

Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF THE SPECIAL COURT

CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

WEDNESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2009 9. 30 A. M. TRI AL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges: Justice Richard Lussick, Presiding

Justice Teresa Doherty Justice Julia Sebutinde

Justice El Hadji Malick Sow, Alternate

For Chambers: Mr Simon Meisenberg

Ms Sidney Thompson

For the Registry: Ms Rachel Irura

Mr Benedict Williams

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis Mr Mohamed A Bangura Mr Christopher Santora

Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC

Tayl or:

Mr Morris Anyah Mr Terry Munyard

	1	Wednesday, 23 September 2009
	2	[Open session]
	3	[The accused present]
	4	[Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]
09:31:20	5	PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, we'll take appearances, please.
	6	MS HOLLIS: Good morning, Mr President, your Honours,
	7	opposing counsel. This morning for the Prosecution, Brenda J
	8	Hollis, Mohamed A Bangura, Christopher Santora and the case
	9	manager Maja Dimitrova.
09:31:40	10	PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Yes, Mr Griffiths.
	11	MR GRIFFITHS: Good morning, Mr President, your Honours.
	12	For the Defence today myself Courtenay Griffiths, with me
	13	Mr Morris Anyah and Mr Terry Munyard of counsel and we're joined
	14	today by Ms Priyanka Reddy, who has been with us before.
09:32:00	15	PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Griffiths. Mr Taylor, I'll
	16	remind you once again you're still bound to tell the truth. Yes,
	17	please go ahead, Mr Griffiths.
	18	DANKPANNAH DR CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR:
	19	[On former affirmation]
09:32:10	20	EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR GRIFFITHS: [Continued]
	21	Q. Mr Taylor, we're moving on to another witness today. Now
	22	the witness we're dealing with gave evidence in closed session.
23		Consequently I don't want you to mention any name. Now this was
	24	an individual whose name you wrote down on a piece of paper. Do
09:32:31	25	you recall?
	26	A. Yes, I do.
	27	Q. Now can we begin in this way, please: Where is Benghazi,
	28	Mr Taylor?
	29	A. Benghazi is on I would say the coastal area of Libya.

- 1 That's outside of the capital on the sea, the Red Sea.
- 2 Q. Is it near to Tajura?
- 3 A. No, Benghazi could be I would say about 500 or more miles
- 4 from Tajura.
- 09:33:23 5 Q. Did you ever have any fighters training in Benghazi?
  - 6 A. None whatsoever.
  - 7 Q. On 25 January of 2008 someone told this Court at page 2212
  - 8 of the transcript that he was told by Foday Sankoh that Foday
  - 9 Sankoh met you in Benghazi and that you had some of your fighters
- 09:33:57 10 there and you were the leader of those fighters; that you were
  - 11 actually not there most of the time during the training but he,
  - 12 Foday Sankoh, met him first in Benghazi. What do you say about
  - 13 that?
  - 14 A. I say it's a blatant falsehood. I have never I have been
- 09:34:19 15 to Libya many, many times and I've said that Gaddafi is a very
  - 16 good friend of mine. I don't deny that. I have never, ever
  - 17 whether during training time, whether after training time,
  - 18 whether during my presidency, I have never set foot in Benghazi,
  - 19 so he lied. Simple and true.
- 09:34:38 20 Q. Well, let's take the matter to another level then,
  - 21 Mr Taylor. Did you meet Sankoh in Libya, period?
  - 22 A. Never met Foday Sankoh in Libya. Never.
  - 23 Q. Can you see any reason why Foday Sankoh might have told
  - 24 someone that he met you in Benghazi?
- 09:35:01 25 A. Well, the question is if he actually told someone or they
  - 26 have [indiscernible] lies that they have brought to this Court.
  - 27 I don't think Foday Sankoh could have said that, because it never
  - 28 happened and I don't believe the lies that they've brought here.
  - 29 I don't think Sankoh told him, so it's not a matter of why would

- 1 he say so. I don't think he did.
- 2 Q. Now, that proposition, Mr Taylor, that you were not there
- 3 most of the time during the training, is that correct?
- 4 A. Yes, that is I did not spend a lot of time in Libya. I
- 09:35:38 5 went there, visited my people, went to the Mataba, out. Yes, I
  - 6 didn't spend a lot of time in Libya. The longest I could have
  - 7 spent in Libya at any one time could have been maybe two weeks
  - 8 and then out. No more.
  - 9 Q. So where this individual claims that he was told that you
- 09:36:00 10 were not there most of the time, that proposition you accept, do
  - 11 you?
  - 12 A. Well, at that part of the proposition. But the proposition
  - 13 that I do not accept, he is saying that Foday Sankoh told him.
  - 14 Now, if I he said that he heard from some other sources, I accept
- 09:36:24 15 the proposition. I do not accept the proposition in its entirety
  - 16 that Foday Sankoh told him. I don't believe it, because I don't
  - 17 think Foday Sankoh did. But I accept the proposition that I did
  - 18 not stay in Libya a very long time, but he could have heard that
  - 19 from other sources.
- 09:36:39 20 Q. So help us, would Sankoh have known that you were not there
  - 21 all of the time?
  - 22 A. Yes, I think he would have known I was not there all of the
  - 23 time.
  - 24 Q. How would he have known that?
- 09:36:55 25 A. Maybe from his leader, Ali Kabbah. He could have also
  - 26 known that from Liberians that trained in Tajura. Discussions
  - 27 between and amongst individuals in the camp: "Oh, is your chief
  - 28 here?" "No, he came, but he's gone." That's the basic way these
  - 29 guys get information.

- 1 Q. Okay, let's move on. What do you say to this, an answer
- 2 given by this individual. He no, I think it's best if I pose
- 3 the question:
- 4 "Q. What, if anything, did Foday Sankoh tell you about
- 09:37:42 5 Burki na Faso?
  - A. Well, there were he came along with his own men and
  - 7 the Liberians, some of them that were in Libya. There was
  - 8 also training in Burkina Faso. Some of the Special Forces
  - 9 were there and he was there as well, Mr Sankoh."
- 09:38:11 10 Was there training in Burkina Faso?
  - 11 A. Never. Not one militant of mine did not even a day's
  - 12 training in Burkina Faso. Never, ever, no.
  - 13 Q. Did you train with Sierra Leoneans in Burkina Faso?
  - 14 A. No.
- 09:38:31 15 Q. Were you in Burkina Faso with Sierra Leoneans, whether you
  - 16 were training or not?
  - 17 A. No. No.
  - 18 Q. Was Foday Sankoh with you in Burkina Faso?
  - 19 A. No. Never saw him, never knew him, no.
- 09:38:57 20 Q. Now, the same individual went on to say this and I'm
  - 21 Looking at page 2212 of the transcript of 25 January 2008. He
  - 22 says, this man, that he was at Camp Naama until about February
  - 23 1991, and he goes on to say that in March 1991 the RUF began
  - 24 armed operations into Sierra Leone. Well, he was asked this
- 09:39:39 **25 question**:
  - 26 "Q. In March 1991 the RUF began armed operations into
  - 27 Sierra Leone. Prior to these armed operations did you go
  - 28 into Sierra Leone?
  - 29 A. Yes."

- Now, Mr Taylor, this man claims to have been sent on a reconnaissance mission into --
- 3 MS HOLLIS: We are getting into areas in public session
- 4 that were not public and we're getting into areas that are
- 09:40:12 5 identifying. Now, certainly the Prosecution is not saying, has
  - 6 never said, there's no opportunity for this accused to address
  - 7 them, but they should not be addressed in public because it's
  - 8 undermining the protections afforded this witness.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE: You do seem to be getting down to more
  09:40:31 10 personal particulars of this witness, Mr Griffiths. Is there any
  11 way you can phrase these questions more generally?
  - MR GRIFFITHS: So far as the testimony of the witness is
  - 13 concerned, Mr President, the witness accepts that a number of
  - 14 individuals were sent into Sierra Leone prior to the initial
- 09:40:55 15 invasion. So, to my mind, that proposition by itself doesn't
  - 16 really identify the individual. But I can put it in more general
  - 17 terms:
  - 18 Q. Mr Taylor, did you organise a prior reconnaissance mission
  - 19 into Sierra Leone before the invasion in March of 1991?
- 09:41:25 20 A. No, I did not, and it has to be no because I did not know
  - 21 of any prior invasion into Sierra Leone, so I did not.
  - 22 Q. Now, following this reconnaissance mission it is said that
  - 23 this individual went to Voinjama and in Voinjama he met up with
  - 24 Foday Sankoh who was in a convoy with you. What do you say about
- 09:42:35 25 that, Mr Taylor? So we're talking about February of 1991.
  - 26 You're in Voinjama with Foday Sankoh when you met up with these
  - 27 individuals who had been on a reconnaissance mission in Sierra
  - 28 Leone. Do you follow me?
  - 29 A. I follow you. That's a lie. Prior to July of the year he

- 1 mentioned there I did not go into Gbarnga until about July of
- 2 [overlapping speakers] --
- 3 Q. No, we're talking about Voinjama, not Gbarnga.
- 4 A. That's what I'm saying. So I could not have gone to
- 09:43:15 5 Voinjama. Voinjama was considered a very, very dangerous area at
  - 6 the time. I had not even gone from Kakata to Gbarnga, so it's
  - 7 impossible for me to have gone all the way to Voinjama. I had
  - 8 not even moved to Gbarnga by that particular time.
  - 9 Q. We're talking about February 1991.
- 09:43:36 10 A. That's what I'm talking about. That's exactly what I'm
  - 11 talking about.
  - 12 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Taylor, you mentioned something that
  - 13 was not captured on the transcript. You said you did not go into
  - 14 Gbarnga until about July of when?
- 09:43:51 15 THE WITNESS: 1991. So there's no way you can get into
  - 16 Voinjama accept you go through Gbarnga. So the point I am
  - 17 making, I was never in Gbarnga in February 1991 because I had not
  - 18 even gone to I was never in Voinjama in February 1991 because I
  - 19 had not even reached to Gbarnga yet, okay. So how would I be
- 09:44:12 20 able to get the Voinjama? There's no way you can get to Voinjama
  - 21 accept you go through Gbarnga. I had not reached to Gbarnga.
  - 22 As I explained to this Court, I came from Gborplay, I came
  - 23 all the way through Buchanan and into Harbel and Kakata, and I'm
  - 24 saying that the forces had to begin fighting back upcountry.
- 09:44:31 25 never went there. So it is totally maybe he saw a ghost of
  - 26 someone looking like Charles Taylor. There is no way I would
  - 27 have been in the forest of Liberia, Voinjama, in February 1991.
  - 28 That's a lie.
  - MR GRIFFITHS:

- 1 Q. But this individual claims that you were heading in a
- 2 convoy with Foday Sankoh on the night that individual returned to
- 3 Liberia and that he entered a car and was told that they were en
- 4 route to Voinjama with Mr Taylor and that they were going to
- 09:45:14 5 Voinjama in order to discuss the operational plan for the
  - 6 invasion of Sierra Leone the following morning. What do you say
  - 7 to that, Mr Taylor?
  - 8 A. I say that's a blatant lie, and I don't know what he means
  - 9 by car. I do not know what he means by car, but in our part of
- 09:45:33 10 the world a car is what how would you describe it here? Like a
  - 11 sedan, something of that nature. I don't see what human on earth
  - 12 could anyone that knows Liberia during that particular time and
  - 13 the area of the country to say a car is on that road, it's
  - 14 impossible. That road was only suited for four-wheel drive
- 09:46:02 15 vehicles: Jeeps, pick-ups and trucks. So I don't know his
  - 16 interpretation of a car as I understand car, but unless he came
  - 17 from a different planet, there's no way even a car could have
  - 18 been on that road with anybody. This is a road that is only
  - 19 four-wheel drive vehicles can get there. A car would never make
- 09:46:23 20 it a tenth of a mile, so he is lying. There was no way I was in
  - 21 any convoy on the road. He made that up. It's a lie. If I had
  - 22 been on that road I would say I was on that road. I was never on
  - 23 that road in February or March or April or May or June or July of
  - 24 1991, ever, no. He lied.
- 09:46:49 25 Q. Does the name Joseph Brown mean anything to you, Mr Taylor?
  - 26 A. Joseph Brown? Well, it all depends on okay, well, Joseph
  - 27 Brown means something to me now.
  - 28 Q. All right. Well, what does Joseph Brown mean to you now?
  - 29 A. Well, you see, that's the whole point now because to talk

about Joseph Brown, we may have to go into - you know, when I 2 hear counsel on the other side talking about open or closed 3 session, because to deal with some of these matters I don't want 4 to be hindered in dealing with some of the details of these matters because of the open or closed nature of these sessions 09:47:36 5 and I don't think that we should permit the protection of 6 7 witnesses - if we have to into closed session with some of these 8 witnesses, I want to be able to defend myself here, so I don't care about open or closed if their protection is at stake because to talk about Joseph Brown, as I know Joseph Brown now, would be 09:47:54 10 inappropriate in open session because, you know, I know what 11 12 Joseph Brown means to us now. And I have to tell the Court, but 13 I would not tell the Court except it's in closed session. 14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Taylor, are you saying that if you 09:48:08 15 discuss anything about Joseph Brown it's going to reveal the identity of this witness that Mr Griffiths is asking you about? 16 17 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honour. If I got into Joseph Brown it will reveal the identity of the testimony that we are on now 18 19 because I say I know Joseph Brown now, but I didn't know him 09:48:30 20 before but I know him now. And I don't want to hide from the 21 Court if we were in a closed session what I mean by that, but, I 22 mean, I know Joseph Brown, but I know him now but not - at the period in question, I didn't know a Joseph Brown. 23 24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, I'm not quite sure what's 09:48:52 25 going to come from here on in because I don't know the questions 26 you're going to ask, but I'll leave it to you. If you're going 27 to ask questions that will reveal the identity of the witness, 28 then we'll need to go into private session. MR GRIFFITHS: Well, I think we will have to go into 29

	1	private session to deal with this aspect.
	2	PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. Those members of the public
	3	listening to the trial, in order to protect the identity of a
	4	witness who is the subject of a protective measures order of this
09:49:31	5	Court we're now going to have to go into a private session. What
	6	that means is that the public can continue to watch the
	7	proceedings, but you won't be able to hear what is being said.
	8	Any idea how long the private session would last?
	9	MR GRIFFITHS: I don't think it will last very long.
09:49:52	10	PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. The private session won't
	11	last for too long.
	12	Madam Court Manager, if you'll put this Court into private
	13	sessi on, pl ease.
	14	[At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
	15	the transcript, pages 29449 to 29452, was
	16	extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
	17	the proceeding was heard in private session.]
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	1	[Open session]
	2	MS IRURA: Your Honour, we're in open session.
	3	PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, we're now in open session. Go
	4	ahead, Mr Griffith.
09:57:10	5	MR GRIFFITHS:
	6	Q. Now, Mr Taylor, this individual claims that on the day
	7	after his arrival in Voinjama there was a meeting at the house of
	8	the 2nd Battalion commander of Voinjama, a Special Forces
	9	commando of Mr Taylor called Anthony Mekunagbe. Now before we go
09:57:35	10	any further, was Anthony Mekunagbe Special Forces?
	11	A. Yes, he was.
	12	Q. So he trained in Libya?
	13	A. That is correct.
	14	Q. He's somebody you know?
09:57:49	15	A. Very well, yes.
	16	Q. Was he based in Voinjama?
	17	A. Yes, both - well, both in Voinjama and Gbarnga at the time,
	18	yes.
	19	Q. Why do you say both in Voinjama and Gbarnga?
09:58:02	20	A. Because I have mentioned to this Court he was a regional
	21	commander. He had a headquarter in Gbarnga, because I had not
	22	moved there yet, and he had his second headquarter in Voinjama.
	23	So he was in charge of the whole region of Bong and Lofa
	24	Counti es.
09:58:22	25	Q. And to your knowledge, did he have a home in Voinjama?
	26	A. Well, no, I don't know. I know he had a house, but I'm not
	27	aware that he had a home in Voinjama.
	28	Q. Very well. Let's stick to house. Now, it is claimed that

when this individual arrived at that house, that Sankoh was in

the living room --

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MS HOLLIS: Your Honours, this is closed session testimony. 2 3 This now is going into details that are not discrete. They will 4 not be considered in isolation, they will be considered together. Typically, we would have to be in closed or private session. 09:59:14 5 There was a special procedure that was set out to allow this to 6 7 continue to be public, but not so that it could be abused by 8 putting in details that in the aggregate will identify this 9 witness. Now, if these matters need to be gone into, they should 09:59:31 10 be gone into at a minimum in private session. PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Griffiths, could you phrase the 11 12 question so as to leave out the individual and simply be a bit 13 more general. For instance, I don't know what the rest of the 14 question was, but perhaps you could say is it possible Sankoh 09:59:51 15 could have been at a house in that place at such and such a time? Or if you think that that's going to detract from the quality of 16 17 the answer, then we'll go back into private session. MR GRIFFITHS: Well, the difficulty, Mr President, is this: 18 19 I am as anxious as anyone that these proceedings should be 10:00:10 20 public, because publicity is important in terms of providing 21 justice. But in terms of the particular objection being made, 22 we're talking about a situation where a number of individuals were present at this meeting, and it seems difficult to 23 24 understand why the Prosecution are being so sensitive about this particular aspect of the testimony, given that it's a feature of 10:00:37 25 26 their case that such a meeting took place at which this defendant 27 was present, and it's vital that the defendant have an 28 opportunity of dealing with what is a salient aspect of the 29 Prosecution case. But I am prepared to deal with the matter in

- 1 more general terms in order to facilitate these proceedings
- 2 continuing in public, because I'm anxious that the public be able
- 3 to follow this.
- 4 Q. So let me pose it in this way, Mr Taylor: Did you attend a
- 10:01:21 5 meeting at the home of Anthony Mekunagbe sometime in late
  - 6 February 1991 in order to plan the invasion of Sierra Leone?
  - 7 A. No, I did not attend any meeting at the home of Anthony
  - 8 Mekunagbe, one of my regional commanders, to plan any attack on
  - 9 Sierra Leone. And the answer is no because I was never, ever in
- 10:01:53 10 that entire region in the period in question. Impossible. Even
  - if one assumed that such a meeting took place that I would have
  - 12 been present, at least one must know that I would have been
  - 13 present with other senior members of the armed forces, which is
  - 14 not had the case in this testimony. It never happened.
- 10:02:17 15 Q. Well, it is said that you were there in the living room
  - 16 flanked by senior officers of the NPFL?
  - 17 A. That is not correct. That is a blatant lie.
  - 18 Q. And it's further said that you were hovering over a shell
  - 19 map of Sierra Leone?
- 10:02:41 20 A. Equally a lie.
  - 21 Q. And that you were there discussing, hovering as you were
  - 22 over the shell map, the plans for the invasion?
  - 23 A. Blatantly a lie. Blatantly untrue,
  - Q. Specifically, that you were discussing the operation to
- 10:03:05 25 attack Sierra Leone and that you were wearing a red T-shirt and
  - 26 American camouflage trousers along with your senior Special
  - 27 Forces personnel?
  - 28 A. A total lie I'm in a red T-shirt and camouflage trousers.
  - 29 Q. A red T-shirt and American camouflage trousers, Mr Taylor?

