Town?

22 A. Well, Jokibu is in Manowa. The distance between it and
23 Manowa is 3 miles - it's 9 miles.

24 Q. Manowa is, witness if I'm wrong please --

10:54:33 25 A. Jokibu is close to Bunumbu. Bunumbu, Peje.

26 Q. How do you spell Manowa, M-A-N-O-W-A? Is that correct,
27 Mr Witness?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. And you stated it was 3 miles away from Bunumbu?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Can you spell Bunumbu?
- 3 A. I can try. B-O-N-U-M-B-U.
- 4 Q. And just one final point, which direction is Jokibu from
10:55:38 5 Kailahun Town?
- 6 A. I can explain to you. From Kailahun you will go to Giehun.
- 7 Q. Mr Witness, I just wanted if you could just tell me not how
8 to get there but just which direction is Jokibu from Kailahun
9 Town. Do you understand what I mean? North, south?
- 10:56:14 10 A. You would have to use to Pendembu route. There are two
11 routes. You can also use the Baoma route.
- 12 Q. And was it in the direction --
- 13 A. Direction. You can use - the east. North-east of
14 Kailahun.
- 10:56:31 15 Q. Okay, thank you, Mr Witness.
- 16 A. North-east direction.
- 17 Q. You stated that you were carrying ammunitions. What kind
18 of ammunitions were you carrying to Jokibu?
- 19 A. Explosives, 7.62 NATO in sardine tins.
- 10:57:06 20 Q. Can you say - what was that? 7.62 what?
- 21 A. NATO. NATO. What we meant by that, ammunition -
- 22 Q. NATO? What do you mean NATO?
- 23 A. NATO. North Atlantic Treaty, 7.62 NATO.
- 24 Q. This is a type of ammunition. Is that correct?
- 10:57:31 25 A. Yes and 7 point - Chinese Norinco.
- 26 Q. What was the second type, Chinese Norinco? What was the
27 name you associated with?
- 28 A. 7.62, Chinese. 7.62 Chinese.
- 29 Q. These are ammunitions; correct?

1 A. Yes, sir. Yes. It did not stop at that. I can still
2 explain.

3 Q. What other types of ammunitions do you remember that you
4 carried to Jokibu from Kailahun?

10:58:15 5 A. Accommodative chargers. We would call them - it's commonly
6 called mines. The large ones for tanks.

7 Q. You referred to - you said a phrase. Can you just say that
8 phrase again? Referred to commonly as mines. What did you
9 actually call them?

10:58:43 10 A. The mines are something that they put, if you step on it it
11 will explode, but that was during the military time that I used
12 it. The military term that I used to explain to you what I mean
13 - because civilians, when you say accommodative charge they
14 wouldn't know. And the propelled grenade, RPG.

10:59:18 15 Q. Okay, so you said accommodative charge and then RPG. Okay.

16 A. Yes, yes.

17 Q. By what means did you transport this material to Jokibu.
18 How did you transport it?

19 A. We used a vehicle that dropped us at Gi ehun. Then we left
10:59:48 20 Gi ehun and we walked and went to Mendeburma.

21 Q. How did you walk with this material?

22 A. There were civilians amongst us. We asked them to carry
23 them on their heads.

24 Q. Before you proceed, Mr Witness, I just want to give two
11:00:28 25 spellings to the Court. You stated Mendeguema. Is that correct?
26 You proceeded through Mendeguema?

27 A. Yes, that's true.

28 Q. Spelled M-E-N-D-E-G-U-E-M-A?

29 A. B-U-R-M-A.

1 Q. You also said Burma?

2 A. Yes, Mendeburma.

3 Q. Amend that spelling to Mende common spelling and then
4 Burma, B-U-R-M-A?

11:01:07 5 A. B-U-R-M-A, Burma.

6 Q. You mentioned another location that you passed through to
7 get to Joki bu. What was the name of that location?

8 A. Mendekel ema. That's where we stopped and used the ferry to
9 go to Manowa.

11:01:31 10 Q. Okay, Mendekel ema, Mende common spelling, Kelema
11 K-A-L-E-M-A. And you then mentioned another place before you got
12 to Joki bu. What was the name of it? Manowa? Manowa spelled --

13 A. Yes, Manowa ferry.

14 Q. Manowa spelled M-A-N-O-W-A. And you did eventually arrive
11:02:07 15 in Joki bu. Is that correct?

16 A. Yes, we arrived there and we were lodged by his Major
17 Saddam. He was the commander there.

18 Q. You stated Major Saddam. Is he a member of any group?
19 Which group was he a member of?

11:02:27 20 A. RUF.

21 MR SANTORA: Your Honours, I don't know if appropriate -
22 I'm inclined to say it's an appropriate time to --

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, exactly. We did carry on for a
24 little longer in a bid to catch up on yesterday's lost time. We
11:02:48 25 will now break until half past 11.

26 [Break taken at 11.04 a.m.]

27 [Upon resuming at 11:30 a.m.]

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, please proceed.

29 MR SANTORA:

1 Q. Mr Witness, just to check, are you hearing me in Mende?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Mr Witness, I want to ask you a few small follow up matters
4 from what I was asking you about before. The first thing is you
11:29:46 5 said you were carrying an AK-58. Can you describe what an AK-58
6 is?

7 A. Yes. AK-58, AK, what they mean by AK is it is a name of a
8 person. AK means Al vuma Kalashnikov. It is a Russian name. The
9 model, 58 model. AK rifle, that model is 58.

11:30:31 10 Q. You said it was named after a person and perhaps I didn't
11 understand the pronunciation. What was the name of the person?

12 A. Al vuma Kalashnikov. It is a Russian name.

13 Q. Okay. Your Honour, my phonetic spelling is A-l-v-u-m-a
14 Kalashnikov, K-a-l-i-s-h-n-a-k-o-v [sic].

11:31:12 15 JUDGE LUSSICK: I think it is n-i-k-o-v.

16 MR SANTORA: I stand corrected, your Honour. I apologise:

17 Q. Can you describe the appearance of the AK-58?

18 A. That is AK-58, 58 model. AK-58.

19 Q. What does it look like?

11:31:45 20 A. It is a personal offensive rifle and a defensive rifle as
21 well. It is a rifle.

22 Q. Is it bigger or smaller than an AK-47, if you know?

23 A. It is a colleague of AK-47. They are smaller guns. They
24 are part of small guns, because big - there are big guns, there
11:32:17 25 are medium sizes, there are smaller ones. That one is part of
26 the small guns. Light arms.

27 Q. Which one is bigger, the AK-58 or the AK-47?

28 MR ANYAH: Objection, your Honour. I am objecting on the
29 basis --

1 THE WITNESS: They are all equal.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just a moment, please. Mr Anyah, what
3 was your objection?

4 MR ANYAH: Madam President, my objection is relevance. We
11:32:46 5 have gone through the sizes of these two guns and, frankly, I do
6 not see the relevance.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah, when counsel is examining his
8 witness I believe we should give him the latitude to do that;
9 whether by way of clarification, etc. There is no merit
11:33:04 10 whatsoever in your objection. It is overruled.

11 MR ANYAH: Thank you, your Honour.

12 MR SANTORA:

13 Q. Mr Witness, you said before that while you were in Koidu an
14 individual named Morris Kallon was one of the commanders present.
11:33:21 15 Do you know his position?

16 A. What I knew he too was a battlefield commander.

17 Q. And previously when you were talking about going to Joki bu
18 you said you went through Gaehun, is that correct?

19 A. Yes.

11:34:04 20 Q. Can you spell Gaehun?

21 A. I can try. G-a-e-h-u-n.

22 Q. Now, you also said when you were describing the situation
23 in Koidu that the RUF and AFRC - I apologise, that the rebels and
24 the soldiers turned them into their own people when you were
11:34:43 25 describing what the rebels and soldiers were doing to the
26 civilians. What did you mean by that?

27 A. They were doing things to them that were not right, because
28 they said they brought the war to end suffering, but it got to a
29 point what I saw them doing to the people they did not end the

1 suffering of the people. In fact, they were enslaving them. It
2 was slavery. It was no protection. It was slavery.

3 Q. Now, you stated that in Makeni Issa stopped the burning of
4 the houses. Did any one try to - any of the top commanders try
11:35:40 5 to stop any of these activities related to civilians while you
6 were in Koidu?

7 A. No commander said that. Nobody ever even touched on that.
8 Even they themselves wanted the civilians to work for them,
9 because it was for free. It was slavery.

11:36:12 10 Q. Mr Witness, you also said that civilians were captured as
11 reinforcement to fight for them and would be initiate - they
12 would initiate you forcefully. What did you mean by this?

13 A. Particularly civilians not my age groups, children, those
14 who were about 12 years, 14 years, they were fighting - they had
11:36:51 15 guns, fighting - and according to the rules of war, because I am
16 a fighter too, I don't know any rule like that.

17 Q. Who were the children fighting for?

18 A. They were fighting for RUF.

19 Q. Now, did there come a point where you reached Buedu?

11:37:42 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, did you interpret that?
21 Mr Santora, ask the question again, please.

22 MR SANTORA:

23 Q. Mr Witness, did there come a time when you reached Buedu?

24 A. Yes, I got to Buedu and stayed there and if you ask me I
11:38:05 25 will explain.

26 Q. Before I ask you about Buedu, I would like you to estimate
27 for the Court from the time you left Freetown to the town you
28 arrived in Buedu about how long did that - how long did that
29 take?

1 A. I am talking for my God. That is why I told this Court
2 that I did not come here for money. What I lost during this war
3 even this Court cannot give it to me. I came from a --

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: That was not the question you were asked.

11:38:48 5 Mr Interpreter, I am not sure what you are telling the witness.
6 Are you interpreting accurately?

7 Mr Santora, I think you better repeat. Repeat the
8 question.

9 MR SANTORA:

11:39:03 10 Q. Mr Witness, from the time you left Freetown to the time you
11 arrived in Buedu, about how long did that take approximately?

12 A. 21 months. 21 months. 1998 to 1999.

13 Q. Mr Witness, maybe it is the translator, or maybe my
14 question is not clear to you. I am going to ask you about your
11:39:39 15 time in Buedu, but what I want to ask you is from Freetown to
16 getting to Buedu, from the moment you arrived, how long did that
17 take?

18 A. We spent a month.

19 Q. When you arrived in Buedu, did you have a position?

11:40:25 20 A. Yes, they gave me position.

21 Q. Okay, before I go into that who was - who was in Buedu at
22 the point you arrived? Who was there? Which groups were there?

23 A. At that time General Mosquito was in Buedu. It was RUF
24 government.

11:40:58 25 Q. Who was overall in charge of this area of Buedu?

26 A. Mosquito. Sam Bockarie, alias Mosquito.

27 Q. Now, when you were describing Koidu you said there were
28 members of the AFRC present. Were there members of the AFRC
29 present in Buedu?

1 A. Yes. Johnny Paul was there, Edward Kanneh was there --

2 Q. Just for clarification, you said Edward Kanneh?

3 A. Yes, Edward P Kanneh. At that time he was a resident
4 minister for the eastern province and he was an [indiscernible]
11:41:57 5 soldier.

6 Q. Can you name any other AFRC commanders that you saw in
7 Buedu.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness?

9 THE WITNESS: Major Dumbuya was there.

11:42:19 10 MR SANTORA:

11 Q. Any others you remember?

12 A. Colonel Sheriff was there. Colonel Junior.

13 Q. That is Colonel Junior Sheriff?

14 A. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

11:42:48 15 Q. I think you spell Sheriff S-h-e-r-i-f-f. Any others from
16 the AFRC that you remember? Mr Witness, did you hear my
17 question?

18 A. Yes.

19 THE INTERPRETER: Can the witness repeat the name he just
11:43:40 20 called?

21 MR SANTORA:

22 Q. Can you repeat that?

23 A. Bai Nicol was there.

24 Q. Can you spell it?

11:43:58 25 A. B-a-i N-i-c-o-l.

26 Q. Now, you said that Mosquito was in charge and it was RUF
27 government. Can you name some of the other RUF commanders in
28 Buedu when you arrived?

29 A. Mosquito, Issa was there too and even Morris Kallon was

1 there. Paul Rogers was there. He was the adviser.

2 Q. Paul Rogers, you said?

3 A. Rogers. Can I spell it for you. R-o-g-e-r-s. Rogers.

4 Paul Rogers.

11:45:05 5 Q. Okay. Now, what was your position? Did you have a
6 position in Buedu? Were you assigned a position?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. What was that?

9 A. I was an MP, Military Police, guard commander, then I was
11:45:33 10 an adjutant MP office. All the Nigerians that were captured were
11 under my command. The POWs I used to - they were under my
12 command.

13 Q. Okay. Before I ask you about your duties, who gave you
14 this assignment?

11:46:01 15 A. General Mosquito.

16 Q. And who were you reporting to?

17 A. At that time I reported to Alex Alie. He was MP officer,
18 Defence Headquarters. Captain Alex Alie, alias CO Gae.

19 Q. Alex, common spelling, Alie is A-li-e and alias -

11:46:37 20 Mr Witness, what was the alias you said?

21 A. CO Gae.

22 Q. Can you spell that?

23 A. G-a-e.

24 Q. And what were your specific duties as - you stated you were
11:47:07 25 MP adjutant, is that correct?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. What were your duties?

28 A. I used to issue out passes. If anybody want to move to go
29 anywhere I would give you a pass. If I give you a pass, then

1 Mosquito will approve it. I issued passes to civilians and
2 soldiers. Then the POWs who were captured, ECOMOG, I used to
3 take care of them.

4 Q. Where would you report to for your duties each day?

11:48:11 5 A. I reported to the MP officer, Alex Alie, in that office. I
6 was there. I even slept - I used to sleep there.

7 Q. Describe where the MP office was in Buedu?

8 A. The MP office is on the right if you are going towards
9 Kangama. From the junction after you have climbed the hill going
11:48:48 10 towards Kangama, that is where the office was located.

11 Q. About how many MPs were there who were working at this
12 office? Oh, I am sorry, I believe there is a spelling I missed.
13 Kangama. You stated Kangama. Is that correct, Mr Witness?

14 A. Kangama Road. Kangama Road.

11:49:19 15 Q. K-a-n-g-a-m-a. About how many MPs were working in this
16 office, Mr Witness, approximately?

17 A. At that time we were seven.

18 Q. Now, you stated that you issued passes to civilians?

19 A. Yes.

11:49:55 20 Q. Did you have any other duties with relation to civilians?

21 A. Except when they would be moving, that is when I would deal
22 with them, but G5 was in charge of the civilians. I would only
23 give them out passes so that gunmen should not disturb them.

24 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you mentioned that in Masiaka, Makeni and
11:50:44 25 Koidu that civilians were captured. Where were these civilians -
26 do you know where these civilians were brought?

27 A. They used to bring them to Buedu, but they did not stop
28 there. The stronger ones were taken to the training bases -
29 Bunumbu.

1 Q. Describe what would happen to the civilians when they
2 arrived in Buedu?

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Before he does that, could you spell that
4 place please.

