



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

MONDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2008
9.30 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Mr Simon Meisenberg
Ms Carolyn Buff

For the Registry:

Ms Rosette Muzigo-Morrison
Ms Rachel Irura

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis
Mr Mohamed A Bangura
Mr Alain Werner
Ms Maja Dimitrova

**For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:**

Mr Terry Munyard
Mr Andrew Cayley

1 Monday, 4 February 2008

2 [Closed session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:03:42 5

6 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
7 the transcript, pages 2946 to 3019, was
8 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
9 the proceeding was heard in closed session.]

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1 [Open session]

2 [Upon resuming at 2.00 p.m.]

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: We seem to be missing a witness.

4 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, that is what I notice. I was
14:01:03 5 expecting that the witness would have been ushered in before
6 your Lordships came in.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is normally what happens,
8 Mr Bangura, you are quite right.

9 MS MUZIGO-MORRISON: Your Honour, we just waited for the
14:01:17 10 Prosecution to formally tell us which witness he is calling next
11 before we can bring in a witness. Thank you.

12 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, in that case the Prosecution
13 calls witness TF1-360.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I thought that was made clear prior to
14:01:35 15 the lunchtime adjournment. In fact, there was some exchange. It
16 should have been properly on record.

17 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, this witness will testify in
18 Krio.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: For purposes of record, I note we are now
14:01:57 20 in open session in the light of the submissions and statements
21 made by Ms Hollis prior to the lunchtime adjournment and I note,
22 Mr Bangura, the witness will give evidence in Krio and I will now
23 ask if the interpreter is in position. Mr Interpreter, you are
24 aware of this witness?

14:02:17 25 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honours.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very good.

27 WITNESS: TF1-360 [Sworn]

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Attendant, did the witness
29 take the oath in English?

1 MS IRURA: Your Honour, the witness is supposed to be
2 listening to Krio translation.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, please proceed.

4 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR BANGURA:

14:03:30 5 Q. Good afternoon, Mr Witness.

6 A. Good afternoon, sir.

7 Q. This afternoon I will be asking you some questions relating
8 to events that occurred in Sierra Leone.

9 JUDGE LUSSICK: Are we going to get his name and other
14:03:50 10 particulars?

11 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour:

12 Q. Can you tell the Court your name, please? Can you hear me?

13 A. I think I am supposed to speak Krio.

14 Q. Can you hear me?

14:04:16 15 A. Yes, I am getting you clearly.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, I think to repeat the
17 question would be best.

18 MR BANGURA:

19 Q. Can you state your name for the Court, Mr Witness?

14:04:29 20 A. I am Perry M Kamara.

21 Q. How old are you?

22 A. I am 37 years old.

23 Q. You were born in Makpele chiefdom, Pujehun District, in
24 Sierra Leone, correct?

14:04:51 25 A. Yes.

26 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I will spell. Makpele is
27 M-A-K-P-E-L-E.

28 THE WITNESS: The spelling is correct.

29 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness appears to be

1 listening to the English directly.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we want to be sure you are
3 hearing the Krio interpretation properly. Do you hear it
4 properly?

14:05:14 5 THE WITNESS: Not at all.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just allow me to get that sorted out.

7 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can you activate your mike?

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am just asking the Court Attendant to
9 assist the witness with the correct channel.

14:05:35 10 MS IRURA: Your Honour, the witness is on channel 3 which
11 is the Krio interpretation. I will just check to ensure that the
12 translation is going into channel 3.

13 MR BANGURA: Mr Witness --

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think maybe, Mr Bangura, in the
14:05:50 15 circumstances just pause a little to make sure. The witness has
16 told us he is not hearing it, we are just checking what is
17 happening. If you wish to, take a seat.

18 MS IRURA: The interpreters apparently didn't have their
19 microphones on, but they have now been activated.

14:07:17 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you for that. Let us try again,
21 Mr Bangura.

22 MR BANGURA: Your Honours --

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: In the circumstances I think he has
24 answered your questions clearly. Proceed on from where --

14:07:33 25 JUDGE LUSSICK: Just before you go, Mr Bangura, he gave his
26 name, was it Perry M Kamara? That was an initial, was it?