- 1 A. That is a lie.
- 2 Q. Now, did Foday Sankoh introduce you to anyone at such a
- 3 meeting, Mr Taylor?
- 4 A. He could not have. I was not at such a meeting, so he did
- 10:03:58 5 not and could not have, no.
  - 6 Q. Did he introduce you to any Sierra Leonean?
  - 7 A. No.
  - 8 Q. As a member of the NPFL?
  - 9 A. No. And even if we go to the period that I have told this
- 10:04:18 10 Court and the whole world that I had association with Foday
  - 11 Sankoh between '91 and '92, Foday Sankoh never introduced anybody
  - 12 to me. Even during those months that Foday Sankoh came in and
  - out of this place, all of these so-called people, not one of them
  - 14 did Foday Sankoh bring to me. Between August '91 and even May
- 10:04:44 15 '92 when I say he came, we met, we discussed, he travelled in and
  - out and I gave him a house, he still did not introduce anyone to
  - 17 me even at that time. From the big names that we've heard like
  - 18 Mohamed Tarawalli, I never knew them. Never. The Sam Bockarie,
  - 19 none of them. So I could not have been introduced to anyone at
- 10:05:04 20 the time that I did not even know him, no.
  - 21 Q. Mr Taylor, was there a 1st Battalion of the NPFL?
  - 22 A. Yes, there was a 1st Battalion of the NPFL.
  - 23 Q. And in terms of that description 1st Battalion, was it
  - 24 linked to any particular area, individual or what?
- 10:05:30 25 A. Well, the NPFL all you know, these guys come and
  - 26 generalise. All armies have 1st Battalions. So you come and say
  - 27 the 1st Battalion of the NPFL. Of course in every division of
  - 28 the in fact, there more than one 1st Battalion, so it depends
  - 29 on what this person means. In the army division there's a 1st

- 1 Battalion. In the marine division there is also a 1st Battalion
- 2 marine. So I don't know what battalion he's talking about. But
- 3 it's not associated with individuals, because commanders change.
- 4 But there were, I would say, at least three or four 1st
- 10:06:09 5 Battalions in different divisions.
  - 6 Q. Now, it is said, Mr Taylor, that you dominated this
  - 7 meeting?
  - 8 A. How would I dominate a meeting that I never attended? I
  - 9 was not at any meeting with these people. And trying to show me
- 10:06:45 10 as the big boss and all that kind of stuff, I was not at a
  - 11 meeting. I have told this Court I have never even done military
  - 12 training. I depended on my generals to come up with plans and
  - 13 justify them, and then as leader of the NPFL, that's how how
  - 14 would I be dominating a meeting that I have never done a military
- 10:07:09 15 training in my life before? It never happened. It's a lie. I
  - 16 didn't dominate any meeting because I was not at the meeting.
  - 17 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, that's not what's being said. Because
  - 18 what's being said is that despite the intelligence which had been
  - 19 gained from a recognisance operation which had taken place, you
- 10:07:40 20 nonetheless demanded that your plan be followed. Because what is
  - 21 being suggested is that Sankoh, a former member of the Sierra
  - 22 Leonean military, wanted to follow a particular plan without
  - 23 engaging the army at Daru on the border, but you had your own
  - ideas and you impressed those ideas on the meeting. That's
- 10:08:12 25 what's being said. What do you say about that?
  - 26 A. I say it's a lie. I never was present at any of their
  - 27 meetings.
  - 28 Q. Because, you see, what is said is Sankoh was an SLA officer
  - 29 before, and he resided in Daru for quite a long time and he knew

- 1 the terrain, and that Sankoh had been told that a particular
- 2 route could be taken safely by the fighters, but you said no,
- 3 that you had your own predetermined alternative route. What do
- 4 you say about that, Mr Taylor?
- 10:08:51 5 A. It's a lie.
  - 6 Q. And that you suggested a simultaneous attack on Kailahun
  - 7 and Pujehun. You were the military strategist in that meeting
  - 8 who decided on the plan to invade Sierra Leone. That's what's
  - 9 being suggested, Mr Taylor?
- 10:09:17 10 A. Well, that's a lie and there's many other I'm sure as we
  - 11 go through this I will point out many other lies that this
  - 12 witness told regarding his recruitment, how he was recruited,
  - 13 where he met Foday Sankoh first, where he didn't meet him. As I
  - 14 listened to that testimony as I sat in this Court, there were
- 10:09:37 15 many lies. And as we go through it, I'm sure we'll point to
  - other lies that he told about places that he met Sankoh, where he
  - 17 didn't or did. Its all a lie. He never I was never present
  - 18 there. I did not hover or sit over any map. I never discussed
  - 19 any strategies or plans with Sankoh because I was not there, and
- 10:09:56 20 whatever he said along those lines are all blatant lies. That's
  - 21 all they are.
  - 22 Q. Well, I'm sorry, Mr Taylor, but I have to go through it.
  - 23 A. I understand that.
  - 24 Q. I have to give you an opportunity of dealing with these
- 10:10:25 suggestions. Because what is suggested is that you came up with
  - 26 a plan which involved three attacks on Sierra Leone: The first
  - 27 was through Voinjama, Foya, and that route was to lead to an
  - 28 attack on Koindu; the second was from Vahun to Bomaru, and that
  - 29 would lead to an attack in Kailahun District; and then finally an

- 1 attack in Pujehun District aimed at Zimmi. You are said to be
- the architect of that plan, Mr Taylor. It's quite specific.
- 3 You're there in your red T-shirt and camouflage trousers, sitting
- 4 over a shell map, surrounded by your senior officers, planning
- 10:11:15 5 the route, dominating the meeting. Do you understand?
  - 6 A. I do. That's a lie. But I can see that the witness is
  - 7 very informed. He's very well informed, as we all know, and I'm
  - 8 sure he's using his own expertise to build up this lie because we
  - 9 know who the witness is and I listened to him and his oratory and
- 10:11:46 10 all that kind of stuff. He's lying. I was not planning anything
  - 11 with anybody, and I'm sure he's using his own knowledge of his
  - 12 area because it just never happened. I don't care how he turns
  - 13 it. I was not present at any meeting. I did not plan with
  - 14 anybody. I did not engage anyone. I did not conspire with
- 10:12:07 15 anyone, knew nothing about that situation that was developing
  - that they had put together with Anthony Mekunagbe. Had nothing
  - 17 to do with it whatsoever, no.
  - 18 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, prior to February of 1991, had you been to
  - 19 Si erra Leone?
- 10:12:28 20 A. No, I had all through my growing up days I had never,
  - 21 never been to Sierra Leone.
  - 22 Q. What about on that occasion when you went to meet with
  - 23 Momoh?
  - 24 A. Okay, Freetown, I went to Freetown, yes. Flew in, flew
- 10:12:47 **25** out.
  - 26 Q. Had you been to any other part of Sierra Leone apart from
  - 27 Freetown?
  - 28 A. No other part of Sierra Leone. No other part. Flew into
  - the airport and flew out.

- 1 Q. Did you know, for example, the terrain in Kailahun
- 2 District?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. Or in Pujehun District?
- 10:13:09 5 A. No
  - 6 Q. Did you know where army barracks were located?
  - 7 A. No.
  - 8 Q. Did you know where the army of Sierra Leone were deployed?
  - 9 A. No, no.
- 10:13:28 10 Q. Now, who is Sam Larto, Mr Taylor?
  - 11 A. Sam Larto was one of my Special Forces.
  - 12 Q. Was there any link between Sam Larto and Anthony Mekunagbe?
  - 13 A. Yes, they were like brothers.
  - 14 Q. Because it is said that Larto was present at this meeting.
- 10:14:03 15 Does that surprise you?
  - 16 A. No, it does not surprise me.
  - 17 Q. Why not?
  - 18 A. Well, Larto was very close to Mekunagbe and Larto was one
  - 19 of those that got executed too now, so Larto was very close to --
- 10:14:18 20 Q. Executed when?
  - 21 A. During the same period. He came up with another situation
  - 22 where he had murdered several civilians and he was tried and
  - 23 executed. But he was associated with Mekunagbe and Varney.
  - 24 Q. And who?
- 10:14:39 25 A. Oliver Varney.
  - 26 Q. Michael Peagar, who is he?
  - 27 A. No, the pronunciation is, I think, Paygar.
  - 28 Q. Paygar?
  - 29 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Who is he?
- 2 A. Michael Paygar was Special Forces and commander of the
- 3 Executive Mansion Guard unit.
- 4 Q. Yes, he is described as the Executive Mansion guard
- 10:15:17 5 battalion commander, yes?
  - 6 A. Yes, Special Forces, Michael Paygar, yes.
  - 7 Q. In a previous life, what was Anthony Mekunagbe's
  - 8 empl oyment?
  - 9 A. Anthony Mekunagbe was a former police officer. He had
- 10:15:41 10 worked with the Liberian National Police.
  - 11 Q. And was he commander of the 2nd Battalion of the NPFL?
  - 12 A. Camp Naama area, that could have been the 2nd Battalion
  - 13 area because the location of the country determined where the
  - 14 battalion was located. That could have been the 2nd Battalion
- 10:16:18 15 area. It was called a battalion, but that was a divisional area,
  - 16 yeah.
  - 17 Q. At this time, Mr Taylor, in February 1991, was there a unit
  - 18 within the NPFL called the Strike Force unit?
  - 19 A. Yes, there was developing I would say developing a Strike
- 10:16:51 20 Force unit, yes.
  - 21 Q. Who was the commander of that unit?
  - 22 A. These commanders changed so much. At the time of the -
  - 23 there were several there. I know John Teah was commander at one
  - 24 time. We also '91, February, I really can't recall
- 10:17:22 25 specifically who was the commander at that time, because they
  - 26 changed battalion commanders frequently, so I don't quite recall.
  - 27 Q. Well, help me with this: In February 1991, can you recall
  - 28 now what Sam Tuah's role was within the NPFL?
  - 29 A. Sam Tuah could have very well like I said, the unit was

- 1 developing. Sam Tuah was not a Special Force, so a developing
- 2 unit like that, he very well could have been given a task.
- 3 February 1991, I can't be too certain, because if this is a new
- 4 unit it would be commanded by a Special Force. He could play a
- 10:18:31 5 major role in it, but I don't think he would be in command
  - 6 position because all new commanders all new areas were
  - 7 commanded by Special Forces. So I would think that he would be
  - 8 associated maybe in the deputy role and later takes command, but
  - 9 by this early stage, I would say that he was he could not have
- 10:18:57 10 been the commander of that unit, of the Strike Force unit
  - i mmediately.
  - 12 Q. Does the name Charles Timber mean anything to you?
  - 13 A. These are all junior commandos. These are not Special
  - 14 Forces. I know of Charles Timber, yes.
- 10:19:17 15 Q. Do you recall a situation where Charles Timber was a deputy
  - 16 to Sam Tuah?
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 Q. When was that?
  - 19 A. This was the time I would say about August/September of
- 10:19:42 20 1991. The unit that was sent the special operations unit that
  - 21 was sent to the borders with Liberia and Sierra Leone to protect,
  - 22 that unit that ended up finally in that Top 20, Top 40 fight, Sam
  - 23 Tuah commanded that unit; Charles Timber was there. That's the
  - 24 uni t.
- 10:20:04 25 Q. Charles Timber was there in what role?
  - 26 A. As deputy to Sam Tuah at the time.
  - 27 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, help me, when did Dr Manneh come to
  - 28 Li beri a?
  - 29 A. In or around April of 1990.