11:51:25 5 MR SANTORA: I am sorry, your Honour, B-u-n-u-m-b-u:

6 Q. Mr Witness, when the captured civilians arrived in Buedu,
7 what would happen? What would be the first thing that would
8 happen?

9 A. When they came to Buedu and they got at the guard post,
11:52:02 10 there would be an MP who would escort them to the MP office and
11 present them. After presenting them, all of them would have
12 their names on one pass, whenever they would be coming, and they
13 would bring them to us, MP office, and when they brought them we
14 would screen them and then I would take the pass and give it to
11:52:31 15 the MP commander, who was my boss.

16 Q. What do you mean by you screened them?

17 A. We just - we would want to know their number, if there are
18 20 civilians or 60 civilians, or if the names are on the pass
19 nobody escapes from amongst them.

11:53:08 20 Q. So, you had their names to put on a pass. How did you have
21 their names?

22 A. [No translation].

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, are you there?

24 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour.

11:53:43 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: What is the matter? We didn't hear a
26 word from you.

27 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, may the witness repeat?

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you repeat what you just
29 explained - it was not interpreted - slowly?

1 THE WITNESS: When they will bring those people, at times
2 they will bring 100. Those 100 people would have their names on
3 one pass. They will not just come and we keep them in the
4 office. We have to queue them in a line. We call them one by
11:54:29 5 one. If we call your name, we would ask you to go on the left.
6 If I call the other person's name, you go on the left. We keep
7 on doing that to ensure that nobody escapes the number is
8 correct. That is how we screened them. They would all have
9 their names on one pass before they could get to us. I will do
11:54:53 10 that and I will go to report to my senior.

11 Q. You said when they would queue in line, is that correct? I
12 just want to make sure I heard that.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. So the names of the civilians that were brought that were
11:55:06 15 captured were recorded, is that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And after they were - was any other information taken from
18 the civilians when they arrived at the MP office?

19 A. We did not ask them questions. We did not ask them,
11:55:42 20 because before they could come my senior will tell me that they
21 will be bringing civilians to send them to the training base. So
22 I will not ask them questions, because if I ask them questions it
23 will be a problem for me.

24 Q. Who was sent to the training base?

11:56:06 25 A. Bunumbu, Kailahoun, seven miles.

26 Q. I think that was a translation mistake. Who was sent to
27 the training base?

28 A. It was Tom Sandy, who was nearer the MP. He would escort
29 them. My master, Tom Sandy.

1 Q. Now you stated that somebody gave you a pass with the
2 civilian's name on it when they arrived, is that correct, or did
3 you yourself issue the pass?

4 A. I would not write their names. They will come with their
11:57:00 5 own paper where they came from and they will meet me.

6 Q. Who do you mean "they"? Who do you mean "they"?

7 A. The commanders who had captured them, they would give them
8 a pass and send them to us to Buedu. They will take them from
9 different villages.

11:57:34 10 Q. Okay. And then just to clarify, after they arrived at your
11 office did you then issue them a pass, or what would happen to
12 them exactly?

13 A. When they got to our office, their pass which they had
14 brought we would have to endorse it. We just endorse it and
11:57:59 15 would give them - we would give them one MP to escort them to the
16 training base and he would as well stop there and return for
17 security reasons.

18 Q. What would happen if a civilian did not have a pass and
19 tried to move around Buedu?

11:58:38 20 A. They will intimidate him. They will either shoot you, or
21 you would be put into a dungeon. We had a hole dug. It is like
22 a cell. You will be put there. They will say that you are an
23 enemy. You had come to spy on them.

24 Q. You also mentioned the name Tom Sandy who you said, "My
11:59:03 25 master". Who was he?

26 A. This Tom Sandy was the MP commander for Buedu MP office.

27 Q. So he was overall in charge of the MP office, is that
28 correct?

29 A. That is not true. Give me some time to explain. Tom Sandy

1 was an MP commander, Defence MP Office, Buedu. PM Kaisamba was
2 the overall MP commander, alias Kaisuku, and so Tom Sandy was
3 answerable to Kaisamba.

4 MR SANTORA: Okay. I believe this name has come out
11:59:58 5 before, but I will respell it for your Honours. K-a-i-s-a-m-b-a,
6 alias Kaisuku, K-a-i-s-u-k-u:

7 Q. Now, describe what - describe what you observed in terms of
8 the conditions for the civilians in Buedu at this time?

9 A. It was not a good condition. The conditions under which
12:00:54 10 the civilians were as compared to normal conditions, no, it was
11 different. They were not on their own. No, it was not a good
12 condition.

13 Q. And why were the conditions not good?

14 A. Because they work without pay. They will marry them
12:01:30 15 without paying bride prices. Civilian children were taken away
16 from the children [sic]. Your Honours, sorry, the children were
17 taken away from the parents. Abduct them. Some of them if you
18 see them they are worn out. They are malnourished. You would
19 really see from them that they are unhappy.

12:01:58 20 Q. Okay. Mr Witness, I want to just ask you about a few
21 things that you just mentioned. You said the civilians would
22 work without pay. What type of work were the civilians doing?

23 A. They were taken from their farm works and they were working
24 for the commanders. Taking loads from one town to another for
12:02:36 25 the commanders working for them without pay.

26 Q. Aside from carrying loads, were they doing - you said they
27 were taken from their farms. Were they doing any other kind of
28 work?

29 A. Yes, they were recruiting children, giving them guns. They

1 were called SBUs. These small children were working for their
2 wives. They were working for their wives doing household chores.

3 Q. Mr Witness, I just want to make sure I understand. When
4 you said farms, whose farms were you referring to?

12:03:55 5 A. Mosquito's farms. Morris Kallon's farms. These
6 commanders, their farms. Issa's farms.

7 Q. So, what would happen if the civilians refused to work on
8 the farms?

9 A. If they refused to work they would burn their property, and
12:04:38 10 at times we chase them and they will go into the bush and they
11 will be there in the bush and they will be fearful to come to
12 town. At times we will capture them and detain them in the
13 military cells in the guard room. We will cease their movements.

14 Q. You said, "We would capture them". Did you yourself
12:05:01 15 participate in this?

16 A. I was punished once myself when I went to raise manpower.
17 I was not happy. That is why I confessed. I said myself. I
18 went to Bunumbu to raise - to get civilians. One of them escaped
19 and his property was burnt.

12:05:35 20 Q. Okay. Before you said you went where to raise? Where did
21 you go? What was the name of the place?

22 A. Bunumbu. It is a town several miles from Kailahun.

23 Q. And can you spell that, or I am sorry --

24 A. Yes.

12:06:07 25 Q. Go ahead and spell it.

26 A. B-u-n-u - B-o-n-u-m-b-u. Bonumbu.

27 Q. What did you mean when you said you were sent to raise
28 manpower?

29 A. What I meant it came at a time when they were to have a

1 plane field and they asked us to bring civilians. What I meant
2 by raise is we will take them from their works to work for the
3 movement without pay. So, at the time we went and raised
4 civilians to work for the movement.

12:07:05 5 Q. Okay, describe what exactly happened. Did you yourself go
6 and raise civilians?

7 A. That is why I am explaining it here. It happened to me. I
8 was punished too that I should be part of the patrol team to go
9 on a patrol. We went to Bunumbu and we left there, we went to
10 Dodo and we left there as well and we went to Gelema chasing
11 them. I was grumbling to myself when coming.

12:07:35 12 Q. I just want to slow down a moment. Did you say Dodo and
13 then Gelema?

14 A. Yes.

12:08:00 15 Q. D-o-d-o?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And is Gelema G-e-l-e-m-a?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you said you were sent to raise manpower to these
12:08:15 20 places, is that correct?

21 A. That is true. I am speaking the truth. That is why I
22 swore on the Bible.

23 Q. Who sent you?

24 A. The order came from my boss, Tom Sandy. Major Tom Sandy.

12:08:46 25 Q. Now, what happened when you went to these - to Dodo and
26 Gelema?

27 A. When we enter the town, we captured some civilians.

28 Q. Which town? Tell us where you went first. Which town did
29 you enter and capture civilians?

1 A. We went to Gelema and we met two civilians going. They had
2 their bags on their heads and we capture them and we stripped
3 them naked and we tied a rope on them. We left Gelema, came to
4 Dodo, captured civilians there too and entered the farms. We met
12:09:47 5 them working on their farms and we capture them too. We tied
6 them with the ropes as well for them not to escape, and all the
7 property was given to one MP and brought them to Buedu to make
8 the plane field.

9 Q. Mr Witness, first of all how many of you - how many people
12:10:16 10 went out on this mission with you assigned by Tom Sandy? How big
11 was your group?

12 A. I want you to give me some time to explain so you can
13 understand. We were seven. I would go and --

14 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness repeat
12:10:45 15 that.

16 MR SANTORA:

17 Q. Mr Witness, I am going to ask you to slow down so the
18 translator can keep up with you. Now you said there were seven
19 of you, is that correct?

12:10:55 20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. What were you just explaining after you said that there
22 were seven of you?

23 A. Seven of us will leave Buedu, MPs. When we will go, the
24 MPs would meet and the [indiscernible] would join us as
12:11:22 25 reinforcements and we go on searching for the civilians. When we
26 got them, they will hand them over to us and we tie them on the
27 ropes and we will bring them back to where we came from, to the
28 MP office, and when we bring them to the MP office we will take
29 down their names and detain them in the cells.

1 Q. Okay. Mr Witness, you said when you arrived in Dodo you
2 stripped the people - the civilians - naked. Why did you do
3 that?

4 A. When I was part of the rebel movement, if they capture you
12:12:07 5 they will strip you naked so you cannot escape. For example, if
6 you see me running naked you will say, "Maybe he is a civilian,
7 he is escaping", and so they will say, "He is a prisoner and he
8 is escaping", and they will tie your hands at your back and they
9 will tie ropes on all of you.

12:12:31 10 Q. Now, you said you also captured civilians in Gelema?

11 A. Gelema. Gelema, yes. We met with two civilians
12 travelling. They had their bags and we took their bags from them
13 and we took off their shirts, and they joined the others that we
14 had captured from Dodo and brought them to Buedu to do the work
12:13:07 15 of the commanders.

16 Q. I understand. So, in total then you captured civilians
17 from Dodo and civilians from Gelema. On this mission, about how
18 many civilians did you capture on thisn that mission that you are
19 referring to?

12:13:39 20 A. The civilians we captured were more than 50.

21 We didn't just stop with the towns. We would enter into the
22 farms. When we met them farming, we would enter into the farms.

23 Q. Now on this particular mission you participated in, did the
24 - were there other MP missions that you did not participate in?

12:14:13 25 A. Since I went there, this was the mission. That was the
26 punishment that I was given. That is why I am explaining.
27 Something I participated in. Something I saw. Had I not seen
28 it, I wouldn't explain to you. I was just staying at the office.
29 That was the time I went on mission.

1 Q. Did your group have guns?

2 A. Yes, they would assign guns to us at that time. They gave
3 us four guns that we took along. When we went, if they ran away
4 we would give them warning shots just so that they would be
12:15:04 5 frightened.

6 Q. So seven of you went out on this mission with four guns, is
7 that correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Now, you said there was a time when they - that some of the
12:15:23 10 civilians were pulled - I apologise. Let me ask the question
11 again. There was a time when civilians - you were sent to raise
12 manpower to capture civilians to construct a plane field. Was
13 this mission you have just been describing to the Court
14 associated with that?

12:15:51 15 A. That was the time. The civilians used to come for the
16 construction of the plane field, but they will meet me in the
17 office and they will hand them over to me. There were more than
18 a hundred.

19 Q. Where was this? Do you know where this plane field was
12:16:06 20 being constructed?

21 A. Yes, on the Gokodu road.

22 MR SANTORA: Your Honours, Gokodu is G-o-k-o-d-u:

23 Q. Where is this in relation to Buedu?

24 A. It was not in Buedu Town. It is roughly about two miles
12:16:37 25 from Buedu. It is on the border to Liberia. From there to
26 Liberia it could not be up to one mile going towards Foya.

27 Q. Now, you have stated so far that civilians were forced to
28 work on farms for various commanders and you referred to the
29 construction of this airfield at Gokodu and you have also said

1 that they were forced to carry loads.

2 JUDGE LUSSICK: Just for the record was that a playing
3 field, or an airfield?

4 MR SANTORA: Oh, I may have mis-spoken I think:

12:17:24 5 Q. You said a construction. What was it? What did you say?
6 The construction of what?

7 A. Airfield. Airfield. Airfield. There was an airfield
8 there, but it had a lot of bush and so we had people to come and
9 go and weed.

12:17:54 10 Q. Now you also said that people who would come into the
11 office, the MP office, some of them would be sent for training in
12 Bunumbu. Who was sent for training?

13 A. The locations where they were got from, the commanders who
14 were there they would get people from Kono, they would get people
12:18:27 15 from around Qui va, they would get people from the road junction.
16 So those commanders who were at those front lines. The civilians
17 who they captured they would send them so that we could send them
18 for training and send them to them again as reinforcement.

19 Q. Okay, I think maybe there is a confusion between "who" and
12:18:42 20 "where" because that has happened on several occasions. Let me
21 ask the question again. Mr Witness, listen to the question.

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. Who was sent to be trained?

24 A. They would send the civilians for training. The commanders
12:19:07 25 would arrest the civilians at the front lines when they attacked
26 the towns. When they attacked the towns they would capture the
27 civilians, the commanders.

28 Q. Before I go on I think there was a reference to another
29 town that has not been spelled, Qui va, which is my understanding

1 to be Q-u-i-v-a. Mr Witness, what was the ages of the people sent
2 to go and be trained?

3 A. Yes, some of them were 12 years old and some 14 years old.

4 Q. How did you come to learn that while you were in Buedu?
12:20:06 5 How did you know their ages?

6 A. Sometimes I will see them very - they are very small and I
7 myself from my own experience I can see that this person is small
8 and is not fit for any military work. I will call him over and
9 say, "Look, young man, good day", and I will ask, "How old are
12:20:39 10 you?", and he will say, "12 years", but I will be doing this in
11 secret because if they find out I am doing - that I am
12 investigating that they will kill me.

13 Q. What do you mean when you say training? What kind of
14 training were these people sent for?

12:21:00 15 A. Military training.

16 Q. What exactly do you mean by that?

17 A. If you prepare somebody to become a warrior, they will
18 recruit them for them to become soldiers to fight the war.

19 Q. You said, "If they find out that I am doing that they will
12:21:41 20 kill me", when you were referring to asking some captured
21 civilians their ages. What do you mean by that?

22 A. What I meant was that I knew that these children were not
23 fit for those works, because I was in the military when I joined
24 them and in the military I studied things that there are ages you
12:22:22 25 would attain that would make you fit to become a warrior.

26 Q. When you say "they", when you say "they", who do you mean
27 "they" would kill you?

28 A. If Mosquito knew that, he would shoot me. If Issa knew
29 that, he would shoot me. Even Morris Kallon, if he knew that, he

1 would shoot me. And Michael Lalmin shot somebody, my colleague
2 soldier, for that. He said he had connived. He had spoken with
3 the Kamajors.