27 MR BANGURA: Yes, correct.

28 JUDGE LUSSICK: What does "M" stand for?

29 MR BANGURA:

1 Q. Can you tell the Court what the initial "M" in your name
2 stands for?

3 A. Yes, sir, "M" stands for Mohammed.

4 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, the witness had just confirmed
14:08:03 5 his place of birth and I had spelt Makpele, which is in Pujehun
6 District, Makpele Chiefdom which is in Pujehun District, and
7 Pujehun is P-U-J-E-H-U-N:

8 Q. Do you have some education, Mr Witness?

9 A. I am not getting the translation.

14:08:33 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, can you check your
11 buttons and we will check the buttons in the microphone here.

12 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness is supposed to
13 get the Krio interpretation on channel 4, not channel 3.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Channel 4.

14:09:10 15 MS MUZIGO-MORRISON: Yes, there is still nothing. Can you
16 say something a little more, Mr Interpreter. Mr Interpreter,
17 could you say something a little more.

18 MR CAYLEY: Madam President, might I suggest we check the
19 volume control because sometimes it gets switched to zero and
14:09:52 20 that is the problem.

21 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Could the interpreter please say
22 something.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, could you speak so we can
24 check this microphone.

14:11:12 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, can you hear us? The
26 Krio interpreter, can the Krio interpreter hear us?

27 MS IRURA: Your Honour, someone from - one technician from
28 the AV booth is trying to sort out the problem for now.

29 MS MUZIGO-MORRISON: Could the interpreter say something,

1 please. Okay, it is working now.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you hear clearly now?

3 THE WITNESS: Very well.

4 MR BANGURA: Shall I continue, your Honour?

14:12:43 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Bangura. Maybe just recap what
6 has already been said so the witness can confirm it now he is
7 hearing properly.

8 MR BANGURA:

9 Q. Mr Witness, I asked you just before, a short while ago, to
14:12:57 10 confirm your place of birth and you said you were born in Makpelle
11 Chiefdom in Pujehun District, is that correct?

12 A. Yes, that was what I said.

13 Q. Now, my last question was whether you have had any
14 education?

14:13:18 15 A. Yes, I attended school, I attended fifth form in 1990.

16 Q. Now, after leaving school at fifth form have you had any
17 other form of formal education?

18 A. No.

19 Q. I will ask you questions, Mr Witness, about events that
14:13:49 20 occurred in Sierra Leone quite a few years back.

21 A. Yes, I am prepared to answer you.

22 Q. You were a member of the RUF, correct?

23 A. Yes, I was a member of the RUF.

24 Q. When did you become a member of the RUF?

14:14:20 25 A. It was in 1991 when I was captured and trained. I became
26 an RUF member.

27 Q. When you say you were captured, who captured you?

28 A. It was a group of armed men that came from Liberia and said
29 they were RUF. In that group there were Sierra Leoneans and

1 Liberians. They were the ones that captured me and trained me.

2 Q. Now, can you tell this Court when in 1991 that you were
3 captured?

14:15:08

4 A. Well, for me in particular it was in April 1991, in Zimmi,
5 I was captured. I was taken to the training base together with
6 other people that includes men and women. In 1991 we were
7 trained.

14:15:33

8 Q. Mr Witness, at the time you were captured and you say you
9 were taken to the training - to a training base at Zimmi, were
10 you told anything by the persons who captured you?

14:16:04

11 A. Oh, yes. They said a lot of things. In fact, when I was
12 captured I was not alone. We were captured, we were many, male
13 and female. They said it is a war that has come to this country,
14 Foday Sankoh is the leader for the RUF that came with this war
15 from Liberia. He came along with Sierra Leoneans and Liberians
16 that Charles Taylor had asked to join them to come with the war
17 to Sierra Leone. Those of us who were --

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness is going too
19 fast. Can he please repeat.

14:16:23

20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause a minute, Mr Witness. You have to
21 speak more slowly so that the interpreter has a chance to
22 interpret what you say. So speak and then pause for a moment and
23 then continue. Do you understand? I think we will repeat part
24 of your answer at least. You said when you were captured you
25 were not alone. Continue from there, please.

14:16:42

26 MR BANGURA:

27 Q. Mr Witness, my question was were you told anything by the
28 persons who captured you? If you can be brief, just tell the
29 Court what you were told and don't speak too fast, please.