- 1 Q. Of 1990, yes?
- 2 A. That's correct. 1990, yes.
- 3 Q. And was Dr Manneh a military strategist?
- 4 A. Not to my knowledge, no. I don't think like myself,
- 10:20:51 5 Manneh did not do military training. He's more of an academic
  - 6 than anything else, no. Manneh, not to my knowledge. Throughout
  - 7 my years of knowing him and my discussions, he led a revolution,
  - 8 but I don't think he had never done any, and I stand corrected on
  - 9 this, but he never discussed that with me.
- 10:21:17 10 MR GRIFFITHS: Mr President, I'm sorry, but I think we may
  - 11 be constrained to go into private session because I cannot deal
  - 12 with the detail of the testimony of this witness without and
  - 13 give the witness an opportunity of properly putting his account
  - 14 before the Court unless we go into private session. I'm sorry.
- 10:21:37 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. We'll do that, Mr Griffiths.
  - 16 How long do you estimate the private session would be? I'm not
  - 17 trying to put any limitations on you.
  - 18 MR GRIFFITHS: No, not at all. I think at the very least
  - 19 we're going to be in private session for about an hour or so
- 10:21:51 20 until the morning break.
  - 21 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. Well, members of the public,
  - 22 in order to protect the identity of a witness whose evidence is
  - 23 now being discussed, we're going to have to go into private
  - 24 session. I repeat that the public will be able to see the
- 10:22:09 25 proceedings but not hear the proceedings.
  - 26 Court Manager, could you please put the Court into private
  - 27 sessi on.
  - 28 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
  - 29 the transcript, pages 29464 to 29497, was

1	extracted and sealed under separate cover, as	
2	the proceeding was heard in private session.]	
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1 [Open session] 2 MS I RURA: Your Honour, we're in open session. MR GRIFFITHS: 3 4 Mr Taylor, I would now like to show you, please, exhibit number P-54. Now, Mr Taylor, the particular testimony we're 12:02:36 5 looking at now included reference to this diagram which is said 6 7 to reflect the NPFL command structure at the time of the Sierra Leonean invasion. Do you follow me? 8 Α. Yes. And you will note that you're in charge. Do you see that? 12:03:36 10 Q. Yes. 11 Α. 12 Q. And then beneath you we have the Executive Mansion Guard 13 commanded by Michael Paygar, the battlefield commander Isaac 14 Musa; is that correct? Well, he is called the general officer commanding. I don't 12:04:04 15 Α. know where he got battlefield from, no. 16 17 Q. And then we have military advisers which include 18 Foday Sankoh and Dr Manneh, yes? 19 Α. Yes. 12:04:24 20 And beneath that, as we see, we have the Strike Force unit 21 commanded by Sam Tuah and Charles Timber, the Ghankay Tigers, 22 Mr Taylor? 23 Know nothing about them. Α. 24 And then we have the battle group commander as Sam Larto, 12:04:51 25 beneath whom we have the 1st Battalion, the 2nd Battalion, the

6th Battalion and other battalion commanders.

27

28

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SCSL - TRIAL CHAMBER II

Battalion commander, Mr Taylor, bearing in mind this is supposed

to reflect the situation as of - towards the end of March 1991,

do you understand what is meant by combat battalion capture

Note, under 1st

- 1 Monrovi a?
- 2 A. I really don't know what this witness was talking about
- 3 here. I really, really do not know what he means.
- 4 Q. As far as you're aware, in March 1991, had the NPFL
- 12:05:44 5 captured Monrovia?
  - 6 A. No. Not only had we not captured Monrovia in March 1991,
  - 7 the NPFL never captured Monrovia at any time. No
  - 8 Q. Then we see right at the bottom a number of names in two
  - 9 boxes. Now, Mr Taylor, help us. Does this diagram represent any
- 12:06:22 10 kind of reality to you?
  - 11 A. Well, the way how you know, the way the question comes,
  - 12 counsel, I may need some help when you talk about when you say
  - 13 "any kind of reality", yes. Some kind of reality, but, I mean --
  - 14 Q. All right. Tell us the "some" part and then we'll look at
- 12:06:48 15 the "none" part later.
  - 16 A. This chart does not represent there are two points:
  - 17 Charles Taylor is the leader of the NPFL; that's factual. The
  - 18 next factual thing on this is about Michael Paygar being the -
  - 19 Michael Paygar commands the Executive Mansion Guard battalion.
- 12:07:11 20 Oliver Varney is responsible for 6th Battalion. Like I said, I'm
  - 21 not sure if the 2nd Battalion is in that area, but Naama, Anthony
  - 22 Mekunagbe is responsible.
  - 23 But now when we come to reality, these people and these
  - 24 battalions must be known by this witness because these are the
- 12:07:33 25 people that he and his boss are dealing with. So reality for me
  - 26 here is objective. That's why I say, when you begin to mix facts
  - 27 up with lies, it takes a longer time to unscramble it. So he
  - 28 knows these people. There is a 6th Battalion commanded by Oliver
  - 29 Varney. There is a Mekunagbe. There is a Michael Paygar. There

- 1 is a Charles Taylor, okay. But when you mix it up in this way,
- 2 if you look at the chart, for me, I'll throw this entire chart
- 3 out because it does not represent if we're looking at you know,
- 4 10 per cent is a score, but one would look at 90 per cent as a
- 12:08:14 5 better score than 10. So I will give this whole nonsense here 10
  - 6 per cent because it doesn't represent there is none of this -
  - 7 all this lie, this is somebody with a military background that
  - 8 drew up with him this lie, but it does not represent the
  - 9 percentage of facts in it, for me, it does not represent the
- 12:08:34 10 reality in line with your question. So that's why I'm saying
  - 11 it's subjective.
  - 12 Q. In any event, someone went on to say that this diagram
  - 13 accurately reflects the NPFL command structure, vis-a-vis the
  - 14 RUF, at the time the invasion of Sierra Leone was planned.
- 12:08:57 15 A. Total nonsense. Total unadulterated nonsense. It does not
  - 16 represent the NPFL that I was in charge of. Maybe what they -
  - 17 their RUF, but this does not represent the NPFL that I was the
  - 18 leader of. That's total nonsense.
  - 19 Q. And someone was later asked: You will see on that diagram
- 12:09:22 20 a box titled Ghankay Tigers (SBUs):
  - "Q. ... What was that unit?
  - 22 A. This was the Small Boy Unit that were part of the
  - 23 Executive Mansion Guard. This Small Boys Unit that were
  - 24 part of the Executive Mansion Guard.
- 12:09:44 25 Q. And to your knowledge was this Small Boy Unit involved
  - in the initial attack on Sierra Leone?
  - 27 A. Yes, some of them were involved."
  - 28 What do you say to that, Mr Taylor?
  - 29 A. It's a lie. It's a lie. It's a lie. It's a lie.

- 1 Q. You understand what the person is saying, that small boys
- 2 attached to your Executive Mansion Guard were sent by you to
- 3 Sierra Leone to fight. You do understand that, don't you?
- 4 A. Yes, I hear what you are saying.
- 12:10:20 5 Q. And that they carried the name the Ghankay Tigers. Now,
  - 6 Ghankay is part of your name, isn't it?
  - 7 A. Counsel, this is yes, that's my name but this is not
  - 8 true. Ghankay is my name. Somebody takes my name and puts it -
  - 9 some group calling itself Ghankay Tigers then the other day we
- 12:10:41 10 heard about the Scorpion unit now we have the Tigers unit. These
  - 11 are all made up stories. All made up. All made up. The
  - 12 Scorpi on unit was yesterday. Somebody was Leading a Scorpi on
  - 13 unit that never existed. Now we've got the Tigers unit. Maybe
  - 14 somebody else will come up with another unit. Just as they go
- 12:11:06 15 along they make up.
  - 16 Q. In any event, that person we can remove the diagram now,
  - 17 please. Were Dr Manneh and Sankoh military advisers to you,
  - 18 Mr Taylor?
  - 19 A. Never. Never. Dr Manneh came to me in around April of
- 12:11:48 20 1990. Dr Manneh was not involved in any military operation or
  - 21 advising me militarily. Dr Manneh moved in different parts of
  - 22 the liberated territory at that time, really teaching and
  - 23 speaking to groups about the aims and objectives of the
  - 24 revolution, advising them, making sure that the structures of
- 12:12:15 25 government because we never dismantled the civilian structure
  - 26 during that time. And he travelled up and down as an academic
  - 27 dealing with these matters. Never talked military with me, no.
  - 28 That's not true.
  - 29 Q. What about Foday Sankoh then?

Α.