12:23:08 4 MR SANTORA: Okay. Your Honours, Lalmin, this is the first
5 time this name has been mentioned, spelling La-l-m-i-n, Mike
6 common spelling:

7 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you said that in Koidu women were captured
8 to be wives. Was this continuing to occur while you were in
9 Buedu?

12:23:28 10 A. Yes, many

11 Q. Describe what you mean?

12 A. Just as I am sitting here, that is how I was sitting in the
13 office every day. In fact, my room was at the MP office. That
14 is where I slept. I was sitting down and, for instance, a
12:23:48 15 commander would come with a woman behind him crying and he will
16 come and say, "Confine this woman". What they meant was that
17 take him in custody and I said, "No". I will say, "What is her
18 charge?", and he would say, "She has overlooked me". What they
19 meant by that was that she has disrespected him. Then I will
12:24:12 20 say, "Sit for a while in open arrest", and I will say, "That
21 woman - that man is hot headed". And when that happened, when
22 the commanders go I will call the woman up and say, "Why? This
23 man, is he your husband?", and she will say, "No, he is not my
24 husband". That is the time they will start explaining and they
12:24:32 25 said, "That man had captured me on the front line and has taken
26 me for his wife. When I said I was not going to accept him, that
27 was why he has brought me forward to say this is what I am and
28 this is what I am".

29 Q. Can you slow down for one moment just to ask you some

1 questions about what you were just saying. Am I correct to say
2 that sometimes commanders would come to the office with women
3 crying behind them? Is that correct?

4 A. Yes, that is what I said.

12:25:03 5 Q. Okay. And you said that then these commanders would
6 request you to do something. What were they requesting exactly?

7 A. That we should pick them up and detain them and that they
8 are indisciplined.

9 Q. You said that this would happen because they were - the
12:25:28 10 commanders said that, "The women overlooked me". Just describe
11 slowly what you mean by that and please talk slowly so the
12 translator can keep up.

13 A. To overlook - to overlook was a popular saying, for
14 instance when you say somebody has disrespected you. One day
12:25:58 15 Victor Kallon - CO Victor - brought a girl and he said that girl
16 had overlooked him and they stripped that girl naked. He just
17 had - she just had on her underpants and she was given 50 lashes
18 and he said I should detain that girl and I made her sit in the
19 office. When Victor went away I asked the girl what had happened
12:26:25 20 between herself and Victor, and she said Victor had captured her
21 in Kono. "He had turned me into his wife. When I refused to
22 have sex with him that was why in the morning he started beating
23 me up. When he had beat me up and I had insulted him, that was
24 why he has brought me forward". That is how I knew that that is
12:26:51 25 what was happening.

26 Q. Who is Victor?

27 A. Victor Kallon was RUF. He was a Major. He was an RUF.

28 Q. You said that this woman received 50 lashes, is that
29 correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. With what was she lashed with?

3 A. The beating - well, I am telling you for instance the
4 Central Government when you do something bad and you take that
12:27:42 5 person to the police and they obtain a statement from that
6 person, their own statement was beating. When you arrived there,
7 they will strip you naked and start beating you up.

8 Q. Maybe I will rephrase the question. What was this
9 particular woman that was brought to you by Victor Kallon, what
12:28:00 10 was she lashed with?

11 A. A tyre. A vehicle tyre that is used to tie the tarpaulin.
12 A cable. A long cable. It could be up to two feet. You are not
13 only beaten by one person. Sometimes three persons.

14 Q. Did you yourself ever participate in meeting out these
12:28:45 15 punishments?

16 A. I am talking for my God. During these times that we got
17 the civilians I only went there once, but they were not taking me
18 along. That was why they put me there so that I would not
19 escape, because if I had have escaped I would have problems. I
12:29:08 20 would have escaped and joined the government forces.

21 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, I am going to ask you the question again.
22 You were just describing punishments that women would receive for
23 not obeying their commanders and I want to ask you did you
24 yourself participate in doling out these punishments sometimes?

12:29:39 25 A. The punishment that I gave to the people was that I used to
26 detain them, but I did not use any whip to beat anybody. I put
27 them in a cell. I would detain them there. That was an order
28 from my commander who was my boss, but even when I was doing it I
29 knew that I was not doing something proper.

1 Q. Now you said that Sam Bockarie was in charge of Buedu, is
2 that correct?

3 A. Yes. It did not stop at Buedu, the entire RUF at that
4 time, because at that time Mr Sankoh was in jail.

12:30:39 5 Q. Now, before I ask you some questions I just want to clarify
6 how long you were in Buedu for. You said you arrived
7 approximately a month after you left Freetown. How long did you
8 actually stay in Buedu in this position as MP adjutant?

9 A. In Buedu?

12:31:09 10 Q. How long were you in your position as MP adjutant based in
11 Buedu? How long were you there for?

12 A. Okay, give me some time. Let me think and explain to you
13 properly. I went to Buedu in 1998 and I left there in December -
14 on 16 December. Mosquito escaped on 15 December 1999, so I can

12:31:57 15 say I spent 21 months in Buedu and its surroundings. [No
16 translation] in March and then I left there on 16 December 1999.

17 Q. You said, "Mosquito escaped on 15 December 1999", is that
18 correct?

19 A. Yes, I can't forget that date because before he escaped he
12:32:39 20 gave me a car for me to spray; a car belonging to Action Faim.

21 Q. Did you say Action Faim?

22 A. Yes, the vehicle DAF.

23 Q. What is Action Faim?

24 A. Action Faim is an NGO. It is an NGO.

12:33:06 25 Q. Now, what did you mean when you said he escaped on 15
26 December 1999? What do you mean?

27 A. At that time what I meant was that at that time among them
28 there was confusion among them, Mosquito and Issa. There was a
29 dispute between them. Then Mosquito he resigned and went to

1 Foya. When he was going he went with his entire family. At that
2 time it was Issa who was the commander for the RUF.

3 Q. Okay. Now, Mr Witness, before I ask you more about
4 Mosquito, I want to ask you something which related to what you
12:33:54 5 just spoke about in terms of the treatment of civilians. You
6 have described various things that were happening to the
7 civilians. Was this occurring throughout the time you were in
8 Buedu?

9 A. Yes, it happened. It happened. That one stopped only when
12:34:18 10 they said it was ceasefire. That is when it stopped. When
11 everybody ceased fire that is when that thing stopped, but when I
12 went there it continued until the time for the ceasefire.

13 Q. Now from your position in the MP office, could you give an
14 approximate number as to how many civilians went through the MP
12:34:47 15 office during the whole time you were there? Can you give an
16 approximate number?

17 A. I can try that a little. I can try that a little.
18 Civilians, the children, from my own estimation the children
19 could be up to 500 during my time; those who were recruited. The
12:35:25 20 adults, just like my age groups, there could be up to 800
21 including men and women.

22 Q. So, if I understand you correctly, during your time from
23 what you saw in the MP office, your vantage point, approximately
24 500 children and 800 men and women went through the MP office
12:35:54 25 where you were, is that correct?

26 A. Yes. If I can sum it all up, from my estimate there could
27 be up to 3,000. There could be up to 1 million. No, there could
28 be up to 1,000. 1,300.

29 Q. You said that Mosquito gave you a vehicle to spray and just

1 describe what happened exactly?

2 A. These vehicles, I was sitting at one time when they brought
3 them and parked them at MP office. They had brought them from
4 Kolahun, but I did know that they went - there was a gentleman
12:36:58 5 called Mosquito Spray in Kolahun. He attacked there and they
6 called us to produce manpower to go and repair Mosquito Spray.

7 Q. Mr Witness, maybe my question was not clear. I am not
8 asking about an individual. I am asking you about a vehicle.
9 When Mosquito escaped, you said he gave you a vehicle to spray.

12:37:28 10 Describe what you mean by that?

11 A. The vehicle was white. They had brought it from Kolahun.
12 That is what I was trying to explain, to explain how I knew about
13 the vehicle. They had brought it from Kolahun. It was white.

14 When they were returning, they didn't want to take that vehicle
12:37:54 15 along white. It was written on it "Action Faim", so they called
16 me and they said, "You are a soldier and you are an artist and we
17 have heard that this is the job you do. We want you to combat
18 this vehicle".

19 Q. Did you say "combat the vehicle"?

12:38:13 20 A. To camouflage it. For me to camouflage it so nobody would
21 know that it belonged to the NGO. So, I camouflaged it.

22 Q. You said the vehicle came from Kolahun. Do you know where
23 that is?

24 A. Kolahun is in Liberia, Lofa County. It is a district in
12:38:38 25 Liberia, Lofa County.

26 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, the spelling of Kolahun is
27 K-o-l-a-h-u-n:

28 Q. So, did you proceed to then paint the vehicle camouflage?

29 A. Yes, I sprayed it. It was in a truck and I went for my bag

1 to come back, but I didn't come back and so I went my - I found
2 my way to Kailahun. I escaped.

12:39:18 3 Q. Okay, Mr Witness. Now I am just going to ask you some more
4 questions about what you observed while you were in Buedu, which
5 you have said now was for approximately 21 months. Do you know
6 where Sam Bockarie was residing in Buedu?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Describe where he was residing?

12:39:49 9 A. When you get to Buedu, coming from the Kailahun end, you
10 would get to a junction. You go to on your left-hand side and
11 that one leads you to Dawa. It is on the Dawa road. You would
12 go through a house. That is on your right-hand side on the Dawa
13 road. That would be on your right-hand side. You would traverse
14 four houses and the fifth one that is where Mosquito was. That
12:40:15 15 house where Mosquito was it was in front of that house that Issa
16 too resided, but it was yellow in colour. It was cream in
17 colour.

18 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, Dawa is spelled D-a-w-a. Now, you said
19 Dawa road. Where is the Dawa - where does this road lead from
12:40:35 20 Buedu? Where does it lead to?

21 A. Dawa goes up to Liberia. It goes up to Foya Tinkia. At
22 Foya Tinkia, we were on the border with Dawa. They were
23 in-between Liberia and Sierra Leone.

24 Q. Okay, another name, Foya, and then I believe you said "Foya
12:41:03 25 Tinkia". Can you say that again, Mr Witness?

26 A. Yes, Foya Tinkia. They were sharing borders with Dawa, but
27 when you get to Dawa that is where the immigration is and you go
28 to a village called Konosu[phon] from immigration.

29 Q. Before you go on, I just want to make sure I get the right

1 names of the villages correctly. Foya Tinkia, can you go ahead
2 and spell that?

3 A. Well, those people at that time I didn't have time to learn
4 their spellings. It is only those in Sierra Leone that I can.

12:41:54 5 Q. I will endeavour to spell it according to my understanding.
6 It is Foya, F-o-y-a, Tinkia, T-i-n-k-i-a, and just so I
7 understand Foya Tinkia was right across the border from Dawa, is
8 that correct?

9 A. Yes.

12:42:20 10 Q. Now, did you ever - did you ever come to know if Mosquito,
11 Sam Bockarie, would he ever receive any visitors to his house?

12 A. Yes, many times, but four times it is what I can actually
13 remember in truth.

14 Q. Okay, why don't you go ahead and describe the first one you
12:42:54 15 remember?

16 A. It was during the rainy season. It was during the rainy
17 season in July 1998. During the rainy season at that time it was
18 raining seriously and people came from Liberia in a vehicle - in
19 a truck. They said they had brought material.

12:43:27 20 Q. Okay, describe who did they say that to?

21 A. When they came, the guard post people with whom we were
22 working, the MP, they presented themselves to them and they gave
23 them a pass and they said they had come to Mosquito.

24 Q. Were you yourself at the guard post?

12:43:58 25 A. I was not at the guard post, but the MP escorted them to
26 the MP at the office up to Mosquito's house.

27 Q. So, did these people from Liberia get escorted to your
28 office first and then to Mosquito's house? Is that correct?

29 A. That was their own rule. When a vehicle comes, you first

1 go to the MP. They came to the office, then to Mosquito and then
2 Mosquito relieved us and he let us know that they had come to
3 him.

4 Q. How did you know these people were from Liberia?

12:44:54 5 A. They were speaking the Liberian dialect and then they had
6 on military fatigue. They had on camouflage and black cap. Some
7 of them had on a Polo T-shirt on which it was written "Navy
8 Rangers". "NPFL Navy Rangers". I saw that myself. It was
9 yellow. The colour was yellow. That camouflage it was a blue
12:45:26 10 camouflage. It was mixed. It had black, it had sky blue and it
11 had navy blue. They were well dressed in military fatigue.

12 Q. You stated that they came with materials. What do you
13 mean?

14 A. What they call material is ammunition. That was the code
12:45:53 15 name, material.

16 Q. How did you come to learn this?

17 A. At that time when they brought the material, then the MP
18 office they say, "Look, you are a soldier. You know about guns.
19 Those guns that they have brought that they are taking to the
12:46:14 20 ammunition dump, go and list them", and so I left my assignment
21 and went to Gokudu road where that ammunition dump was. As they
22 were off-loading those material, when they brought out mines I
23 will write down "mines". If they brought out mortar, I will
24 write down "mortar". If they brought out 50 calibre ammunition,
12:46:40 25 I would say "50 calibre". That is how I knew.

26 Q. Mr Witness, I want you to confine your answers to just this
27 particular instance, the first time you saw this happen which you
28 said was July 1998. About how many people from Liberia came on
29 this trip, do you know?

1 A. I can recall a little. There were more than seven.

2 Q. How were they travelling?

3 A. They came in a vehicle. In a truck, a car and a jeep.

4 Q. Do you know what kind of truck?

12:47:33 5 A. Yes, the same NGO truck, DAF vehicle, and a Toyota Land
6 Cruiser belonging to the NGO and a jeep, a red one.

7 Q. Now, you stated that you went to assist to list the
8 ammunition that was being brought. Describe where you were
9 exactly when you saw the ammunition? Where were you exactly when
10 you saw the ammunition?

12:48:23 11 A. When they opened the truck I was standing at the side and
12 they took - when they took out the ammunitions, because the front
13 of the truck was towards the ammunition dump and when they opened
14 this they opened the bottles "C" and I list that down and they
15 put it into the store.

16 Q. Were these ammunitions on the DAF truck that you described?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Okay, but how big? Can you describe for the Court how big
19 of a truck are you referring to?

12:49:29 20 A. The size of the truck like from where I am sitting the
21 length it can go up to where those senior people with the red
22 wearing, that is minus the driver's cabin, and the rest of the
23 truck is like this table from left to right. That was how the
24 truck was and written on it "DAF". It had six wheels at the back
25 and in the front it had two and on the other side it had four,
26 but we call this six wheeled DAF.

27 Q. Just for understanding, you stated the container of the
28 truck was from where you are situated right now up to the room
29 where the Judges are seated right now, is that correct?

1 A. Roughly, I will say it was about 20 feet.

2 Q. And you stated the width was the size of the desk that you
3 are situated at right now?

4 A. Yes.

12:51:06 5 Q. Mr Witness, do you want to take an approximate how long
6 that width of that desk is? Can you tell the Court? I am sorry,
7 I believe we have a --

8 A. It would be about eight feet. It would be about eight
9 feet.

12:51:43 10 MS IRURA: Your Honour, it is 210 centimetres.