1 A. They said it is a war for this country to overthrow the APC
2 government and the war, those that brought it, Foday Sankoh is
3 the leader for the RUF who came through Liberia and also there is
4 somebody who was assisting him, who was Charles Taylor. He too
14:17:40 5 contributed fighters to come through the borders of Sierra Leone.

6 Q. Mr Witness, you have just told the Court that when you were
7 captured you were taken to a place where you were given training.
8 Do you remember the name of that place? You were captured in
9 Zimmi, you have told the Court Zimmi, but do you remember the
14:18:03 10 name of the place where you were taken to and given training?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What was the name of that place?

13 A. That place was called Gissiwulo. It is the very first
14 training base in the Pujehun District.

14:18:26 15 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, Gissiwulo is spelt
16 G-I-S-S-I-W-U-L-O:

17 Q. Mr Witness, you have told the Court that the fighters who
18 came to Sierra Leone were headed by Foday Sankoh. Can you tell
19 the Court who was the leader of the group that captured you at
14:18:49 20 the time?

21 A. Well, I was under Mosquito's group. He was the leader for
22 the group that captured our area.

23 Q. Can you describe the kind of training that you were given
24 at Gissiwulo?

14:19:17 25 A. Well, the training I received, or that we received, we were
26 trained to shoot a gun, to maintenance a gun and how to also
27 attack the enemy. We were also trained how to ambush our
28 enemies.

29 Q. Was this training given any particular name?

1 A. Yes, it was called guerilla training.

2 Q. How long did the training last for?

3 A. Well, I spent almost two months in the training base.

4 There were some that took a month, some took three months.

14:20:17 5 Q. At the end of two months did anything happen?

6 A. Yes, immediately after the two month for me and the others
7 Foday Sankoh came back to the training base and said he wants
8 some people.

9 Q. Now, just before we deal with that can you tell the Court
14:20:41 10 who were your trainers at the training base?

11 A. Those that trained us at the base were Liberians who were
12 NPFL rebels from Liberia.

13 Q. And you have just mentioned that at some point after two
14 months Foday Sankoh came to the base. Why did he come there?

14:21:12 15 A. Well, this time the reason why he went there, he said he
16 needed people who had attended school from form 3 to form 5, so
17 that they could be used for communication purposes.

18 Q. Did you get selected among this group?

19 A. Among that group, I was among the group. In fact, I was
14:21:50 20 the first person among the group that was supposed to go for that
21 particular training.

22 Q. How many of you were selected?

23 A. Yes, we were more than 12.

24 Q. Did you go for a training anywhere?

14:22:11 25 A. Yes, we were taken to a mining company where Foday Sankoh
26 made his base. That mining company were called Makpele Mining
27 Company, MMC. There all the authorities went and stayed with
28 Foday Sankoh.

29 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, Makpele is the same spelling as

1 before, Makpel e Mi ni ng Company:

2 Q. What kind of training did you get at Makpel e Mi ni ng
3 Company?

14:22:52

4 A. We went there for a radio course. We were taught how to
5 use the radio communication. Like what we were shown, we were
6 shown what a radio is, what is communication and how to - how to
7 communicate with people through the radio. We called it voice
8 procedure. From there we were shown how to install the radio.

9 Q. Who conducted this training?

14:23:23

10 A. It was Foday Sankoh himself.

11 Q. And what did he use to train you?

12 A. Well, he used a blackboard and a chalk. That was the
13 theory aspect of it. Then also we did use the radio that we also
14 used them for practical as well.

14:23:46

15 Q. How long did the training last?

16 A. Well, we spent more than a month at the training base.

17 Q. Did you complete the training?

18 A. No, we didn't complete the training.

14:24:11

19 Q. Just before we get on further with that, you mentioned that
20 you were taught how to use the radio in voice procedure. Can you
21 explain what that means?

22 A. Fine, what is meant by voice procedure in radio
23 communication, you talk - you will talk with your voice, you will
24 call the letters phonetically and then the person that is
25 receiving it will receive it the same way according to the
26 message, through the voice.

14:24:41

27 Q. Thank you. Now, you have said that you did not complete
28 the training, why?

29 A. Well, the stipulated time he gave for the completion of the

1 training, he told us he will be going to Charles Taylor to inform
2 him - for Charles Taylor to give him some radios and when he
3 returns we will complete the training. When he went to Liberia
4 we - there were some problems on the side of the government.