2 - Foday Sankoh and I discussed military at the time that we came together, but that military was about the security of the border 3 4 and what our people were supposed to be doing over there. That's the type of military we discussed, of how to keep the ULIMO 12:12:59 5 people from infiltrating. That was the time and I'm talking 6 7 about 1991 - late 1991, August or thereabouts, during that time. 8 But Foday Sankoh was never a military adviser to me at all. Now, this person was asked this question: "Q. Now this invasion of Sierra Leone, what was 12:13:34 10 Foday Sankoh's role in the invasion? 11 12 Well, Sankoh at the time was the leader of the RUF who" 13 - incidentally - "took instructions from the NPFL 14 I eadershi p. 12:13:52 15 So what part did he actually play in this initial invasion of Sierra Leone? 16 17 Well, I mean he was there most of the time in giving moral support to the fighters and he frequented the various 18 19 command posts for himself but he didn't really at that 12:14:11 20 point in time have any command and control over the 21 fighters as what and what was being done on the ground." 22 Do you understand that, Mr Taylor? You're in charge. 23 Yes, that's what they are trying to portray but that's what 24 led them through all of this disinformation in this whole 12:14:38 25 indictment. They had dreamed up their own scheme according to 26 their own mood and they just fill it in. Foday Sankoh - I have 27 sent in, what this witness says, first hundreds and then followed 28 by thousands and now here I am, Foday Sankoh is in other words a figurehead and I am the boss. It's a blatant, blatant lie. 29

Even at the time - even at the time that Foday Sankoh

- 1 Blatant lie.
- 2 Q. "Q. Now at the time of the this initial invasion where was
- 3 Foday Sankoh based?
- 4 A. He was based in Gbarnga."
- 12:15:21 5 This is in March 1991, Mr Taylor. At that time were you
  - 6 based in Gbarnga?
  - 7 A. No, I was not even in Gbarnga yet. I was not even in
  - 8 Gbarnga at that time. I was living in Harbel.
  - 9 Q. "Q. And what was located in Gbarnga?
- 12:15:36 10 A. Mr Taylor and the Executive Mansion were located in
  - 11 Gbarnga. That was their headquarters and I mean he was
  - 12 based there as well."
  - 13 What do you say, Mr Taylor?
  - 14 A. That's not true. I get based in Gbarnga later on. I moved
- 12:15:56 15 to Gbarnga after the building that was being used by the what we
  - 16 call superintendent, but it's called governors in other places,
  - 17 was in fact destroyed during a little bit of fighting. After we
  - 18 decided the NPFL decided that we would organise what we called
  - 19 the National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly Government, that's
- 12:16:19 20 that NPRAG, we decided that we would fix that place and after
  - 21 several debates some people were debating use Buchanan as the
  - 22 headquarters, some people said let's move to Gbarnga. We started
  - 23 doing some repairs and work in Gbarnga and I didn't move to
  - 24 Gbarnga until about July of 1991 before I moved my headquarters,
- 12:16:47 25 our assembly of the Parliament moved also to Gbarnga, but that
  - 26 was in July of 1991. I had nothing to do with Gbarnga before
  - 27 then.
  - 28 Q. "Q. Where did you actually fight during this invasion?
  - 29 A. I fought along with Timber at Bomaru, that is Kailahun

- 1 District, and the next morning I went to Bomi Hills and I
- 2 link up with Oliver Varney and One Man One. So I spent
- 3 most of the time in Bomi, in Pujehun District.
- 4 Q. Now you said to went to Bomi Hills. Is there another
- 12:17:24 5 name for Bomi Hills?
  - 6 A. Tubmanburg."
  - Now you agree with that, don't you, Mr Taylor; another name
  - 8 for Bomi Hills is Tubmanburg?
  - 9 A. Yes, you can say that, yeah.
- 12:17:36 10 Q. Now help us with this though, Mr Taylor:
  - "I fought along with Timber at Bomaru, that is Kailahun
  - 12 District, and the next morning I went to Bomi Hills."
  - Can you get from Kailahun to Bomi Hills to be there for the
  - 14 next morning?
- 12:18:01 15 A. I don't know the distances but we may have to look on the
  - 16 map for that. I don't know Sierra Leone. I don't know the
  - 17 distances what we're talking about. I really don't. I really
  - 18 don't know. If it's close by it's possible, but I don't know the
  - 19 distance. I don't know the distances.
- 12:18:24 20 Q. Tubmanburg is near?
  - 21 A. Tubmanburg is all the way near Cape Mount County. That's
  - 22 going west towards the ocean.
  - 23 Q. And Kailahun borders Lofa County?
  - 24 A. No, then it would not be possible. Then it would not be
- 12:18:39 25 possible by the next morning. How do you get there? There are
  - 26 no roads. There are no how would he get there? There are no
  - 27 highways, there are no roads. So if you're in if you say Lofa
  - 28 County area to come all the way down to Bomi no, no, no,
  - 29 no, no. Because you're walking. It would take you a few days.

- 1 It's not possible.
- 2 Q. But the next morning, line 6, page 2226?
- 3 A. That's not that's a part of the whole lie. It's not
- 4 possible to leave from if you say I don't have them but I
- 12:19:14 5 take your word it's true. If you say Kailahun is up around the
  - 6 Lofa County area, but where would be pass? Because inside Sierra
  - 7 Leone most of the areas are being government forces, okay. Or
  - 8 the Liberian side that means he would have to come from
  - 9 Mendekoma, Foya. He would have to travel down through the entire
- 12:19:39 10 | length of the Gola, the Kpelle Forest, come through all the way
  - 11 through Vahun, down Sawmill to get down to Bomi. Walking, which
  - 12 would be the only way that it would happen, it would take a good
  - three days of walk. We're talking about more than 1,000
  - 14 kilometres coming down from Mendekoma down to Bomi Hills. If you
- 12:20:08 15 look I would say about more than 1,000 kilometres. He can't do
  - 16 it overnight.
  - 17 Q. One Man One, Mr Taylor, I've asked you before, who is it?
  - 18 A. I don't know One Man One.
  - 19 Q. Did Oliver Varney have a deputy called One Man One to your
- 12:20:25 **20** knowl edge?
  - 21 A. No, not to my knowledge. Not to my knowledge. And just to
  - 22 speak generally about it, and I think even I can say specifically
  - 23 about it, at that time in the NPFL because this I do not know
  - 24 who is he referring to One Man One, but it would have to be a
- 12:20:47 25 Special Force. The Special Forces if Oliver Varney is
  - 26 commander, his deputy must be another Special Forces. So it's
  - 27 not a junior person. And I do not know if there's a Special
  - 28 Forces that they called One Man One that I do not know, but if
  - 29 this One Man One is other than a Special Force, and I would want

2 If One Man One is not a - if he's a Special Force I would suggest that he would have said - I don't want to say I'm 3 4 misrepresenting what the witness said. I guess he would have said and another Special Force. 12:21:29 5 But it is highly unlikely that anyone other than a Special 6 7 Force would be the immediate deputy to a commander at that time. All the senior command positions were held by Special Forces. 8 one other than the Special Forces. Battalion commanders, even as low as some company commanders were Special Forces. So this One 12:21:48 10 Man One, I don't know him. I don't know him. 11 12 I tell you, maybe to help the Court a little bit, this 13 expression One Man One, I'm not sure if they are calling it a 14 person. I know the expression One Man One. Now if this will help, what the expression was, the One Man One was an expression 12:22:16 15 that was used in describing a weapon. The Americans had an old 16 17 rifle called the M1. It took about, oh, if I'm not right, three or maybe six rounds. It's called an M1 rifle and it was not 18 19 those type of automatic things that you can fire and fire. So 12:22:59 20 the Special Forces used to like the M1 because it fired at a 21 longer distance. And they used to say that for every one shot, 22 it will be one man. So maybe if this would help, I don't know of a person 23 24 called but there's an expression used describing a weapon called 12:23:20 25 the M1, okay. It's a very old type American rifle called the M1. 26 I don't know if maybe we can get a picture of it or anybody may 27 help in the future but it's called an M1. That's what I know 28 that expression to mean, but not a person. I know it as an 29 expression describing a weapon as for every one round there

to believe if the person - let me slow down before I - I'll slow

- 1 should be one man. They call the weapon my One Man One. So
- 2 that's what I know about that weapon.
- 3 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, were you aware of any mining being
- 4 conducted by Oliver Varney in the area of Zimmi in Sierra Leone?
- 12:23:58 5 A. No, I was not aware. And that would have been very
  - 6 shocking because where Oliver Varney was commanding, Bomi Hills
  - 7 and Cape Mount, that's the diamond belt in Liberia. So I don't
  - 8 see how, all of the places we've talked about, we've heard about
  - 9 Lofa bridge, that's the diamond belt. And why would he lead -
- 12:24:18 10 that's the diamond that's one of the principal diamond regions
  - 11 even according to the map. Why would he leave it and go to
  - 12 Zimmi? But I was not aware. And if I had heard it, he would
  - 13 never have been commander there any more because he was not sent
  - 14 there to mine, even in Bomi.
- 12:24:37 15 Q. Did he provide you with any diamonds, Mr Taylor?
  - 16 A. No, no, no, no, why would Oliver bring me diamonds?
  - 17 No.
  - 18 Q. Yes. Can we have a look at another document, please,
  - 19 Mr Taylor? Another diagram, I should say. Now, Mr Taylor, this
- 12:25:44 20 diagram is said to reflect the command structure of the RUF
  - 21 between March to June 1991.
  - 22 A. Uh-huh.
  - 23 Q. Now, you see once again you're at the top.
  - 24 A. Yes.
- 12:26:04 25 Q. Yes?
  - 26 A. Yes.
  - 27 Q. And then we see that somewhere floating in the middle is
  - the Leader, Foday Sankoh, yes?
  - 29 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Now, we're told that Sankoh received a briefing from
- 2 Mansaray and Tarawalli during the initial invasion. Do you know
- 3 anything about that?
- 4 A. Nothing whatsoever.
- 12:26:46 5 Q. And that Mansaray, that's Rashid Mansaray, took orders from
  - 6 One Man One based in Zimmi. Know anything about that?
  - 7 A. Know nothing about it.
  - 8 Q. Now, does this diagram reflect anything that within your
  - 9 knowledge, Mr Taylor?
- 12:27:11 10 A. No. But, I mean, could we bring it together so we can see
  - 11 the whole thing so we can point out this map?
  - 12 Q. I think that's the best we can do, Mr Taylor. What do you
  - 13 say?
  - 14 A. Yes. Now, the first diagram that we saw reflected the
- 12:27:48 15 position as of March. This now is as of March to June? I can't
  - 16 see that, but I remember. I thought you said March to June.
  - 17 Q. Yes.
  - 18 A. So that means the entire if this is a reflection of the
  - 19 command the command structure in the NPFL, the RUF command
- 12:28:14 20 structure after the invasion of Sierra Leone and by indication is
  - 21 also the NPFL command structure, so that means that within two
  - 22 and a half, three months there have been a total a total change
  - 23 of the structure.
  - 24 Q. Well, perhaps what we ought to do in light of that answer,
- 12:28:32 25 Mr Taylor, is to bring the other one back so that we can see how
  - the change has come about.
  - 27 A. Revolutionary change in the command structure.
  - 28 Q. Because you will note that in the second diagram the
  - 29 military advisers have gone.