11 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, could we have that in feet and
12 inches please, also?

13 JUDGE LUSSICK: I think that is seven feet exactly, isn't
14 it, 210 centimetres?

12:52:08 15 MR MUNYARD: Thank you, your Honour. [Microphone not
16 activated]

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: So then for the record these measurements
18 are 20 feet by seven feet, is that agreed?

19 MR SANTORA: In terms of this container, yes, your Honour.

12:52:31 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes.

21 MR SANTORA:

22 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you said there was an ammo dump. I just
23 want to clarify where was the ammo dump that you referred to?
24 The ammunition dump?

12:52:49 25 A. Yes, I am speaking for my God. It was on the Gokodu road.
26 It is an under-cellar house. When you are going to Gokodu, it is
27 on your right. It is a concrete house and that under-cellar
28 house is opposite --

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, what was that? Why don't

1 you finish your sentence?

2 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, the witness did not complete
3 the sentence.

12:53:30

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: I will ask the witness to complete the
5 sentence.

6 THE INTERPRETER: I am sorry, your Honours.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you please complete or
8 repeat your description of where this ammo dump was located?

12:53:59

9 THE WITNESS: Just as I said, that is what I am clarifying
10 further. The ammo dump was on the Gokodu road. Gokodu road,
11 there is a concrete house - the last house. It is yellow. That
12 yellow house, opposite that yellow house there was a house on the
13 right. It is an under-cellar house. It is the only under-cellar
14 house, the house where the ammo dump was. They would unload the
15 ammunitions there.

12:54:30

16 MR SANTORA:

17 Q. Mr Witness, now referring to the time, you said that the
18 first time you saw this was July 1998, is that correct?

19 A. Yes.

12:54:45

20 Q. Now, I just want you to - you said that you were assisting
21 during the off-loading process in listing. Can you tell the
22 Court which kind of weapons you remember from this particular -
23 these particular materials that you saw in July 1998?

12:55:24

24 A. I can try. I saw propelled grenade, the bombs and the
25 tube. Then I saw a jet tracer. There is a gun we call jet
26 tracer.

27 Q. What is a jet tracer?

28 A. A jet tracer is if for example an Alpha jet is passing by,
29 you shoot. If you shoot it would block - it would not --

1 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness go over
2 that?

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, I apologise. You are
4 speaking too quickly. Please repeat it a little bit slowly for
12:56:06 5 the interpreter. Describe the gun tracer - jet tracer - slowly.

6 THE WITNESS: Jet tracer. The jet tracer was a gun that
7 you put on your shoulder if you want to fire at something. That
8 jet tracer it had its own bomb that it uses. If they shot at the
9 jet, it would go - it traces the smoke and it blocks the exhaust
12:57:03 10 so the jet can get choked up and it falls down. It does not burn
11 it. That is how it is made. I saw that.

12 MR SANTORA:

13 Q. You also said "Alpha jet". What are Alpha jets?

14 A. Alpha jet is an aircraft made to fight a war in the air.
12:57:35 15 It can be up in the air fighting, sending bombs down. That is
16 what we call an Alpha jet. This gun is to put down Alpha jets.
17 You will be standing on the ground and you shoot at the Alpha
18 jet. That is what we call Alpha jet.

19 Q. At this time, while you were in Buedu, who was using Alpha
12:57:57 20 jets?

21 A. ECOMOG.

22 Q. What other materials do you remember from this particular
23 event in July 1998?

24 A. They had mines amongst the things too that would burn a
12:58:29 25 tank. There are some mines like a plate in which somebody can
26 eat. There is another one which is smaller. If you stand on it,
27 it cannot explode. Ammunition boxes as well, 50 calibre AA we
28 called it that would shoot at jets. Sardine cans, many of them.

29 Q. Did you say 50 calibre?

1 A. Point 50 calibre. It is a gun too.

2 Q. What did you see on this particular in July 1998? What did
3 you see? 50 calibre what?

4 A. 50 and bombs - rocket propelled bombs - and mortars.

12:59:32 5 Q. In terms of 50 calibre did you see ammunitions, or did you
6 see guns? Which was it?

7 A. I did not see the gun, because we met the gun with them.

8 It was the ammunitions. And 60 millimetre mortars and 82

9 mortars, the bombs.

13:00:02 10 Q. You said 60 millimetre mortars?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. And 82 millimetre mortars?

13 A. Yes, sir, and TNT. It is a bomb. You will fix it for
14 instance on the AK, on the barrel of the AK, the nozzle of the

13:00:27 15 AK. You can even use that to put down a jet if it is not too
16 far. You can fix it on the nozzle of the AK and shoot at the
17 Alpha jet and it can bring it down.

18 Q. Mr Witness, how were these materials packaged when you saw
19 them?

13:00:54 20 A. They would be in boxes. In boxes. Some would be in cans,
21 like sardine tins. Some would be in plastic containers, like the
22 RPG. The tubes would be in plastic containers in a sealed wooden
23 box.

24 Q. Now, you said that you remember four times when I asked you
13:01:26 25 about visitors to Sam Bockarie. You have just described what you
26 remember from visitors in July 1998. The other times that you
27 remember, can you briefly describe what those times were?

28 A. Four times, but I actually saw it on two occasions. The
29 other two occasions I did not see it myself. The guard post

1 person would bring the information and said that people had
2 brought materials, but when I would come if they met Master - we
3 met Master at the household they were stopped at the house. But
4 the one that Mosquito himself sent, Mosquito would send one MP to
13:02:30 5 go there to off-load and so I was sent there twice. I saw that
6 twice. I don't want to tell a lie. I am speaking for my God. I
7 saw that myself twice.

8 Q. Mr Witness, the second time you saw this, who brought the
9 ammunitions?

13:02:54 10 A. The second one Mosquito himself came at night. When he was
11 coming, he came along with a lot of vehicles with Liberians,
12 trucks. At that time he brought a lot of people.

13 Q. You say there were people - Liberians. How do you know?

14 A. My mother hailed from Kolahun. My mother's mother is
13:03:34 15 connected with the Gbandi people, Kolahun District. In that, our
16 area, if your mother is not a Liberian your father could be a
17 Guinean. Once you are coming from Kolahun, if the person is not
18 a Kissi person he could be a Loma person, or Gbandi person. We
19 are sharing boundaries. We are related. Liberians are related
13:04:03 20 to Sierra Leoneans. When they talk I will know that they are
21 Liberians, because my motherland is sharing boundary with those
22 people.

23 Q. The second - this time you were describing, about how long
24 after the first time you just described was this second instance?

13:04:21 25 How much time passed between the two instances that you
26 personally saw?

27 A. It was in that same month that Mosquito went and came back.
28 I was there. He met me there. When Mosquito went he came
29 himself. When he was coming he brought some people - Liberians.

1 It was at that time that I knew a General. He was called General
2 Fayia. They said he was commander at Foya. He was black and
3 tall.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is that Foya as in the location Foya?

13:05:18 5 MR SANTORA: No, I think he said a General Fayia.

6 Q. What did you say, Mr Witness?

7 A. Foya Kamer, Lofa County. Foya Kamer. It is not Foya
8 Tinkia. It is Foya Kamer. It is a very big town. It is bigger
9 than Foya Tinkia.

13:05:39 10 Q. You also said that he came with a General Fayia, is that
11 correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Do you know how to spell that?

14 A. Yes, I can try. General, G-e-n-a-r-a - F-a-y-i-a, Fayia.

13:06:05 15 General Fayia.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. We spoke to each other. He showed me his name that he was
18 called General Fayia.

19 Q. Now, the second time about how many vehicles came with
13:06:23 20 Mosquito?

21 A. The vehicles that brought this time were much more than the
22 first occasion. This time they were Land Cruisers, cars, trucks.
23 In fact they were Lebanese too.

24 Q. And where were you when they arrived? Exactly where were
13:06:58 25 you?

26 A. I had gone to collect food at night to bring food so that
27 they could cook it in the morning for the Nigerians at Mosquito's
28 house, because Mosquito was responsible to feed Nigerians, those
29 whom I took care of.

1 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, I will ask you just listen to the
2 question closely. Where exactly were you when the trucks
3 physically came in?

13:07:47 4 A. Those last set of trucks I was at Mosquito's house. I had
5 come from the guard post to check if the MPs were not sleeping,
6 if they were actually guarding. I had come from the patrol.

7 Q. Okay. What happened after Mosquito and the people from
8 Liberia arrived?

13:08:24 9 A. When they got there the vehicle came and parked at
10 Mosquito's house and they asked me to call Tom Sandy and I did.
11 Tom Sandy told me to go with them to off-load the things and list
12 them.

13 Q. Please describe it slowly so they can understand you, okay?
14 So, go ahead. After you received a call from Tom Sandy to help
13:08:49 15 off-loading, what happened?

16 A. That night we spent about four hours off-loading those
17 things that I was listing them.

18 Q. Who did you give the list to when you completed it?

19 A. I gave it to Mosquito - Tom Sandy, because I was answerable
13:09:25 20 to him. He was my boss.

21 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, you said you gave it to Mosquito and Tom
22 Sandy. Who did you give it to physically? Who did you hand the
23 list to?

24 A. Tom Sandy and he took it to Mosquito.

13:09:43 25 Q. Now, you said this time it took you four hours to off-load.
26 Describe how much material this time was being off-loaded. Let
27 me ask you - let me rephrase the question. How many trucks?
28 Were there trucks that came?

29 A. At that time when Mosquito came he did not only bring guns.

1 He brought rice. There was rice in the truck too.

2 Q. How many trucks?

3 A. Big trucks were two and two mini vans and a jeep. The
4 other jeep was a Range Rover, Range Rover jeep, and the other
13:10:46 5 jeep, had Lebanese in it.

6 Q. Okay, and you said there was rice. Where was the rice?

7 A. The rice was in the mini vans. Those Action Faim vehicles,
8 there was rice in that and in the other truck too. There were
9 guns under the rice. The rice was on top and the guns were

13:11:28 10 under. The other truck had only ammuni tions. Then one of the
11 Toyota Land Cruis ers had rice and people.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, that was what and people?

13 THE INTERPRETER: Rice, your Honour. R-i -c-e, your
14 Honours.

13:11:59 15 MR SANTORA:

16 Q. You said the rice in one of the vehicle the rice was on top
17 of the materials?

18 A. Yes, the rice was on top. The materials were under.

19 Q. And you said in one of the other trucks there was no rice,
13:12:20 20 it was just materials. Is that correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Okay. Now again I would just like you to list the type of
23 materials that came this time, the second time you personally saw
24 materials coming into Buedu?

13:12:49 25 A. There were ammuni tions too. AK ammuni tions. In fact,
26 those sardine tins were many at that time. And G3 guns.

27 Q. What is a G3?

28 A. German model 3.

29 Q. And how many vehicles actually had guns? I'm sorry, I'm

1 going to withdraw that question. I'm withdrawing that question.

2 How many vehicles had materials?

3 A. I cannot refer to rice as material. God likes the truth.

4 It was two trucks. Two trucks had materials. The one was full.

13:13:45 5 The other one was not full and they put rice on top of it.

6 Q. So when you are referring to materials, are you referring
7 to ammunitions?

8 A. Yes, guns.

9 Q. Okay. Now just go ahead and list out the materials - the
13:14:07 10 ammunitions and the guns - the kinds that you remember on the
11 second time you saw it? Just go ahead and list out the kind that
12 you can remember?

13 A. As I am saying, the RPG tube and the bomb itself, there
14 were many of that, and mortar bombs. There were many of that
13:14:54 15 too. And G3 ammunitions, many, and HMG, heavy machine gun.

16 Q. Did you say HMG stands for what?

17 A. Heavy machine gun. Heavy machine gun.

18 Q. Are you referring to the actual guns, or was this the
19 ammunition for the guns that you saw?

13:15:35 20 A. Both the guns and the ammunitions. HMG America. It had by
21 port.

22 Q. Any other types that you remember?

23 A. And mines, many.

24 Q. Now, just to clarify, what is - what type of weapon is a
13:16:06 25 G3?

26 A. G3 is an old type of weapon made by the Germans during the
27 Second World War. It is a personal offensive weapon. It is not
28 a heavy weapon. The capacity of the magazine is 20 rounds. It
29 also uses NATO, 2.62 NATO.

1 Q. I believe I heard Uzi mentioned and I just don't know if
2 that was missed. Did you say - what type of ammunition did it
3 use?

4 A. Light arms, Uzi, light arms, personal offensive and
13:16:57 5 defensive.

6 Q. A G3, is it an automatic weapon?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And can you just tell us what RPG stands for?

9 A. RPG is rocket propelled grenade launcher, light medium.

13:17:22 10 Q. Now you described the first time you saw Liberians in July
11 1998. The second time you said there were Liberians present as
12 well. About how many came the second time with Mosquito?
13 Approximately how many came?

14 A. Well, to say the truth I did not count them, but there were
13:17:53 15 more than the first set of people that I saw because at that time
16 even General Fayia brought his bodyguards and they lodged near
17 our place. There was a woman called Omah Lisa, they said that
18 was Mr Sankoh's wife, she lodged near our house. There is nut
19 tree nearer the house where she lodged.

13:18:26 20 Q. I am going to ask you to spell the name you said. What was
21 the name you said, Omah Lisa?

22 A. Lisa.

23 Q. Can you spell it?

24 A. So they called her Omah. I don't have time to spell those
13:18:40 25 names to be honest with you. I don't want to tell you a lie. I
26 didn't have - I didn't even have time with them.

27 MR SANTORA: Okay, your Honours, I am just going to spell
28 it phonetically then because I am not familiar myself, but
29 Omah --

1 THE WITNESS: If you want me to help me it is Lizzi that
2 they call it that way. Omah just as you would say Mr or Madam,
3 Lizzi is what they cut short. They called it Lizzi. As I told
4 you, if a Liberian speaks you would understand if you are from
13:19:16 5 Sierra Leone.

6 MR SANTORA: Okay, so Lizzi, L-i-z-z-i.

7 Q. You said she was Foday Sankoh's wife?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Now, Mr Witness, the second time how were the Liberians
13:19:37 10 dressed; the second time you observed them coming?

11 A. Some of them had on military uniforms, some in ordinary
12 clothing and they had boots on and they had guns as well and they
13 were entering our own country with their own personal guns.

14 Q. Can you describe their uniforms?

13:20:07 15 A. Yes. It was jungle type, but it's a blue one, sky blue,
16 and it was mixed with black, navy blue and green colour. Then
17 they had on the black beret and boots. They had on the trousers.

18 Q. So, Mr Witness, just to clarify, you said initially - when
19 I asked you how many times you remember Sam Bockarie having
13:20:50 20 visitors you initially said four times and then you said two
21 times you directly saw visitors. Is that correct?

22 A. Yes, whatever I say here, even in the world beyond, if they
23 ask me that's the same I will say and I am not telling lies.