14:25:26 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, sorry. Mr Interpreter, you
6 are saying "he", are you referring to the witness? Who is being
7 referred to?

8 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness said "when he
9 went".

14:25:44 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

11 THE WITNESS: I am talking about Foday Sankoh.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you for the clarification.

13 MR BANGURA:

14 Q. Mr Witness, you have just said that something happened on
14:25:57 15 the side of the government after Foday Sankoh left to go to
16 Liberia. What are you referring to that occurred?

17 A. Well, what actually happened, the government forces
18 changed, started forcing us out, moving from Joru going towards
19 Gorahun Tonkia and then they were moving towards Zimmi, so he too
14:26:30 20 said he is going to consult Charles Taylor.

21 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, the witness mentioned the names
22 of two places: Joru J-O-R-U and Gorahun Tonkia is G-O-R-A-H-U-N
23 T-O-N-K-I-A, two separate words:

24 Q. So what happened? Did anything happen as a result of this
14:26:59 25 situation?

26 A. Yes, by then he had left. He said he was going for the
27 radio. When he went we didn't see him. By then the fight had
28 intensified so we entered into Liberia. When we went to Liberia
29 we didn't see him. Then some group, some group went to Bo

1 Waterside and then we went by the Mano River.

2 Q. Mr Witness, let us be clear about the situation that
3 occurred that led you to go across into Liberia. You said that
4 some problem occurred on the government side, which government
14:27:39 5 are you referring to?

6 A. By then in 1991 it was the APC government of JS Momoh and
7 also the Liberians that crossed over to Sierra Leone organised
8 themselves and formed what they call ULIMO. They joined together
9 with the government forces to push us out of Sierra Leone.

14:28:08 10 Q. Now, when you got to Liberia did anything happen there?

11 A. Yes, when we went to Liberia we had to - we were arrested.
12 They said we were RUF so we should not - we were not to run away
13 from our country, we were to organise ourselves and form a unit.

14 Q. Now, can you describe the group that actually went across
14:28:43 15 to Liberia? Who were you?

16 A. Please repeat, I didn't get you clearly.

17 Q. Can you describe the group, the composition of the group,
18 that went to Liberia?

19 A. It was NPFL and the RUF were in that group that went to
14:29:10 20 Liberia. We met some other Liberians there as well that were
21 NPFL. When we were in Liberia we saw General Peper and General
22 Devon. They assembled all of us together. They said we should
23 form a team.

24 Q. You have mentioned two names. Can you repeat those names?

14:29:42 25 A. General Peper and General Devon. They were NPFL
26 commanders.

27 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I can only make a try at Peper
28 and I spell it P-E-P-E-R and Devon, perhaps I can spell as
29 I heard it pronounced, D-E-V-O-N:

1 Q. Mr Witness, where in Liberia did you go to, which part of
2 Liberia did you go to?

3 A. It was in Cape Mount County.

14:30:22

4 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, I did not get the district
5 from the witness. Can he please repeat.

6 MR BANGURA:

7 Q. Can you repeat the name of the area in Liberia where you
8 went to, Mr Witness?

9 A. Cape Mount County, Kpopor District.

14:30:39

10 MR BANGURA: That is Cape Mount County and Kpopor is

11 K-P-O-P-O-R, K-P-O-P-O-R:

12 Q. Mr Witness, you were in Liberia and what happened there?

14:31:18

13 A. When we were in Liberia we saw the generals I have named:

14 General Devon and General Peper. They came with arms and

15 ammunition in trucks together with food. They said it was

16 Charles Taylor who sent them to organise us so that we can fight

17 back to Sierra Leone, so a meeting was called. They said we

18 should form a unit. In that meeting there we got the name of -

19 there we got the name of the unit. We called it Black Ghadafa.

14:31:52

20 This Black Ghadafa constitutes the NPFL of Liberia and the RUF.

21 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, may I spell, Black Ghadafa is

22 G-H-A-D-A-F-A:

23 Q. Continue, please.

24 A. So from there then General Devon and General Peper

14:32:17

25 appointed a commander that will lead the units that we formed.