- 1 A. Gone, yes.
- 2 Q. The Executive Mansion Guard has gone.
- 3 A. Gone.
- 4 Q. The Ghankay Tigers have gone. And help me, because you've
- 12:29:16 5 got it in front of you, Mr Taylor, who else is gone?
  - 6 A. But that's what I need to see. That's what I because I
  - 7 mean, this this type of revolutionary structure or change of a
  - 8 military structure means that something significant took place.
  - 9 Now, I do not know how, like I was about to point out --
- 12:29:36 10 Q. Well, please do.
  - 11 A. -- the advisers, just like you say --
  - 12 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, perhaps it might be easier if you just
  - 13 momentarily change seats. Hold the other diagram in your hand
  - 14 and just tell us from your viewpoint how things have changed.
- 12:29:58 15 First of all, that diagram on the overhead, how is it entitled?
  - 16 A. This is the NPFL command structure here --
  - 17 Q. 1990 to 1991?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. Yes?
- 12:30:14 **20** A. Uh-huh.
  - ${\tt Q.}$  And then we have the structure command structure after
  - the invasion March-June 1991.
  - 23 A. Yes.
  - 24 Q. So help us, what's changed?
- 12:30:31 25 A. You have the the advisers are gone. You also have, like
  - 26 you say, the Strike Force unit and the Ghankay Tigers in this -
  - 27 the first diagram are attached to the Executive Mansion Guard
  - 28 command. So if we look on this map, we can see here that now we
  - 29 have the 6th Battalion change is connected directly to Larto as

- 1 battle group commander and the --
- 2 Q. So --
- 3 A. I mean, if this is a reflection of the NPFL and RUF
- 4 command, I would ask the question: What's happening to all these
- 12:31:18 5 other units? Why have they been dissolved and they are gone?
  - 6 Because when you look at the structure, it means that these have
  - 7 already been, what, disbanded or what? I don't understand. So
  - 8 this is not a reflection of the NPFL, because even to assume that
  - 9 this is the case, we just see this is a significant, significant
- 12:31:42 10 change over a very short period of time, which would not I
  - 11 mean, so this does not reflect anything.
  - 12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Ms Hollis.
  - MS HOLLIS: Yes, Mr President, we're getting into an awful
  - 14 lot of discussion when what was left out in the description of
- 12:31:59 15 the second diagram was RUF command structure, not NPFL. NPFL
  - doesn't show on the second diagram. So perhaps with that in mind
  - 17 it would assist the witness.
  - 18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. That's the difference pointed out
  - in the diagrams.
- 12:32:20 20 THE WITNESS: Yeah, but it does not assist me,
  - 21 Mr President, with due respect to the counsel, because this
  - 22 second diagram has Taylor, Isaac Musa, Sam Larto, Sam Tuah.
  - 23 These are all Liberian commanders. So it does not assist me,
  - 24 with all respect.
- 12:32:38 **25** MR GRIFFITHS:
  - 26 Q. Have a look at the first one again, Mr Taylor. Do you see
  - 27 some RUF members at the bottom of that one? The first diagram.
  - 28 A. The first diagram, there are RUF members all the way at the
  - 29 bottom as members, members, coming all down.

- 1 Q. Right. Were they all members of the NPFL --
- 2 A. Never.
- 3 Q. -- as suggested by my learned friend?
- 4 A. Never.
- 12:32:58 5 Q. So that we you should distinguish between the two --
  - 6 MS HOLLIS: I didn't say that.
  - 7 PRESIDING JUDGE: I didn't hear Ms Hollis say that.
  - 8 MR GRIFFITHS:
  - 9 Q. Well, were those people part of the NPFL command structure,
- 12:33:13 10 Mr Taylor?
  - 11 A. They were never a part of the NPFL command structure.
  - 12 That's why I said, this should not even be a part of this first
  - 13 map that was presented and that's why I say, in reality, this map
  - 14 really means nothing to me. But if this second map, which the
- 12:33:27 15 | Learned counsel is right, mentions RUF command structure at the
  - 16 time, but in reality, when you look at the map, the map is really
  - 17 giving all of the senior commanders here are supposed are NPFL
  - 18 commanders. So, in reality, what they are saying about this map,
  - 19 this map is supposed to be indicating here that the entire
- 12:33:49 20 command and control of the RUF at this time is being handled by
  - 21 all senior NPFL individuals. That's what I disagree with.
  - 22 Q. Preci sel y.
  - 23 A. So while it reflects at the top RUF command structure, the
  - 24 bottom shows that this is an NPFL command and control situation.
- 12:34:10 25 That's what I disagree with.
  - 26 Q. Let's put those two diagrams away, shall we. Now,
  - 27 Mr Taylor, I want to remind you now of some testimony, page 2231:
  - 28 "Q. ... Now, this attack on Sierra Leone, where did the
  - 29 fighters get their arms and ammunition?

29

2 initially around the 20th before the invasion. Mr Taylor went to Voinjama from Gbarnga with Sam Tuah ... 3 4 with Sam Tuah and Sam Larto, those arms and ammunition were in the truck of Mr - Special Forces commander Sam Larto was 12:35:18 5 the battle group. They provided the ammunition. 7 You say on the 20th, the 20th of what month? 8 Α. The 20th of March." So do you understand, Mr Taylor? Uh-huh. Α. 12:35:36 10 Three days before the invasion arms were provided by the 11 Q. 12 NPFL. Do you know anything about that? 13 Α. Know nothing. Know nothing about it. And I think the generalisation of this NPFL, I would not quarrel if he said that 14 12:35:55 15 three days before the invasion he got arms from Larto and Mekunagbe. I don't have a quarrel with it. I don't know whether 16 17 it's true or not. But what I do know, if we continue using this I would almost call it a phrase, where he says the acronym, or 18 19 whatever, NPFL, when we're speaking about the NPFL, I would - one 12:36:24 20 would want to assume that you are speaking about the leadership 21 of the NPFL, okay? Now, I would say, categorically, that's not 22 true. Now, as to whether individuals in the NPFL at that time, 23 24 these commanders that we subsequently find out were involved that 12:36:40 25 are subsequently punished, okay, because of another situation, I 26 would say, categorically, I can't confirm or deny what he is 27 saying, but I know if you speak about the NPFL that I am the 28 leader of and my senior commanders are like my Defence Minister

The arms and ammunition were provided by the NPFL,

Tom Woweiyu, we, as the NPFL, do not give this group any arms or

29

2 on. 3 Q. But this individual continues by saying this: 4 Where did you receive the other supplies you used in this initial invasion? 12:37:18 5 We received support supplies from the two battalions of 7 the NPFL, the 6th Battalion that were based in Bomi Hills under the command of Oliver Varney, as well as the 2nd 8 Battalion that were based in Voinjama under the command of Mekunagbe. " 12:37:41 10 So what do you say to that, Mr Taylor, based on your last 11 12 answer? 13 Well, like I say, he has pointed out now who he got them 14 from, and that's if, you know, if somebody wants to say, "Oh, two 12:37:56 15 commanders? That's the NPFL," I can't stop them from their But the leadership, the command of the NPFL, I as 16 assumptions. 17 the leader had no idea that these people were pulling this thing off at those two battalions and I get to find out later, and we 18 19 all know what happens to them. And I'm not suggesting that it 12:38:19 20 was - that was the cause of what happened to them, but the 21 conspiracy involved in what they were doing led to their end. 22 Now, this individual went on to suggest, Mr Taylor, that at a fairly early stage there were complaints being made about 23 24 harassment, raping, et cetera, being carried on by Liberians in 12:38:55 25 Si erra Leone. Was any such thing brought to your notice in 1991? 26 No such thing. Because - and, in fact - in fact, in 27 Liberia, 1990, going into the period in question, 1991, the rules 28 were very strict. And if such nonsense were going on in Sierra

ammunition and we are not aware of any operation of such going

Leone by Oliver Varney, then they could only do such a thing

- 1 because of their own designs and what they were carrying on.
- 2 That was not acceptable in NPFL area. If you raped, as a
- 3 soldier, you were dealt with at the harshest level of punishment
- 4 in the NPFL. Anyone will tell, we did not tolerate that. So
- 12:39:46 5 when they did their design and were kings in Sierra Leone, what
  - 6 happened, they put this design together and it backfired on them,
  - 7 and that's why they felt that they were kings on the other side
  - 8 doing what they could not have done in Liberia, unfortunately.
  - 9 Q. But this person went on to say:
- 12:40:06 10 "Q. Now, you indicated I believe that Foday Sankoh
  - 11 complained. Do you know to whom he complained?
  - 12 A. Yes. He similar did complain to Oliver Varney and in
  - fact he told me that he was on his way to Gbarnga to raise
  - the issue with Mr Taylor about the misbehaviour of
- 12:40:25 15 Mr Taylor's fighters in Pujehun District."
  - 16 Know anything about that?
  - 17 A. No, I guess he has got the time mixed up. Again sometimes
  - 18 they miss it. Foday Sankoh did complain to me in 1992 early
  - 19 1992 about some of these problems that our men our special
- 12:40:54 20 operations people had been doing in Sierra Leone before the clash
  - 21 between the two forces. I'm not sure if he is talking about this
  - 22 time. If he tries to bring it any time earlier that's not true,
  - 23 because Foday Sankoh and I were not communicating at the period
  - 24 in question. That's totally not true.
- 12:41:17 25 Q. But this person claims that this kind of behaviour led to
  - 26 several firefights between the RUF and the NPFL, Mr Taylor?
  - 27 A. Well, yes there were firefights but then again that's why
  - 28 I'm saying I don't know what time he is talking about, because
  - 29 there were firefights between the NPFL and the RUF but this was