24 Q. Now the other two times you referred to, you personally
13:21:21 25 didn't observe that. Is that correct?

26 A. No, but documents used to come. Documents used to come and
27 when that came it would be given to Tom Sandy. At that time the
28 Nigerians I was - the Nigerians were in my custody and in the
29 night I would put them in their cells and lock them up at that

1 time. What I saw - what I saw - what I witnessed with my own
2 eyes that I recorded is what I am saying to you. I am not
3 speaking here to impress anybody. What I saw - whatever I did
4 during the war I will tell you.

13:22:08 5 Q. Mr Witness, the Nigerian POWs, who were they?

6 A. They were ECOMOG soldiers who had been captured alive.

7 Q. And you said that you saw documents from Tom Sandy. Was
8 that the basis for your information that there were other
9 visitors. Is that correct?

13:22:49 10 A. The way they made that movement, even if you were a
11 commander when you arrived you would first go to the MP. MP was
12 like the immigration. Just like in Freetown we have the Lungi
13 airport. Even if a minister comes from another country you go
14 through Lungi. So whatever you were going you would go through
13:23:08 15 MP for clearance before going to your house.

16 Mosquito, when he was - he wouldn't travel without going to
17 MP. When Issa is travelling he wouldn't go to MP. Mike Lamin
18 wouldn't go to MP. But whoever came to Buedu would go to MP
19 hand, yourself over and then go to Buedu. That is how I know. I
13:23:28 20 knew by document. It would be written on it first battalion,
21 second battalion. It is second battalion, Lofa County. That was
22 how it was written on the address. From scorpion second
23 battalion, scorpion regiment second battalion, that is how it was
24 written, Lofa County. I am not telling lies. I saw it with my
13:23:53 25 own very eyes.

26 Q. Mr Witness, earlier you said you left Buedu on December
27 16th 1999, is that correct?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Okay. And you said you went to Kailahun, is that correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. About how long - about how long did you stay in Kailahun
3 after you left?

4 A. I was in Kailahun in 2000. I spent Christmas there. The
13:24:45 5 New Year met me in Kailahun. It was there when the Indians went
6 there as well.

7 Q. When you refer to Kailahun, are you referring to Kailahun
8 Town or somewhere else in the district of Kailahun?

9 A. I am talking about Kailahun Town. Ngobeh's compound. My
13:25:10 10 mother is a Ngobeh. Kailahun central.

11 Q. Now did there come a time when you left the RUF?

12 A. Yes, I left the RUF. At that time 200 Indian
13 [i ndi scerni bl e] --

14 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness repeat the
13:25:42 15 district just mentioned?

16 MR SANTORA:

17 Q. Can I ask you to repeat the question and go slowly and let
18 me just ask you again.

19 A. Yes, sir.

13:25:55 20 Q. Did there come a time when you left the RUF?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. When did you leave the RUF, do you remember?

23 A. At that time when they said it was ceasefire. That is when
24 I left RUF. That is when I left them completely.

13:26:22 25 Q. Did there come a time when you worked with the United
26 Nations?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. When was that?

29 A. I started working with the UN in February. At that time

1 the Indians had gone and stayed in Kailahun District to bring
2 peace.

3 Q. So this is - you said you left in December of 1999 and you
4 started working with the UN in February. Is that February 2000?

13:27:05 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And how were you able to start working with the UN?

7 A. The UN, I had influence with them before they stayed there.
8 At the time - July, when they went to a meeting, July - 7 July
9 when they went to a meeting for there to be peace Mr Sankoh sent

13:27:39 10 a message to all RUF locations that there should be no more war,
11 that we should recognise the peace. So we were happy that there
12 was peace now. Then they said, well, whether you are a Kamajor
13 or a soldier or a rebel, you should cease fire.

14 Q. Mr Witness, I will stop there and I have a few more

13:28:06 15 questions after lunch, okay?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Santora. We are now going
18 to break for lunch. We shall resume at 2.30. Mr Witness, you
19 are not to discuss your testimony outside of the Court.

13:28:28 20 THE WITNESS: Okay.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

22 THE WITNESS: Thank you, too.

23 [Lunch break at 1.28 p.m.]

24 [Upon resuming at 2.30 p.m.]

14:28:26 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good afternoon, Mr Santora. Continue
26 with the examination-in-chief of TF1-114.

27 MR SANTORA: Thank you, your Honour.

28 Q. Mr Witness, just to verify you are hearing me in Mende, is
29 that correct?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. I just have a few more questions for you. Earlier, when
3 you were speaking this morning, you used the term SBU. Do you
4 know - can you say what SBUs are?

14:29:09 5 A. Well, SBU, I met that word in the bush those who were
6 called SBU, when I investigated, they were those little children
7 whose ages were below 14, from 7 years to 14 years, who were
8 fighting the war at the war front. They were called SBU: Small
9 Boys Unit.

14:29:46 10 Q. Okay. Now, you said that in February 2000 you went to work
11 for the UN, is that correct?

12 A. Yes, sir, that is true.

13 Q. In what capacity were you working for the UN?

14 A. Well, at that time I was a maintenance officer, Team 9,
14:30:15 15 military observers team, Kailahun.

16 Q. Your Honours, I have no further questions for this witness.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Santora. Mr Anyah, are you
18 cross-examining?

19 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR ANYAH:

14:30:51 20 MR ANYAH: Yes, your Honour, thank you. Your Honours,
21 I have a bundle of documents here to hand out to the parties and
22 to the bench as well. I wonder if the Court Officer could assist
23 me in that. It is quite a large number of documents, but
24 hopefully it will not be too cumbersome for everyone.

14:32:10 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is there a bundle for the witness?

26 MR ANYAH: Yes.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed.

28 MR ANYAH: Thank you, your Honour.

29 Q. Good afternoon, Mr Koker.

1 A. How are you doing, chief?

2 Q. I am fine, thank you. Are they translating what I say to
3 you in Mende?

4 A. Yes.

14:32:48 5 Q. Now, I am one of the lawyers for Mr Taylor, who is the
6 accused in this case, and I will be asking you a few questions.
7 If at any time I ask you something and you do not understand,
8 please kindly tell me to repeat myself. Can we agree to that?

9 A. I thank you for that.

14:33:13 10 Q. Can we also agree that you will let me finish my questions
11 before you provide a response?

12 A. I can thank you too for that.

13 Q. Thank you, sir. Yesterday, when you were questioned by
14 counsel for the Prosecution, you testified that you were born in

14:33:43 15 Jimmi Bagbo, is that correct?

16 A. Yes, that is where I was born.

17 Q. And Jimmi Bagbo is in Bo District in Sierra Leone, is it
18 not?

19 A. Yes.

14:34:03 20 Q. And that is the southern province of Sierra Leone, true?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And the predominant language, or the primary language in
23 that area of Sierra Leone is Mende, correct?

24 A. Yes.

14:34:29 25 Q. And yesterday you told us that you speak Mende, true?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. You also told us that you speak English.

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. But you do not speak English very well?

1 A. Repeat it.

2 Q. You speak English, but you do not speak it very well,
3 correct?

4 A. No, it is not my language.

14:35:11 5 Q. You also speak Krio. This is what you said yesterday, did
6 you not?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Now, in this - I am sorry, strike that. You have testified
9 in the past before other trial chambers of this Special Court,

14:35:39 10 have you not, in Freetown?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. In April 2005 you testified in the RUF case, did you not?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And that was the case involving Issa Sesay, do you recall

14:36:01 15 that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And a few months later, in July 2005, you testified in the
18 case involving Gullit. Do you remember that?

19 A. Yes.

14:36:17 20 Q. And Gullit is Alex Tamba Brima, is he not?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. When you testified in the Sesay case you testified in Krio,
23 did you not?

24 A. Yes.

14:36:38 25 Q. And when you testified in the Gullit case you testified in
26 English, did you not?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. And in this case you are testifying in Mende, are you not?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. And when you gave your first statement to the Office of the
2 Prosecution that was on 26 March 2003. Let me ask you: Do you
3 remember giving a statement to the Prosecution on 26 March 2003?

4 A. I gave a statement.

14:37:33 5 Q. And you gave that statement at the UNAMSIL field office in
6 Freetown, did you not?

7 A. I did not give the statement in Freetown, but in Kailahun.

8 Q. It was a district office in Kailahun, correct?

9 A. Yes.

14:38:00 10 Q. And you gave the statement to a person named Morie Lengor,
11 did you not?

12 A. That is true.

13 Q. And, for the record, Morie Lengor is spelt M-O-R-I-E
14 L-E-N-G-O-R.

14:38:27 15 Now, the first statement that you gave in this case you
16 wrote by hand yourself, did you not?

17 A. I did not write it.

18 Q. But you did sign a statement in this case on that day?

19 A. Yes, I signed it.

14:38:52 20 Q. Are you comfortable testifying today in Mende?

21 A. Yes, I am proud of that even.

22 Q. Now, on direct examination you told us your mother is from
23 Kailahun, true?

24 A. Yes.

14:39:17 25 Q. And although you were born in Bo District, for all intents
26 and purposes you consider yourself to be from Kailahun District,
27 do you not?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Your mother's name is Matoma Ngobeh, is it not?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And for the record Matoma is spelt M-A-T-O-M-A and Ngobeh
3 is spelt N-G-O - I am sorry, yes, N-G-O-B-E-H. Your mother is
4 from Ngobeh compound in Kailahun District, true?

14:40:17 5 A. Yes, that is true.

6 Q. Indeed, you mentioned the name of that compound during your
7 direct examination, did you not?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. On direct examination you explained, to some extent, your
14:40:32 10 family history, did you not?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Your mother was the eldest daughter, or child, of the
13 Ngobeh family, was she not?

14 A. Yes.

14:41:02 15 Q. And both of your grandparents, your paternal grandfather
16 and your paternal - your maternal grandfather were both paramount
17 chiefs, were they not?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. When did you move from Bo District to Kailahun District?

14:41:34 20 A. I want to know whether my leaving Bo District to Kailahun
21 has anything to do with this case?

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please answer the questions.

23 Counsel is just doing his job. Do not get offended at all. Just
24 answer the question if you can, as directly as you can.

14:42:08 25 MR ANYAH: Thank you, your Honour. I repeat the question.

26 A. Okay.

27 Q. Mr Koker, you told us yesterday you attended government
28 secondary school in Bo District, did you not?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. You also told us yesterday that in 1991, when the war
2 started, you joined the army in Kailahun District, did you not?

3 A. Yes.

14:42:44 4 Q. What I want to know is when you moved, as a young man, from
5 Bo District to Kailahun District?

6 A. I used to go to Kailahun on holidays. I used to leave
7 Zimmi for Kailahun on holidays.

8 Q. My question is: When did you move to Kailahun District to
9 join the army?

14:43:28 10 A. Before the war, 1991.

11 Q. Which month in 1991?

12 A. 1991, January I was in Kailahun.

13 Q. Were you at Ngobeh compound in Kailahun?

14 A. I was in my mother's compound.

14:44:02 15 Q. Thank you. You said you joined the army in about March or
16 April 1991, correct?

17 A. That is true.

18 Q. And you have previously, during the course of your
19 testimonies before the Special Court, indicated that you received
14:44:33 20 some basic training at Moa barracks in Daru in Kailahun, correct?

21 A. That is true.

22 Q. For the record, Moa barracks, Moa is spelt M-O-A, Daru is
23 D-A-R-U and I believe the Chamber knows the spelling of Kailahun.

24 Moa barracks is near the Moa River, that is why it is
14:45:13 25 called Mao barracks, correct?

26 A. Yes, that is true.

27 Q. And your basic training lasted for a period of one year,
28 did it not?

29 A. That is true.

1 Q. It started in August of 1991 and it went to August of 1992,
2 true?

3 A. That is not how it all happened.

14:46:03

4 Q. Yes, or no, did your training start in August of 1991 and
5 did it conclude in August of 1992?

6 A. No. I would like to explain.

7 Q. Go ahead, explain.

8 A. It started in August 1991 up to 1991 ending and ended April
9 1992.

14:46:34

10 Q. Well, you testified before this Chamber - I am sorry, yes,
11 this particular Chamber. You testified in the AFRC case on 14
12 July in 2002 - sorry, 2005, and I would like to refer the Chamber
13 to tab 16. Your Honours, may I have a moment please? I would
14 like to actually refer the Chamber to tab 17, if it please the
15 Court, and to page 3 on tab 17, in particular from lines 11
16 through line 21.

14:47:43

17 Mr Koker, are we to assume you cannot read the English?

18 A. I can try it a little.

14:48:41

19 Q. Would you prefer that I read the text to you and you
20 confirm whether it is accurate?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Thank you. Now, we are in agreement that you testified on
23 18 July 2005, are we not?

24 A. Yes.

14:49:05

25 Q. And just like you did today, on that day you took an oath
26 to tell the truth, did you not?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. And many times today, during direct examination, you have
29 invoked the Bible and promised to tell the truth, correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Do you remember being asked these questions and giving this
3 answer to the counsel who was asking you them on 18 July 2005:

14:49:58 4 "Q. Do you remember what year the rebel war broke out in
5 Sierra Leone?

6 "A. Yes, sir.

7 "Q. What year was that.

8 "A. 23rd March 1991.

9 "Q. Thank you."

14:50:08 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah, I think you have to go a little
11 slowly. Mende happens to be a very long winded language.

12 MR ANYAH: Thank you, your Honour. I will do my best.

13 I will start again for the benefit of the interpretation.

14 Q. Sir, do you remember being asked these questions and giving
14:50:26 15 these answers:

16 "Q. Do you" --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. "Q. Do you remember what year the rebel war broke out in
19 Sierra Leone?

14:50:39 20 "A. Yes, sir.

21 "Q. What year was that?

22 "A. 23rd March 1991.

23 "Q. Thank you very much. How long did your training last
24 for?

14:50:59 25 "A. For one year.

26 "Q. Can you give us the dates?

27 "A. From August 1991.

28 "Q. To July 1992?

29 "A. To August 1992."

1 Do you recall those series of questions and you giving
2 those responses Mr Koker?

3 A. Yes, I can remember.

14:51:39 4 Q. So when I asked you a few minutes ago whether your basic
5 training lasted from August 1991 to August 1992, you were
6 mistaken in your response, were you not?

7 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Anyah, I don't like to interrupt you but
8 the question asked back there in July of 2005 was a different
9 question than the one you have just asked today. The question
14:52:06 10 asked then was, "How long did your training last for?" Now you
11 are asking him, "How long did your basic training last for?"
12 That is a different period of time to the total training of a
13 soldier, in my understanding. In fairness to the witness you
14 might clear that point up first.

14:52:29 15 MR ANYAH: Yes, your Honour, and I thank the Chamber for
16 intervening. To be fair to the witness I will rephrase the
17 question.

18 Q. Mr Koker, for how long did you do basic training?

19 A. The training lasted long. I used to go for advance
14:52:57 20 training even.

21 Q. The question was how long was your basic training for, not
22 advanced training?

23 A. It started in 1991, basic training, and I completed it
24 1992.

14:53:26 25 Q. In which month in 1992 did you complete your training?

26 A. It was in 1992 that I finished the basic training.

27 Q. You do not remember the month?

28 A. I did a lot of trainings. Just as the war intensifies that
29 is how I go for training. From 1991 to 1992 I did a lot of

1 trainings. Just as the training intensifies, that is how the
2 training scheme comes and I attend them. As the war intensifies
3 another training programme comes and I will attend it, so I did a
4 lot of trainings, so many of them I can't remember. Beyond the
14:54:35 5 training and going to the war front, we will go for training and
6 go to the war front. We did a lot of trainings.

7 Q. Thank you, Mr Koker.

8 A. Yes, sir.

9 Q. One form of training you did do was artillery training,
14:54:51 10 correct?

11 A. Yes, that is true.

12 Q. In fact you were an artillery specialist, were you not?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. While you were still in Kailahun District you did, in fact,
14:55:14 15 fight at the front lines of the war at that time, did you not?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You manned a 120 millimetre heavy mortar at a place called
18 Kortuma, did you not?

19 A. Yes, sir.

14:55:42 20 Q. And, for the record, Kortuma is spelt K-O-R-T-U-M-A. You
21 also fought at a place called Biima, did you not?

22 A. I want you to repeat it because the name you have called -
23 or you can spell it for me? Maybe the way you pronounced it
24 I can't understand it, the town you are referring to.

14:56:21 25 Q. The place I am referring to as Biima is spelt B-I-I-M-A.
26 Do you recall fighting in that place?

27 A. Yes, Biima.

28 Q. That was in 1992, was it not?

29 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. And you were an artillery man during that conflict, true?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. In fact you had a brother by the name of Musa who also
4 fought at the front lines, did you not?

14:57:06 5 A. Musa, Musa what? Say the surname because when you say
6 Musa, there are so many Musas.

7 Q. Did you have a brother, or somebody you would consider to
8 be a brother, who fought and died at the front lines, named Musa?

9 A. I cannot remember that.

14:57:38 10 Q. At this time in 1992 your mother, Miss Ngobeh, was a
11 refugee in Guinea, was she not?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Indeed, she had left Sierra Leone to Guinea as soon as the
14 war broke out in 1991, true?

14:58:08 15 A. She did not just leave for Guinea. She was shot, but they
16 missed her. That was why she went.

17 Q. Well, my question was she left for Guinea in 1991, yes or
18 no?

19 A. No.

14:58:27 20 Q. Well, in 1992 she was in Guinea, was she not?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And she stayed in Guinea until the year 2004, correct?

23 A. Yes.

14:58:49 24 Q. Other family members of yours also left for Guinea, or
25 other countries, when the war broke out, did they not?

26 A. That is what happened.

27 Q. Can you tell us to which countries the rest of your family
28 went when the war broke out?

29 A. They went to Guinea. Some of them, where they went to

1 I did not know because I was still in the military. There was no
2 information.

3 Q. Which other family members, besides your mother, went to
4 Guinea?

14:59:50 5 A. Others who were residents in Kailahun District, who were
6 related to the Ngobeh family, went to Guinea.

7 Q. So effectively almost the entire Ngobeh family was in
8 Guinea, true?

9 A. Yes.

15:00:14 10 Q. Now, at this time in 1992 you were not married, were you?

11 A. No.

12 Q. In fact, you did not get married for the first time until
13 2002, correct?

14 A. Yes.

15:00:37 15 Q. And in 1992 you had no children, did you?

16 A. No.

17 Q. So before you left Kailahun District to go to Freetown you
18 were not married, you did not have any children and most of your
19 family was in Guinea, this was in 1992, correct?

15:01:07 20 A. Yes, that is true. You are correct.

21 Q. When did you arrive in Freetown from Kailahun District?

22 A. The time NPRC came to overthrow: 1992 April.

23 Q. You told us yesterday that when you arrived you went to
24 work for retired Colonel SB Jumu, correct?

15:01:44 25 A. Yes, sir.

26 Q. Did you go to work for Colonel Jumu at the request of the
27 Sierra Leone army, or on the orders of the Sierra Leone army?

28 A. Yes, it was my deployment.

29 Q. You could not refuse that deployment. That is your

1 position, true?

2 A. No, I couldn't refuse it.

3 Q. What rank did you have in the army at this time?

4 A. At that time I was a private soldier.

15:02:42 5 Q. When you say private soldier, you mean you had the rank of
6 a private? Is that what you mean?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. You do not mean a soldier who is employed privately,
9 outside the army. You mean you were a private within the army.

15:03:20 10 A. I was in the Sierra Leone army, but I was part of the other
11 ranks, lowest rank in the Sierra Leone army, other ranks, private
12 soldier.

13 Q. Thank you, sir. Thank you Mr Koker. You were the private
14 security officer for Colonel Jumu, correct?

15:03:46 15 A. I was not a private security. I was a personal security,
16 VIP protection.

17 Q. You are correct, my mistake. You worked for Mr Jumu,
18 Colonel Jumu, you said until the NPRC government was overthrown,
19 correct?

15:04:09 20 A. That is true.

21 Q. And if I told you that the NPRC government was overthrown
22 on 16 January 2006, would that sound about right?

23 A. Go over that again.

24 Q. I am sorry, I think I said 2006. I will repeat the
15:04:35 25 question. Mr Koker, if I told you that the NPRC government was
26 overthrown on 16 January 1996, would I be correct?

27 A. You may be correct.

28 Q. After your work for the colonel you went to Juba barracks
29 in Freetown, correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And I don't know if the spelling of Juba is in the record,
3 but it is J-U-B-A. In Juba barracks, Mr Koker, you told us
4 yesterday you went to work for the electrical, mechanical,
15:05:38 5 engineering unit, correct?

6 A. That is true.

7 Q. And some of the jobs that you did, or the primary job that
8 you did, was to function as a sign writer, correct?

9 A. Yes.

15:06:02 10 Q. You were responsible for putting logos, or decorations on
11 vehicles, correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. You were also responsible for putting crests on uniforms
14 and other such police insignia, were you not?

15:06:34 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. This type of work was similar to the work you did before
17 you joined the army for Phillip Horsman [phon] when you served as
18 an artist, true?

19 A. Yes.

15:06:53 20 Q. Now, when you went to Juba barracks was that also at the
21 orders of the Sierra Leone army?

22 A. Yes, it was a posting.

23 Q. And you were posted during the time of war, correct?

24 A. Yes.

15:07:23 25 Q. And you were a trained artillery officer at that time, were
26 you not?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. And you were being posted to be a sign writer, correct?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. We come to the period of May 1997 and the AFRC coup. On 25
2 May 1997 you told us you were at Juba barracks, yes?

3 A. I was at Juba.

15:08:12 4 Q. And you told us this morning, I believe, that you worked
5 out of a workshop of sorts, correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And this morning counsel asked you whether you also lived
8 in the same workshop and you said yes. Is that true?

9 A. Yes.

15:08:35 10 Q. You did not have accommodation in the housing units of the
11 barracks, did you?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So you were -

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is that, "Yes, I did", or, "No,
15 I didn't"? I am not quite sure, clarify.

16 THE WITNESS: It is true, that is true.

17 MR ANYAH: I will attempt to clarify, Madam President.

18 Q. Sir, would it be fair to say that you lived and worked out
19 of the same place?

15:09:16 20 A. Yes, I slept there too.

21 Q. At this time there was fighting all over Freetown, correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah, I don't mean to interrupt, but
24 I just hope you are not just going to take us through the
15:09:44 25 examination-in-chief routinely.

26 MR ANYAH: No, your Honour, there is hopefully, at least in
27 my thinking, there is a basis for this.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Okay.

29 MR ANYAH: Thank you, Madam President.

1 Q. While you were at Juba barracks did you at any time hear a
2 call for all Sierra Leone army officers to report to Lungi
3 Airport?

15:10:24 4 A. I did not hear that. In fact, we did not have radios. We
5 had machines in our workshops. We didn't have radios. We were
6 just working. We are not there to listen to radios. We were
7 just working.

8 Q. But there was not a lot of work to do at the workshop at
9 this time, was there?

15:10:40 10 A. That is not true, there was a lot of work.

11 Q. Well, in April of 2005 you testified in the RUF case, did
12 you not?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And in that case you testified that there was not a lot of
15:11:10 15 work for you to do, is that not so?

16 A. That question that you have asked - I am a worker. That
17 place is a place of work. Every day work was going on.
18 Something must be spoilt and you must - maintenance was going on.
19 It is a workshop. It is not a place to fight. It is a place of
15:11:45 20 work.

21 Q. Your Honours, if it please the Court I am at tab 15 and the
22 page numbers of interest are on pages 5 and 6. Your Honours,
23 I find a better citation for what I am looking for and I would
24 redirect the Chamber, if it pleases, to tab 8. It is two pages.
15:13:06 25 The ERN number of the page in question is 00033620.

26 Mr Koker, since you have been a witness in the various
27 Special Court cases you have spoken to the Prosecution on
28 different occasions, have you not?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. And one such occasion was in May of last year, on May 23rd
2 in 2007, true?

3 A. Yes.

15:14:05

4 Q. I have before me notes prepared by the Prosecution about
5 your conversation with them on that date and I want to read you a
6 portion of those notes. When I read it to you please kindly
7 confirm whether or not you said this to the Prosecution who took
8 down the notes.

15:14:31

9 "The witness states from 1997 to 1998 he was still at the
10 workshop but kept a low profile so he would not have to fight the
11 ECOMOG. There was little work to do but he stayed at the
12 workshop nevertheless."

13 Did you say that to the Prosecution on 23 May 2007?

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, what is your answer?

15:15:20

15 THE WITNESS: Give me some time to think. I need to look
16 at it.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Have you opened the page that the lawyer
18 asked you?

19 THE WITNESS: Yes, yes.

15:15:41

20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then please answer the question.

21 THE WITNESS: Yes, fighting was going on. There was
22 fighting there. There was fighting in Freetown.

23 MR ANYAH:

15:15:59

24 Q. My question is there was not a lot of work for you to do at
25 the workshop at that time, correct?

26 A. At hands for me in my own area, my workshop as an artist,
27 no.

28 Q. Thank you, sir.

29 A. Thank you very much, sir. Yes, sir.

1 Q. Now you indicated previously that you knew Johnny Koroma,
2 correct?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. You knew a fellow by Eddie Kanneh did you not?

15:16:41 5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. You knew a fellow by Major Dumbuya, did you not?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. All of those persons were members of the AFRC, were they
9 not?

15:17:02 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. And you knew in particular these three from the Sierra
12 Leone Army, correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And were you aware at the time that the members of the AFRC
15 essentially derived from the Sierra Leone Army?

15:17:26

16 A. What time - what year are you referring to?

17 Q. I am referring to the junta period starting with the AFRC
18 coup on May 25th 1997.

19 A. At that junta time the Sierra Leone soldiers were still
20 working, work was going on.

15:18:15

21 Q. But some of them, like Johnny Paul Koroma, were at that
22 time members of the AFRC, correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And so too was Eddie Kanneh, true?

15:18:39

25 A. Yes.

26 Q. And so too was Major Dumbuya, correct?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. So you would agree with me, would you not, that the number
29 of Sierra Leone Army officers made up the AFRC, correct?

1 A. Some of them. Not most of them, some of them.

2 Q. But you did not join the AFRC at that time, did you?

3 A. I did not join them. That's why I said some of them.

15:19:28

4 Q. In fact, at no time thereafter have you ever been a member
5 of the AFRC, correct?

6 A. No.

7 Q. No, you have not been a member, that's what you mean?

8 A. At that time I was not a member, I was a soldier.

15:19:53

9 Q. At no other time in the future did you become a member of
10 the AFRC?

11 A. I became a member when we were sent in disarray.

12 Q. You are testifying now that you became a member of the AFRC
13 when you were sent into disarray. Is that what you said?

14 A. Yes.

15:20:25

15 Q. And you testified this morning on direct examination that
16 you were a member of the RUF as well, did you not?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. At any time while you were a member of the AFRC were you
19 simultaneously a member of the RUF?

15:21:05

20 A. We were split --

21 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness go over
22 that? Your Honours, can the witness repeat.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat all that you
24 have said. The interpreters didn't get any of it. Please repeat
15:21:31 25 slowly.

26 THE WITNESS: Okay.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Perhaps, counsel, you could ask the
28 question again.

29 MR ANYAH: Yes, I will, your Honour.

1 Q. Let me take you a few questions back. You said you joined
2 the AFRC when you were in disarray. Who was in disarray?

3 A. When ECOMOG came they captured the entire Freetown.

4 Q. So who was in disarray?

15:22:19 5 A. AFRC and some soldiers who were not even having anything to
6 do with politics but they are soldiers. All of us ran away and
7 I followed Johnny Paul's group and I was part of them now, AFRC.

8 Q. So it is fair to say, is it not, that you joined the AFRC
9 around the time when you were leaving Freetown with Johnny Paul's
10 group?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And from your prior testimony that was in February 1998,
13 was it not?

14 A. Yes, you are true, that is true.

15:23:14 15 Q. Can you tell us on what date, or what time period you
16 joined the RUF?

17 A. I cannot give you a date now because at that time I was
18 traumatised. The time when I left Kono to Kailahun, that was the
19 time I became a RUF person and I hadn't a calendar or a watch.

15:23:51 20 I cannot give you a date now. If I do that I will be telling a
21 lie.

22 Q. Well, we can approximate the date from your prior
23 testimony. You testified that you left from Kono to Kailahun in
24 about March of 1998, is that fair to say?

15:24:20 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. So it was in March of 1998 that you joined the RUF?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. So in February of the same year you are with the AFRC and
29 in March you are with the RUF. Is that your testimony?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Who were you reporting to while you were in the AFRC?

3 A. I did not report to anybody. Everybody was a commander at
4 that time. Everybody was disgruntled.

15:25:12 5 Q. And who were you reporting to when you joined the RUF as of
6 March 1998?

7 A. When I joined the RUF I used to report to Alex Alie, MP
8 commander who was based in Buedu.

9 Q. Can you tell us the reason why you joined the RUF?

15:25:53 10 A. Yes, I can explain.

11 Q. Go ahead, Mr Koker?

12 A. This government that we had voted for, we asked that we
13 wanted democracy and later we had a problem with them. And then
14 I said - I looked at it. I couldn't be in Freetown because if

15:26:24 15 I were there they would have killed me and I said let me go to
16 Kailahun my home town, because RUF, there are many of my
17 colleagues there. Maybe they will be sorry for me. So I went
18 there.

19 Q. At this time you had an aunt who was a member of the RUF,
15:26:47 20 correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And you mentioned her name, Miss Jemba Ngobeh, this
23 morning, correct?

24 A. Yes.

15:27:02 25 Q. In fact it was your aunt who told you to go to Kailahun,
26 isn't that true?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. You also mentioned that the driver for Eldred Collins, a
29 Saliu Kanneh, was your cousin, correct?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. And Saliu was at the time a member of the RUF, true?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. It is true, is it not, Mr Koker, that Kailahun District at
15:27:39 5 that time was the safest place in Sierra Leone for the RUF?