- 1 in 1992 and the firefights that I'm aware of that occurred, there
- 2 was Top 20, Top 40, Top there were three operations that were
- 3 carried out involving firefight between the RUF and the NPFL that
- 4 I know of and this occurred in 1992 around about May. Before the
- 12:42:01 5 break-up this is what happened.
  - 6 So if he is talking about these firefights, I would say
  - 7 that he's probably got the wrong period in question. So he maybe
  - 8 and I'm only saying, this is not his testimony I'm saying
  - 9 that he's got the time mixed up because there were firefights.
- 12:42:19 10 Now, you've got a fact, firefight, placed at a wrong time, okay.
  - 11 That's all I can put it to.
  - 12 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, I'll ask you this question in general terms
  - 13 for a good reason: Were you aware of any senior RUF personnel
  - 14 arrested and detained by Oliver Varney in Liberia?
- 12:42:48 15 A. No, I'm not aware. I'm not aware of that. Not aware.
  - 16 Q. Are you aware of any RUF personnel imprisoned for killing
  - 17 NPFL fighters or executing them?
  - 18 A. No. No. That was never brought to my attention. No, I'm
  - 19 not aware of that. Because when this firefight occurred, it
- 12:43:21 20 occurred in Sierra Leone and we withdrew our people. So except
  - 21 maybe somebody was arrested in Sierra Leone before that time in
  - 22 early 1992, but I never received any report of the arrest of
  - 23 anyone or incarceration on either side. No, I'm not aware of
  - 24 that.
- 12:43:46 25 Q. Now, it is said, Mr Taylor, that there was an occasion when
  - 26 Oliver Varney said that RUF personnel had no right to detain NPFL
  - 27 fighters because they are not under the command of the RUF and
  - 28 that the NPFL boys were not being paid and so they should pay
  - 29 themsel ves?

- 1 A. I've never heard of that. I've never that kind of
- 2 situation did not get to me, no. And I don't know. But you
- 3 know, when you conspire and you do what you did, I can see how -
- 4 how authoritative Oliver wanted to be because I guess he had them
- 12:44:57 5 really tight because he had committed himself in such a way and I
  - 6 guess he could dictate terms. So I have no idea of what is going
  - on with them at this particular time. So, quite frankly, it very
  - 8 well could have happened amongst them but I really don't know.
  - 9 And if it had been serious and it was intended for us I guess it
- 12:45:22 10 would have come through the structure and I would have heard
  - 11 about it. But I never heard of this. Never.
  - 12 Q. But you understand what that's a precursor of, don't you?
  - 13 They should pay themselves. You get it?
  - 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 12:45:42 15 Q. Because later there's an Operation Pay Yourself in Sierra
  - 16 Leone?
  - 17 A. Uh-huh.
  - 18 Q. So, according to this testimony, this looks like a phrase
  - 19 which originated with one of your generals, Mr Taylor. You get
- 12:45:58 20 it?
  - 21 A. Yes. I understand that.
  - 22 O. So what are you saying about that?
  - 23 A. That's totally, totally, totally I know nothing about it
  - 24 and I don't think that Oliver in dealing with his man
- 12:46:16 25 Foday Sankoh would have wanted to do that. But I really don't
  - 26 know what's going on inside there, Sierra Leone, at the time. I
  - 27 have no clue whatsoever. I have no clue. Because Oliver knows
  - 28 that looting in NPFL area is not permitted. That's why in the
  - 29 NPFL area all businesses, schools, everything remained open.

- 1 That's just not tolerated. We provided food for our people,
- 2 free. We provided everything. Our soldiers, yes, they were not
- 3 paid, but we supported our soldiers.
- 4 Q. Now, this person went on to say that you executed most of
- 12:47:13 5 the commanders:
  - 6 "He at one point in time ordered the execution of people
  - 7 like Oliver Varney, Sam Larto, Anthony Mekunagbe, you know."
  - 8 That is, you did that, Mr Taylor?
  - 9 A. Well, what he didn't choose to do was to tell why.
- 12:47:33 10 MS HOLLIS: Can we have a page reference, please?
  - 11 MR GRIFFITHS: Page 2243, lines 2 to 7:
  - 12 Q. What were you saying Mr Taylor?
  - 13 A. That's the whole point. In fact these men were
  - 14 court-martialed, they were tried and executed. But he comes up
- 12:47:58 15 and he only says so they know on the other side that these people
  - 16 the are people that they were dealing with that are were
  - 17 conspiring to kill me and destroy the NPFL finally got caught and
  - 18 court-martialed, tried and executed and now he --
  - 19 Q. Let's just have another look at the second diagram, please.
- 12:48:32 20 Yes, that one.
  - 21 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: These diagrams have, I think, exhibit
  - 22 numbers. It would help if we could capture the numbers.
  - 23 MR GRIFFITHS: Yes. This is exhibit I don't have the
  - 24 cover sheet so I cannot assist.
- 12:49:23 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Apparently it's P-55. Exhibit P-55.
  - 26 MR GRIFFITHS: I'm grateful:
  - 27 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, looking at this diagram, according to the
  - 28 witness Sam Larto, Oliver Varney, Anthony Mekunagbe are all
  - 29 executed, yes?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Now, we don't see Anthony Mekunagbe on that diagram, but
- 3 maybe if we looked at the other exhibit, the exhibit P-54, just
- 4 to illustrate the point, Mr Taylor. Looking at this diagram,
- 12:50:22 5 yes?
  - 6 A. Yes.
  - 7 Q. We see Sam Larto as the battle group commander in the
  - 8 middle?
  - 9 A. Yes.
- 12:50:31 10 Q. According to this individual, he's executed?
  - 11 A. Yes.
  - 12 Q. Anthony Mekunagbe is executed?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. Oliver Varney is executed, yes?
- 12:50:42 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. Three key figures in the invasion of Sierra Leone are all
  - 17 executed by you. Why?
  - 18 A. Well, he misses the fourth. Sam Tuah is also executed.
  - 19 Q. Right?
- 12:51:02 20 A. Because in their plan, they put together a group called
  - 21 Black Kadaffa, an anti-NPFL group, later on to kill me and
  - 22 destroy the Leadership of the NPFL. They were arrested and
  - 23 that's what I keep telling this Court. It was at that
  - 24 investigation that it comes out that they were involved with
- 12:51:31 25 Foday Sankoh. That's why they are killed, Black Kadaffa. The
  - 26 entire NPFL group that involved Sierra Leoneans and Liberians
  - 27 that they brought across the border and ended up in the Bong
  - 28 Mines area to destroy us. That's why they were arrested and they
  - 29 were tried. They were tried. One of them was not executed.

- 1 That was Anthony Mekunagbe. He died in prison during that time.
- 2 But he was not executed, but he was being held for that reason.
- 3 Q. But effectively four key figures in this hierarchy, yes?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 12:52:11 5 Q. End up either dying or being executed by you?
  - 6 A. That is correct.
  - 7 Q. Yes, let's put that away, please.
  - 8 A. I'm not sure, counsel, when you say "executed by you", I
  - 9 mean, maybe I don't know. They were when you say "executed
- 12:52:53 10 by you" it's almost like I'm pulling the trigger. I'm not sure
  - 11 if that's I know that's not what you mean.
  - 12 Q. I didn't intend it to mean that way, Mr Taylor, but all
  - 13 right. Well, you explain. You tidy up my --
  - 14 A. No, no.
- 12:53:06 15 Q. You tidy up my words.
  - 16 A. No, no, no. I'm sure, but I'm just talking about the
  - 17 records because later on maybe the other side could say, "Well,
  - 18 you killed these people." Well, I mean they were executed on my
  - 19 approval to me would sound because of the legal implication of
- 12:53:34 **20** "you executed".
  - JUDGE SEBUTINDE: You are saying that they were executed
  - 22 with your approval?
  - 23 THE WITNESS: That is correct.
  - 24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, Mr Taylor, was there any due
- 12:53:49 **25** process?
  - 26 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honour, that's what I said. They
  - 27 were tried and execution was the recommendation. I approved the
  - 28 order from the tribunal. I approved the what do you call it?
  - 29 The result of the tribunal and their recommendation. I approved

- 1 it, yes.
- 2 MR GRIFFITHS:
- 3 Q. Mr Taylor, as far as you're aware, did you have a protocol
- 4 called Musa Cisse based in la Cote d'Ivoire?
- 12:55:21 5 A. Based on your question, no.
  - 6 Q. Is there an alternative explanation beyond my question?
  - 7 A. Well, at the time Musa Cisse was living in la Cote
  - 8 d'Ivoire. He was not my protocol officer. So the question was:
  - 9 Did I have a protocol officer living there? I would say, no.
- 12:55:47 10 But we all know in the Court that Musa Cisse subsequently becomes
  - 11 a protocol officer, but at the time, that's why I have to say --
  - 12 Q. At which time?
  - 13 A. At the time of your question you're saying did I have a
  - 14 protocol officer living in la Cote d'Ivoire, and I said no.
- 12:56:03 15 Q. Okay.
  - 16 MR GRIFFITHS: I apologise, Mr President, but I think I may
  - 17 need to go into private session again, sadly, to deal with some
  - 18 matters.
  - 19 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. Mr Griffiths, are you able to
- 12:56:18 20 give any estimation of the time that will take?
  - 21 MR GRIFFITHS: I'm hopeful that we can conclude this before
  - 22 I unch.
  - 23 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. Thank you.
  - 24 Well, those members of the public, it is now necessary to
- 12:56:32 25 go into a private session to protect the identity of a witness
  - 26 who is subject of a protective measures order of this Court.
  - 27 That means, as I've said before, that the public will be able to
  - 28 continue to see the proceedings but will not hear the
  - 29 proceedings.