6 A. Yes, it was the RUF headquarters in Kailahun Town.

7 Q. In fact most of the soldiers who left Freetown with you and
8 who headed east to the up country were headed for Kailahun
9 District, correct?

10 A. Some of them went to Liberia, some went towards Kabala and
11 we went to Kailahun.

12 Q. Did any of them go to Guinea?

13 A. I cannot say that to you. Where I was I couldn't hear
14 about Guinea.

15 Q. I want to retrace very briefly your trip from Freetown to
16 the up country to Kono and to Kailahun District. You said
17 earlier today that in Freetown you saw Johnny Paul Koroma running
18 by you. This was in February of 1998?

19 A. Yes.

15:29:14 20 Q. Are you sure you saw Johnny Paul Koroma in Freetown at that
21 time?

22 A. At that time I saw him passing by my workshop going to
23 Tombo with a large crowd of people behind him. I saw him.

24 Q. And that is the crowd of people you followed, correct?

15:29:59 25 A. Yes, so that I could be saved.

26 Q. And in that crowd of people, besides Johnny Paul Koroma,
27 was Eldred Collins, correct? That was one person in the group?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. And from Freetown you went to Tombo, you said?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And from Tombo you went to a place called Fogbo, you said?

3 A. Yes, that's true.

4 Q. And this is what you said in court a few hours ago this
15:30:41 5 morning; true?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. From Fogbo you went to Masiaka, correct?

8 A. You are right, chief.

9 Q. And from Masiaka you went to Makeni, the home of Johnny
15:31:06 10 Paul Koroma, true?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. From Makeni you went to Mortema, isn't that true?

13 A. It's not like that. If you give me time I can explain. We
14 did not just go to Mortema like that. I don't want to tell lies
15:31:30 15 to you. We went to Magbonkineh. That is in my statement. Then
16 we returned to Makeni, Johnny Paul's home town.

17 Q. Thank you, Mr Koker. I was going to ask you about that.
18 When you say "Mabroka" you mean Magburaka, do you not?

19 A. It's not Magburaka. Magburaka is separate and there is
15:32:03 20 Magbonkineh. Magburaka is on the road towards Kono. Magbonkineh
21 is on the road coming to Kabala after Binkolo. At this time we
22 were running away. We were escaping from death. We left
23 Magbonkineh and came to Makeni and from Makeni we went to
24 Magburaka going towards Kono. That's in my statement.

15:32:31 25 Q. Well, let's look at your first statement in this case then.
26 It is tab 1, your Honours. The ERN number is 00003594. I will
27 be reading from the first paragraph from the third line towards
28 the bottom where it says, "Witness walked to Masiaka."

29 Now, Mr Koker, we talked earlier about your statement of

1 March 26th 2003. Do you recall making statements to this effect
2 to the Office of the Prosecutor:

3 "Witness walked to Masiaka where he met a lot of other
4 soldiers and RUF people all mixed up. At Masiaka he met his
15:33:45 5 aunt, one Jemba Ngobeh, presently in Kailahun. She was an RUF.
6 She advised witness to come to Kailahun.

7 Witness and others passed through Makeni, Magburaka, Kono
8 and to Kailahun. At Mortema he saw Johnny Paul Koroma, Gullit,
9 Eldred Collins spokesman of RUF, Pa Kosi a who was RUF, Superman
15:34:31 10 aka Denis Mingo. "

11 Do you recall, Mr Koker, making those comments to the
12 Office of the Prosecutor?

13 A. Yes. This statement is correct, but before leaving Masiaka
14 to Makeni you have to travel so many towns. I'm just telling you
15:35:00 15 whatever I said in this statement is true, because coming from
16 Masiaka to Makeni there are many towns but they are not
17 mentioned. If I was going to mention them this would turn into a
18 pamphlet.

19 Q. Well, in your statement you do not mention going through
15:35:21 20 Tombo, do you?

21 A. Tombo, we went through Tombo. Then we went to Fogbo Town.

22 Q. But you make no mention of either Tombo or Fogbo in your
23 statement, do you?

24 A. My statement, those who explained it in Freetown they said
15:35:58 25 it all, how exactly I reached Masiaka together with Johnny Paul.

26 Q. This morning you also testified that Mortema is on the
27 outskirts of Koidu Town, correct?

28 A. It's not just like that, but if you ask me I will explain
29 just so that you too will know what I mean. Koidu Town - Koidu

1 Town, there is a section called Mortema. It's a section that is
2 called Mortema. It's Koidu, but Mortema is a section. It is a
3 section, sir.

15:37:03 4 Q. Thank you, Mr Koker. It is a section that you have to pass
5 through to get to the centre of Koidu Town, true?

6 A. Yes, I can thank you.

7 Q. And another part of Koidu that you went to was Guinea
8 Highway, correct?

9 A. Yes.

15:37:27 10 Q. How long did you stay at Guinea Highway?

11 A. Guinea Highway, I spent a week there.

12 Q. And from Guinea Highway you said you went to Gandorhun?

13 A. Yes.

15:38:14 14 Q. Are you absolutely sure that you spent an entire week in
15 Guinea Highway?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. It is the case, is it not, that at this particular time in
18 Koidu there was fighting going on with the Kamajors, the CDF?

15:38:51 19 A. Which towns do you mean? I want you to explain because
20 I don't want to tell lies in this Court. What I am saying here
21 is going all across the world so when you talk about soldiers,
22 Kamajors, who are you referring to?

23 Q. Do you know what Kamajors means?

15:39:18 24 A. Yes. I can answer this question. Kamajors in Mende is not
25 a warrior. A Kamajor is somebody who goes to game hunting in the
26 bush. He is not a combatant. In Mende literally he is a hunter,
27 not a combatant.

28 Q. Were there in Koidu in February 1992 people fighting in the
29 war that were referred to as Kamajors?

1 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, I think you misstated the date.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please redirect.

3 MR ANYAH: Yes, your Honour, I will. Thank you, counsel.

15:40:11

4 Q. Mr Koker, were there people fighting in Koidu Town in

5 February 1998 who were known as Kamajors?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And they were fighting the RUF and the AFRC, were they not?

8 A. That is true.

15:40:40

9 Q. At one point the fighting was so heavy that you and your

10 convoy left to Gandorhun, correct?

11 A. Yes, you are right chief.

12 Q. And after Gandorhun you actually went back to Koidu Town,

13 did you not?

14 A. Yes.

15:41:02

15 Q. And then from Koidu you went to Baoma, true?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And ultimately from Baoma you said you went to Kailahun,

18 correct?

19 A. Yes, sir.

15:41:30

20 Q. While you were in Kailahun did anything unusual happen with

21 Eldred Collins or between you and Eldred Collins?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And what was it that happened between you and Mr Collins?

24 A. He forcefully took something away from me. He forcefully

15:42:10

25 took something away from me.

26 Q. What was it that he forcefully took away from you?

27 A. All my money that I had saved when I was working that I had

28 said I would send to my mother in Guinea, he stole it from me

29 forcefully.

1 Q. At that time Eldred Collins was with a person named Jumu
2 Jalloh who you referred to today?

3 A. Yes, you are right chief.

4 Q. After Collins took your money you left Kailahun at some
15:42:56 5 point and went to Buedu to confront Collins, did you not?

6 A. It's not like that. If you give me some time I can explain
7 a little just so that you too will understand. My ear was
8 aching, blood was oozing from my ear. I did not go to fight with
9 Collins. That money was --

15:43:25 10 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
11 repeat and go slow.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Remember to go slowly, start again, so
13 that you can be interpreted. Please continue. Mr Witness,
14 continue narrating your story.

15:43:42 15 THE WITNESS: Yes ma.

16 MR ANYAH: I will re-ask the question, your Honour, if it
17 please the Court.

18 Q. Eldred Collins took your 8 million leones, correct?

19 A. Yes, that is true.

15:43:59 20 Q. And that happened in Kailahun?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And at some point you went to Buedu, did you not?

23 A. Yes, I did not just go to Buedu.

24 Q. Well, you went to the front lines in Jokibu, correct?

15:44:23 25 A. Yes, you are right chief.

26 Q. And that was before you went to Buedu, true?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. When you testified this morning you said that it was Johnny
29 Paul Koroma who gave you some ammunition and ordered you to take

1 them to Jokibu, the front lines, isn't that true?

15:45:15 2 A. I did not say the way you've said it. If you can prove
3 that that is what I said, but that's not what I said. It was not
4 Johnny Paul. It was Issa. I said that in my statement. Listen
5 to me. I said Issa was in Kailahun that morning, then Collins
6 took me to him. Johnny Paul had come and gone to Buedu and we
7 stayed in Kailahun. If I called Johnny Paul's name in this
8 statement at this time then I will be telling lies. It was not
9 Johnny Paul, it's Issa. They told me to Issa. That is where
15:45:40 10 they gave me a gun.

11 Q. Thank you. To be fair to the witness I will withdraw that
12 question. Mr Koker, we will say that it was east is a Sesay who
13 sent you to the front lines at Jokibu with ammunition, correct?

14 A. Correct.

15:46:05 15 Q. Do you recall telling the Office of the Prosecutor in your
16 statement that it was Eldred Collins who ordered you to the front
17 lines? Your Honours, I am at tab 1. It is the second page, the
18 ERN number is 00003595 and it's the first full paragraph.

19 MS MUZIGO-MORRISON: Excuse me, your Honours, is it
15:46:56 20 possible to have extra copies for the interpreters, the
21 stenographers and the chambers' legal officers? We agreed on
22 nine copies. Thank you.

23 MR ANYAH: I believe we have at least 10 copies here.
24 I have one extra one.

15:47:15 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Can these copies be quickly dispensed to
26 the people that need them.

27 MR ANYAH: May I proceed, your Honour?

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, please do.

29 MR ANYAH:

1 Q. This is a summary of the notes taken by the Office of the
2 Prosecutor during your interview on 26 March 2003 and it states:

3 "Witness eventually reached Kailahun and went to live at
4 his present address at Ngobelina compound. Whilst there Eldred
15:48:08 5 Collins came together with one Jumu Jalloh who was an AFRC chief
6 of defence staff. These people forcefully took away his 8
7 million leones which he had saved over the years. He was then
8 sent to the front by Collins to fight at Jokibu. That was about
9 February ending 1998. After two months at Jokibu without
15:48:47 10 participating in any fighting because he had an ear trouble the
11 witness returned to Kailahun. He got a pass to go to Buedu to
12 meet Collins for his money."

13 Mr Koker, that is what you told the Prosecution when you
14 first spoke to them, isn't it?

15:49:14 15 A. That's not how it happened. I just - I did not go and meet
16 him for my money. I went to him so that they could heal me. We
17 were in the same convoy, we were in the same team when we were
18 travelling. At that time I was sick. I was not thinking about
19 money. I was thinking of my welfare. I went so that he could
15:49:41 20 facilitate my treatment. I didn't went there to ask for my
21 money.

22 Q. But before you went to Buedu it was Eldred Collins who sent
23 you to fight at the front lines, correct?

24 A. He didn't send me to the war front. It was Issa who sent
15:50:04 25 me to the war front. It was Eldred Collins who took his gun away
26 from his security and gave it to me. At that time Collins too was
27 subjected to Issa's order. He reinforced me with a gun.

28 Q. Thank you, Mr Koker.

29 A. Thank you very much, sir.

1 Q. When the Prosecution writes that it was Collins who sent
2 you to the front lines they are mistaken, correct?

3 A. It's not a lie because it is he who gave me a gun. He
4 reinforced me with arms.

15:50:52 5 Q. When you were in Buedu and you met with Collins did
6 anything unusual happen?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Please tell us what happened?

9 A. I was repairing radios. At that time I was sick. There was
15:51:15 10 no medicine, there was no food. I was repairing radios, tape
11 recorders. Then they gave me a machine to repair but they spoilt
12 it and I told him, "Collins, look, you are not a mechanic, you
13 are a politician." Then he caused my arrest and they took me to
14 the MP and gave me 200 lashes that I had overlooked him and they
15:51:46 15 detained me there too. That is what happened between me and
16 Collins in Buedu, so that nothing happened between us.

17 Q. You told us earlier a few minutes ago the reason why you
18 joined the RUF and I want to find out more about that in
19 connection with this event that happened in Buedu. When you were
15:52:11 20 in Buedu after having been detained or arrested by Collins, did
21 you see Sam Bockarie?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And under what circumstances did you see Sam Bockarie?

24 A. The colleague soldier killed his colleague and we set up a
15:52:44 25 court martial panel. We said whoever killed his colleague would
26 face the court martial. So I was in detention and I was released
27 so that we could go and set up the court martial place. That was
28 the time I saw Sam Bockarie.

29 Q. What transpired when you saw Mr Bockarie? What did he say

1 to you?

2 A. He asked me why this man and I don't like this, walking
3 without slippers, he was just carrying on his brief, that
4 I explained to him he was - then they all laughed and he said,
15:53:28 5 "When we were in Freetown Collins was the spokesman, now we have
6 come and he has refused being a spokesman" and he said no. This
7 was what happened. This was what caused the fight between -
8 caused this fight between us and the soldiers. He said the
9 arrest was not legal. I am a fighter and now he turned me into
15:53:51 10 an MP. That was the time I became an MP.

11 Q. So you joined the RUF because Sam Bockarie made you an MP.
12 Is that a fair statement?

13 A. Yes, at that time - it was at that time that I joined the
14 RUF because he saved me from injustice.

15:54:25 15 Q. At that time you took a liking for Sam Bockarie, did you
16 not?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And in fact your MP commander at the time, Alex Alie, was
19 one rank or one position removed between you - I withdraw that -
15:54:53 20 between you and Sam Bockarie as far as reporting lines go, the
21 only person between the two of you was your MP commander Alex
22 Alie.

23 A. No, there were people ahead of me. I was given an ordinary
24 appointment because of my military experience, just so that I can
15:55:23 25 stay with them. I was still an other ranks. Because of my
26 experience they wanted to tap that so that we could organise the
27 MP just like it is in the military, just so that law and order
28 could be maintained so that there would be no dispute between the
29 soldiers and the rebels because we had come to war. There was so

1 many people ahead of me.

2 Q. But notwithstanding all these people ahead of you you had
3 some significant responsibilities, would you agree?

4 A. Yes.

15:56:03 5 Q. Indeed, nobody could - no civilian could come in or leave
6 Buedu or that area without you giving them a pass, correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And you also issued passes to the warring factions, to the
9 military soldiers who were fighting, did you not?

15:56:30 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. And besides issuing passes you also were responsible for
12 prisoners of war, were you not?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And in addition to being responsible for prisoners of war,
15:56:55 15 when people whom you referred to as manpower would come and go
16 you would have to count their number and verify the accuracy of
17 their number, true?

18 A. Yes, for security reasons. For security reasons even
19 themselves or their lives just so that somebody may not
15:57:31 20 intimidate them, somebody may not bring mischief to them. We
21 were to protect them.

22 Q. You were also responsible for posting soldiers to check
23 points, were you not?

24 A. Yes.

15:57:50 25 Q. So although all these people were ahead of you and even
26 though you had been with the RUF for about a month you had all
27 these responsibilities, did you not?

28 A. Yes, just so that I couldn't escape.

29 Q. Are you saying you were a prisoner of the RUF?

1 A. In a civilised setting I was a prisoner. I was not on
2 salary, I was not on ration. It is like a prisoner. Mosquito
3 knew that was my home town. He knew I knew the place more than
4 him. If I wanted to escape I can, so I was a prisoner. That was
15:58:51 5 why I was sleeping at the MP. I spent the day there and slept
6 there with the other guys. I had no way to move.

7 Q. You were free to leave but you say you were a prisoner. Is
8 that your testimony?

9 A. Yes, sir.

15:59:06 10 Q. And your testimony is also that Sam Bockarie knew --

11 A. Yes, sir, he came to Buedu.

12 Q. Mr Koker, when we started this process we agreed I would
13 finish my questions before you give your answers. Can we agree on
14 that again?

15:59:31 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Mr Koker, can we go back to Kono and your time in Koidu.
17 When you arrived in Kono you went to Guinea Highway. We have been
18 through that, right?

19 A. Yes.

16:00:07 20 Q. And in Kono you said you saw all sorts of things happening
21 to civilians including burnt out buildings, did you not?

22 A. That is true.

23 Q. And at that time you were a member of the AFRC, were you
24 not?

16:00:37 25 A. At that time wherever gunmen were that is where I will be.
26 I was not saying yes, sir to anybody. Everybody with as a
27 commander at that time. At that time we had been dislodged,
28 everybody was for himself or herself up to the time we arrived in
29 Kono.

1 Q. When you gave your first statement to the Office of the
2 Prosecutor in March you did not mention seeing - your Honours,
3 this is at tab 1. You did not mention seeing any burning of
4 buildings in Kono, did you?

16:01:26 5 A. When I gave that statement I talked about the burning of
6 houses. I said it. I said many things happened in Kono, that
7 Kono was burnt. That Kono was burnt. When I said Kono was
8 burnt, in fact Kono was demolished.

9 Q. When you gave your statement in March 26th you did not
16:01:54 10 mention anything about Operation No Living Thing, did you?

11 A. At the time that I gave this statement I talked about the
12 destruction of Kono.

13 Q. So if they did not write it down the Prosecution was
14 mistaken. Is that your testimony?

16:02:40 15 A. That was why I took an oath today. I'm not saying hearsay.
16 I said I was there. If I say I am going to explain everything
17 that I saw it would fill all these papers on this table, so I am
18 just explaining those important things that can - just so that
19 this thing that happened to our country you will be able to
16:03:08 20 understand.

21 Q. Well, you met with the Prosecution four days after your
22 first interview on March 26th. You met with them on March 30th
23 and this was in Kailahun District office and at that time during
24 that interview you did not say anything about the burning of
16:03:31 25 houses in Kono, did you?

26 A. At that time that you are talking about you may be right.
27 I did say to the Prosecution person who was obtaining my
28 statement that this - I am just giving you a summary. I have
29 seen a lot of things, but if I go in the presence of the Court

1 there are so many other things that I will be able to explain to
2 the Court just so that the Court can understand these things, so
3 that evil can stop, terrorism can stop. So you cannot tell me
4 that all that I saw if I explain that to you you would write a
16:04:16 5 lot of pamphlets.

6 Q. Well, Mr Koker, I am merely saying, and you seem to agree,
7 that on 30th March you did not mention anything about burning of
8 buildings in Kono?

9 A. I spoke about the destruction of Kono. The destruction of
16:04:47 10 the entire Kono, I spoke about it.

11 MR ANYAH: Your Honours, for the record the interview on 30
12 March is in tab 2 of the bundle and in tab 3 is an interview from
13 4 February 2004.

14 Q. Mr Koker, you again met with the Prosecution on 4 February
16:05:18 15 2004 and at that time you also did not say anything about the
16 burning of buildings in Kono, did you?

17 A. I said I saw Kono being burned. Maybe they - because they
18 were working on a machine. I saw it. It was not a machine. I
19 myself saw it. They were not telling me a story. I saw it with
16:05:52 20 my own very eyes. That was why I swore on the Bible. Kono is not
21 my home town, but I saw there being burnt.

22 Q. You also said you saw women being taken as captives,
23 correct?

24 A. Yes.

16:06:20 25 Q. You also saw children being taken as captives, true?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. And in none of these statements do you detail any of those
28 events. I am referring to the first three statements in tabs 1,
29 2 and 3, the statements dated March 26th, March 30th and February

1 2nd 2004.

2 MR SANTORA: Your Honours, I apologise but before I object
3 I just want to ask if you had put to the witness that he did not
4 say anything with regards to women captives in these three

16:07:27 5 statements. Is that what was put to the witness?

6 MR ANYAH: Yes, but I can qualify it.

7 MR SANTORA: Because I believe, to be fair to the witness,
8 that is in the third statement --

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: I believe this is with regard to Kono
16:07:40 10 District specifically, isn't it?

11 MR SANTORA: Okay.

12 MR ANYAH: Yes, this is only Kono.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Does your objection --

14 MR SANTORA: No, I withdraw the objection, your Honour.

16:08:02 15 MR ANYAH:

16 Q. Mr Koker, when you saw all of these events they were
17 troubling to you, were they not?

18 A. Yes, even as I am sitting here now they are troubling me.
19 I won't tell you lies.

16:08:15 20 Q. And at that time did you do anything to stop any of this?

21 A. If I had done something I would not have been able to
22 explain. They would have killed me.

23 Q. But you were a member of the AFRC at that time, were you
24 not?

16:08:45 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. Were you at that time yourself vulnerable to any kind of
27 attacks by the people in your convoy? Were you under threat from
28 anyone in your convoy?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. And from whom were you under threat?

2 A. At that time I will tell you they knew us as SLPP children.
3 At that time they knew that our fathers started the SLPP movement
4 in Sierra Leone so I had that fear. I was only brave and

16:09:45 5 I hadn't a gun then.

6 Q. You were brave and you were brave enough to go around Kono
7 with a notepad taking notes of what was happening. Did you not
8 do that?

9 A. Yes.

16:10:12 10 Q. You were recording the events by taking notes, correct?

11 A. I did that but they even took everything from me again when
12 I got to Kailahun.

13 Q. You also had a camera with you in Kono, did you not?

14 A. I didn't have a camera. Our colleagues had cameras but

16:10:48 15 I did not have one, not my personal camera.

16 Q. Did you have access to a camera when all of this chaos was
17 unfolding in Kono?

18 A. I will tell you at that time I couldn't even have handled a
19 camera. I was an artist. If you want I can draw for you here
20 and I will give it to you. That's why I took my time to observe.

16:11:20 21 I was patient.

22 Q. Do you deny that you took photographs using a camera of the
23 carnage that was unfolding in Kono in February 1998?

24 A. That colleague of mine who we were passing together used to
25 take photographs. If I had a camera they would have killed me.

16:12:01 26 If I had a watch they would have killed me. Commanders, they had
27 the cameras.

28 Q. What was the name of your colleague who had the camera and
29 who took the pictures?

1 A. I knew his name.

2 Q. I'm sorry, I did not hear that?

3 A. I knew his name, but he left us and returned to Western
4 Jungle. His name was Cyborg. Whatever I knew about him, he has
16:13:02 5 kept from them and returned to Western Jungle.

6 MR ANYAH: Your Honours, I will be referring to tab 17 of
7 the bundle on page 35, starting --

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry, could you state that page again?

9 MR ANYAH: Yes, Madam President, page 35, tab 17, starting
16:13:51 10 on line 13.

11 Q. Mr Koker, this is a transcript from your testimony on 18
12 July 2005 in the AFRC case. I will state a series of questions
13 and answers and ask you at the end if you recall saying these
14 things. From line 13:

16:14:36 15 "Q. Now, when you say that Operation No Living Thing was
16 not announced, how then did you get to know about it?

17 "A. Well, I used the military sequence.

18 "Q. What military sequence?

19 "A. I used the military tactics as an intelligence man to
16:15:01 20 really know what is happening in Kono.

21 "Q. Did you interview people?

22 "A. Yes, ma'am.

23 "Q. Who did you talk to?

24 "A. I interviewed armed men.

16:15:21 25 "Q. Armed men of the RUF?

26 "A. Well, they were not identified.

27 "Q. You just approached any armed men --

28 "A. Yes, just approached them, burning houses, tried to
29 interview them. I even took some snapshot, but all they have

1 destroyed them from me."

2 Mr Koker, do you remember being asked those questions and
3 giving those responses? Is that a yes?

4 A. Yes, I had photos that I took in Kono. I did not take
16:16:21 5 them. I took them when I met them to make them evidence.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm sorry, I don't understand.
7 Mr Interpreter, was that you or was that the witness?

8 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, it was the witness. He
9 used the same word for - maybe the witness can clarify.

10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, what did you say? Repeat
11 that about the photographs.

12 THE WITNESS: I did not take the pictures.

13 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness is using "take"
14 for both cases so it could be that he took them from the ground,
16:17:10 15 so can he be asked to clarify because he is using "take". "I did
16 not take the pictures but I took them."

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, just wait a minute. Perhaps
18 Mr Anyah you understand what the interpreter is complaining
19 about.

16:17:29 20 MR ANYAH: Yes.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, because the verb to take is
22 ambiguous in Mende, so please redirect your questions in such a
23 way that we do not elicit an ambiguous answer. "I did not take
24 the pictures but I took the pictures", it doesn't work.

16:17:48 25 Redirect.

26 MR ANYAH: I understand.

27 Q. Mr Koker, are you admitting that there was a camera among
28 your group members?

29 A. Yes, people had cameras.

1 Q. And did any of those people take pictures?

2 A. There were people taking pictures at the time that we were
3 in Kono, normal times, not during operation times. When we were
4 all living in Kono amicably.

16:18:30 5 Q. I am asking --

6 A. Casual times.

7 Q. We are now speaking of February 1998. Do you deny telling
8 this same bench of judges that you took pictures in February 1999
9 when there was carnage in Kono?

16:18:54 10 A. Photos, I took a picture from my friend. I want you to
11 understand this. I took the picture from the friend, the guards.

12 Q. And nobody bothered you with those pictures?

13 A. They took it from me in Baoma and some other documents, at
14 the riverside.

16:19:32 15 Q. Let's go to the next page of tab 17, page 36 starting on
16 line 1. Again these are a series of questions and I will read
17 the responses. I'm sorry, I will start with line 2 which is a
18 question:

19 "Q. You had a camera with you?

16:20:08 20 "A. Yes.

21 "Q. Nobody bothered you with your camera?

22 "A. All those things were seized, destroyed from me.

23 "Q. Where?

24 "A. In Kailahun.

16:20:25 25 "Q. So those armed men that were burning whose snapshots
26 you took, didn't bother you with your camera? They didn't take
27 it from you?

28 "A. They didn't know if I have got any image of them.

29 "Q. What images were you taking there?

1 "A. Undercover when I'm taking snapshot."

2 Doesn't this say - let me ask you this first: Do you
3 recall making these responses to the questions that were put to
4 you?

16:21:07 5 A. Yes, I told them that we used to take pictures. That's why
6 I told them that we were walking in a convoy. When we were in
7 this convoy some of us thought that when we went we would escape
8 to Guinea. That friend of mine was called Cyborg, he had a
9 camera. We used to take snapshots there, but we will not be
16:21:37 10 fighting and taking snapshots, but casually we take pictures.
11 That's what I meant, that he had a camera. I did not own a
12 camera myself, but we had a camera among us.

13 Q. And then what do you mean in all of these responses when
14 you say, "When I am taking a snapshot"?

16:22:05 15 A. What I meant, that there are places when people would take
16 snapshots, people who had cameras, and I was closer to a camera
17 man who was with us. I was among a convoy. We were many. We
18 were many. I was not passing alone. We were passing in a team.

19 Q. So, Mr Koker, you were with --

16:22:36 20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. -- RUF and AFRC members in Kono when there was carnage and
22 people had cameras. That is your testimony?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And the people who were burning the buildings capturing the
16:23:04 25 women and children were the people you were with, correct?

26 A. Those with whom I was passing around did not - were not
27 capturing children. In my own team those who would attack the
28 towns, those were the ones who captured children. Those who went
29 on operations who captured children.

1 Q. I asked you a compound question perhaps regarding children,
2 women and burning buildings. Let me break it down. Some of the
3 people you were with who were members of your convoy that had
4 cameras were the same people who were capturing children,
16:23:57 5 correct?

6 A. That is not correct. Operations people would capture
7 children. Those who attacked towns would capture children. If
8 they didn't attack any town they would not capture children. If
9 they captured children then they would bring them to where - for
16:24:25 10 example, they went to a war front and they captured children they
11 would bring them to a safe zone where we were. If they attacked
12 a town that is when they would capture children. But if they
13 attacked a town and ceasefire was declared nobody would capture a
14 child.

16:24:45 15 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness go over
16 that.

17 THE WITNESS: During our leisure time they would play music
18 and they would take snapshots.

19 MR ANYAH: Your Honour, I will put the question to the
16:25:02 20 witness.

21 Q. Mr Koker, these operations people were part of the AFRC and
22 the RUF, were they not?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And the people who captured women were part of the AFRC and
16:25:23 25 RUF, were they not?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. And the people who burned down buildings were also part of
28 the AFRC and RUF, were they not?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. And some or all of those people were part of the convoy
2 that you were a member of, true?

3 A. Yes.

16:26:02

4 Q. And you are telling this Court today that the same people
5 who were committing these crimes were taking pictures of their
6 crimes. Is that your testimony?

16:26:35

7 A. No, they were not. It was a large group who were divided.
8 There were some people who were just there to cook, finding food
9 and cook. That was their job. There were some people whose
10 business was to organise. There were some other people who were
11 just there to burn houses.

16:27:00

12 So that's why I said we were many in the group, but
13 everybody had his own interest. That there were some people who
14 did not even do anything wrong. They were just there to look for
15 food. If they see people eating then they will go there. There
16 were some people who will be waiting for them to be ordered to go
17 and burn a town. Everybody had something he was interested in.
18 There were some people who were just there to loot people's
19 property. It was like division of labour. Everybody did what he
20 had interest in.

16:27:28

21 MR ANYAH: Thank you, Mr Koker. Your Honour, I see the
22 indication from the bench about the time.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: You could ask one more question. There
24 is a little bit of time, if you so wish.

16:27:40

25 MR ANYAH: I think this might be a good point to stop.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Okay. Do you hope to continue with this
27 cross-exam tomorrow?

28 MR ANYAH: Yes, Madam President.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we are going to break today.

1 Thank you for your testimony so far. I want to caution you not to
2 discuss your testimony with anybody outside of the Court until
3 tomorrow.

4 Court adjourns until tomorrow at 9.30.

16:28:07 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

6 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.30 p.m.
7 to be reconvened on Wednesday 16 January 2008
8 at 9.30 a.m.]

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I N D E X

WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:

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