1	Court manager, could you please put the Court into private
2	sessi on?
3	[At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
4	the transcript, pages 29522 to 29537, was
5	extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
6	the proceeding was heard in private session.]
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	2	MS IRURA: Your Honour, we are in open session.
	3	MR GRIFFITHS: Thank you.
	4	PRESIDING JUDGE: The Court is in open session. Go ahead,
14:33:46	5	Mr Griffiths.
	6	MR GRIFFITHS: Before we commence can I just say there is a
	7	change in representation on this side, Mr Munyard has left us.
	8	PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. Thank you.
	9	MR GRIFFITHS:
14:33:55	10	Q. Now, Mr Taylor, before we adjourned for lunch I was talking
	11	about a meeting with one Ibrahim Bah in Ivory Coast. Do you
	12	recall that?
	13	A. Yes.
	14	Q. Now this individual goes on, page 2291:
14:34:18	15	"Q. How did you happen to meet with him" - that's Ibrahim
	16	Bah - "in Abidjan?
	17	A. He went and met me in Abidjan. He came from Burkina
	18	Faso, where he was residing he told me and he came to see
	19	Mr Kallon, an old man who was an adviser to Sankoh."
14:34:39	20	Do you know this Mr Kallon, Mr Taylor?
	21	A. No, I don't.
	22	Q. " Mr Kallon was staying at Sankoh's residence so Bah
	23	came to pay him a visit so he met me there.
	24	Q. And what was Ibrahim Bah's position at the time?
14:34:54	25	A. He told me he was an adviser to Mr Sankoh. I told him
	26	that I had heard about him before but that was the first
	27	time for me to meet him, because he explained to me that he
	28	too had heard of me and he was one time fighting with NPFL
	29	and he was one of the military advisers to Mr Taylor but he

[Open session]

2 Was Bah in a military adviser to you, Mr Taylor? He fought in Liberia with - for his - with his 3 4 leader, but never a military adviser and he was not even a senior officer at the time. 14:35:36 5 Now, further mention is made of Mr Bah in another context and I am going now to page 2313 of the transcript of 28 January 7 8 2008 and it goes in this way, this answer: At sometime later, Sam Bockarie came from Kenema and I met with him at his residence and we went to Johnny Paul 14:36:15 10 By then Johnny Paul Koroma already had the 11 Koroma. 12 product, the required quantity of diamonds and they had the 13 money. And I was with Sam Bockarie and Johnny Paul Koroma 14 and Johnny Paul Koroma handed over the diamond to Sam 14:36:36 15 Bockarie and Sam Bockarie in turn gave it to Mr Ibrahim Bah 16 and they were supposed to leave for Monrovia. I left them 17 and went to my office. How do you know that Sam Bockarie turned over the 18 19 diamonds to Ibrahim Bah? 14:36:53 20 He did that in my presence, I was there. He did it in the presence of Johnny Paul Koroma in the office. Johnny 21 22 Paul Koroma did not directly give him the diamond. He gave it to Sam Bockarie and Sam Bockarie said, 'Mr Bah, this is 23 24 the quantity of diamonds that you requested for.' 14:37:14 25 gave it to Mr Bah in front of Johnny Paul Koroma in Johnny 26 Paul Koroma's office at Johnny Paul Koroma's residence. 27 Q. And what about the \$90,000? 28 That too was there. I mean he had the money with him and Major Johnny Paul Koroma also handed over the diamond 29

was currently in Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso."

1 money to them, to two of them. And then to your knowledge, what did I brahim Bah do 2 after receiving the diamonds and the money? 3 Well, Ibrahim Bah left Freetown along with Mosquito, 4 Sam Bockarie. Later Sam Bockarie, I understand from Issa, 14:37:51 5 went to Kenema and Ibrahim Bah left Freetown for Monrovia. And later, sometime in October he came back. 7 But he came 8 with a flight with arms and ammunition, Magburaka shipment. That's in October. He did not come to Freetown anyway. They brought the flight, the flight landed at Magburaka 14:38:15 10 airport and they had a problem with ECOMOG contingent 11 12 because there was an intelligence report that they were 13 going to bring this shipment. So Issa told me that evening 14 that they were going to Magburaka to collect the shipment. 14:38:34 15 He and Kallon went and when they went to Magburaka the cargo landed and off-load the materials. Issa Sesay was 16 17 supposed to be on board with another fellow called Fonti Kanu to go for a second flight but they had a 18 19 misunderstanding and he did not go. And by the time the 14:38:54 20 cargo flight left ten minutes - just ten minutes after they 21 left the airport, the Nigerian Alpha Jets arrived at that 22 point in time and they assaulted the airfield and they 23 dropped some bombs around the area and they destroyed the 24 But they couldn't actually destroy the materials, 14:39:11 25 the arms and ammunition that they brought in. So that 26 flight never came back again. They managed to come to 27 Freetown with all the supplies that were deposited. 28 Now, if I could stop you there for a moment, so were you present at Magburaka when this flight came? 29

- 1 A. I was not present in Magburaka."
- Now, Mr Taylor, that shipment, October 1997, did that have
- 3 anything to do with you?
- 4 A. Nothing whatsoever.
- 14:39:51 5 Q. A shipment of arms into an airfield in Magburaka near
  - 6 Makeni in Sierra Leone, were you involved in any way with that?
  - 7 A. None whatsoever. No.
  - 8 Q. Now, that was in October 1997, Mr Taylor. Prior to that do
  - 9 you recall receiving a letter from Johnny Paul Koroma requesting
- 14:40:21 10 assistance?
  - 11 A. Yes, Johnny Paul Koroma had written.
  - 12 Q. And thereafter he sent a delegation to come and see you?
  - 13 A. That is correct.
  - 14 Q. Whom you refused to see?
- 14:40:35 15 A. That is correct.
  - 16 Q. And then we have this shipment into Magburaka in October
  - 17 1997?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. Now, were you aware of Ibrahim Bah's presence in Monrovia
- 14:40:53 20 in relation to such a shipment?
  - 21 A. No, no. And even if I brahim Bah was in Monrovia, such a
  - 22 shipment could not have originated from Liberia. It could not
  - 23 have originated from Liberia. October 1997, that's about two -
  - 24 close to three months after my election as President. No change
- 14:41:25 25 in Liberia. Everybody in position. ECOMOG, everybody.
  - 26 Everybody is on the ground. I don't have weapons, I don't have
  - 27 an aircraft. If an aircraft flew in, it came from outside of
  - 28 Liberia. I knew nothing whatsoever about it. Nothing. No.
  - 29 Q. What about the name Fonti Kanu, Mr Taylor. Do you know

- 1 such an individual?
- 2 A. No, never known, never met him, no. But how did this
- 3 particular situation from what I am talking about, from what you
- 4 are mentioning here, this is happening in Freetown while Johnny
- 14:42:16 5 Paul Koroma is still in office.
  - 6 Q. Yes.
  - 7 A. So that means that if we look at the time, so we are
  - 8 talking about if the arms came in in October, I don't know when
  - these arrangements are made, but we are talking about two months
- 14:42:32 10 after I'm in office that they made these arrangements. But at
  - 11 the beginning of your reading, the 19, we see Bah is in Abidjan
  - 12 with Foday Sankoh and this group in 1996 also. So I can see the
  - 13 connection here, how Bah would get into Sierra Leone for them to
  - 14 raise money for him to go. But he did not come from Liberia. No
- 14:43:01 15 aircraft was in Liberia. We didn't have the weapons. It just
  - 16 di dn' t happen.
  - 17 Q. Now, just to complete the saga, Mr Taylor, the witness went
  - 18 on at page 2316:
  - 19 "Q. Do you know what was done with these arms and
- 14:43:22 20 ammunition that were brought back to Cockerill military
  - 21 headquarters?
  - 22 A. Yeah. The arms and ammunition that were brought to
  - Cockerill, some of them were deposited at the arms dump at
  - 24 Cockerill and the G4 in charge and some of them went to
- 14:43:39 25 the residence of Johnny Paul Koroma. And most the rest
  - were given to Issa Sesay for the RUF and they were taken to
  - 27 Kenema. On one occasion
  - 28 {Redacted}
  - 29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Ms Hollis.

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sessi on.

2 specific, and again I am very concerned that this is closed session testimony, and this type of detail should not be in 3 4 public session. PRESIDING JUDGE: Could you rephrase that question. I 14:44:10 5 think it is getting to personal details of the witness. 6 7 MS HOLLIS: And your Honour, could I ask that "I personally 8 took", that that language be redacted? PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. Well, firstly, I do think that that sentence starting "I personally took" could be linked 14:44:44 10 up with the witness's identity, so I am going to make an order to 11 12 redact that, Mr Griffiths. But I understand the difficulties you 13 are in and I just want to know: Do you think you need to go back 14 into private session or --14:45:11 15 MR GRIFFITHS: I think we may have to go back into private 16 session, Mr President. 17 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. Well, prior to going into private session, I will order that the words beginning at page 18 19 117, line 21 on my computer, but the words read, "I personally 14:45:49 20 took one of the", et cetera, down to the end of that sentence, I 21 order they be redacted and anyone in the public - any member of 22 the public who has heard those words, I order not to repeat the 23 words outside of the Court. 24 We are going to go back into private session. 14:46:12 25 this is to protect the identity of a witness who is the subject 26 of a protective measures order of this Court, and the public will 27 be able to see the proceedings, but not hear them. 28 Court manager, could you please put the Court in private

MS HOLLIS: I think we are getting a detail that was very

1	[At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
2	the transcript, pages 29544 to 29593, was
3	extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
4	the proceeding was heard in private session.]
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	1	[Open session]
	2	MS IRURA: Your Honour, we are in open session.
	3	PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Mr Taylor, we are going to
	4	adjourn until tomorrow morning at 9.30. I will remind you of the
16:29:50	5	order not to discuss your evidence. We will adjourn. Thank you.
	6	[Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.30 p.m.
	7	to be reconvened on Thursday, 24 September 2009
	8	at 9.30 a.m.]
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## INDEX

## WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENCE:

DANKPANNAH DR CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR	29440
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR GRIFFITHS	29440