26 That was - which was Black Ghadafa.

27 Q. Who was appointed to lead your unit?

28 A. It was Pele Boy, a Liberian, NPFL.

29 MR BANGURA: Pele, your Honours, is P-E-L-E. I think they

1 are two separate names, Pele Boy:

2 Q. Mr Witness, at this time do you remember who was the leader
3 of the NPFL?

4 A. Yes, Mr Taylor was the leader for the NPFL.

14:33:01 5 Q. Now, after you had formed the unit, Black Ghadafa, did you
6 engage in any activities?

7 A. Yes, we engaged in fighting throughout. We came to Sierra
8 Leone and we crossed the river. We came to Sierra Leone, fight
9 and then return.

14:33:24 10 Q. And what was the focus of this, the fighting that you
11 engaged in at that time?

12 A. Well, we were fighting to regain the areas we were before
13 we were pushed across the border. Then also he said if we fight
14 very strongly he will come with ammunition for us to continue our
14:33:58 15 war in Sierra Leone. That is the reason why we keep fighting
16 inside and then going back.

17 Q. Mr Witness, when you say "he" who are you referring to?

18 A. It was a message from Charles Taylor through General Devon
19 and General Peper, then after some time he too visited us.

14:34:22 20 Q. When you say "he too" visited you, who visited you?

21 A. Mr Taylor visited us at Senge.

22 MR BANGURA: Senge, your Honours, is S-E-N-G-E:

23 Q. You just mentioned Senge, where was Senge?

24 A. Senge is along the highway from Bo Waterside, going to
14:34:53 25 Monrovia.

26 Q. You said Mr Taylor visited you at Senge, is that correct?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. What happened during that visit?

29 A. This time around Mr Taylor came along with ammunition. By

1 then we were all together. General Devon was there, General
2 Peper was there, together with some of the authorities.

3 Q. Was anything said at the meeting?

14:35:38

4 A. Yes, Taylor stood before us and said this ammunition he had
5 come with was to fight very strongly and to push ULIMO out of
6 Liberia, so that the other ammunition he brought was for we, the
7 RUF. There were some arms that was written on it "RUF". He
8 brought them. It was - they distributed them to the RUF.

14:36:03

9 Q. Mr Witness, may I caution you to go a little slower when
10 you answer the questions that I ask.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Now, apart from this occasion that you say Mr Taylor
13 visited you, did you get to see him again at any other time?

14:36:29

14 MR CAYLEY: Madam President, I am not making an objection,
15 but I notice actually in my notes that we have had one date so
16 far and that is 1991, and I wonder if we can get some kind of
17 timeframe for these events, please.

18 MR BANGURA:

14:36:45

19 Q. Mr Witness, you mentioned that you had been captured in
20 April 1991. You also mentioned that you spent two months in
21 training, guerilla training, and another month in training as a
22 radio operator. Now, can you give the Court an idea what time we
23 are talking of now that you were crossing Liberia?

14:37:21

24 A. I was in Liberia from 1991 to 1992 and what I am saying now
25 is from 1991.

26 Q. Mr Witness, my last question was whether you had, on any
27 other occasion, seen Mr Taylor while you were in Liberia.

28 A. Yes, the other time, which was in 1992, I saw Mr Taylor at
29 Kakata in Liberia.

1 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, Kakata is K-A-K-A-T-A:

2 Q. What was the occasion?

3 A. Well, at that time we had been pushed out. Some of our
4 brothers had returned and entered Sierra Leone. They were in the
14:38:13 5 Pujehun area when we were in Kakata.

6 Q. When you say you had been pushed, pushed by who?

7 A. That was the ULIMO that pushed us. We retreated to Kakata.

8 Q. And what happened on this occasion that you saw Mr Taylor
9 at Kakata?

14:38:35 10 A. Well, Mr Taylor gave a message to one of his major
11 commanders, who was Isaac Musa. He was in Kakata as a commander.

12 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, Isaac, that is the name, Isaac.
13 Musa is M-U-S-A:

14 Q. What was the message?

14:39:02 15 A. What he told Isaac was that he should bring all the RUF
16 together that were in Kakata and the surrounding villages. He
17 said Foday Sankoh will collect all of them and take them to
18 Sierra Leone, they have a very big mission.

19 Q. Was he alone when he passed this message to Isaac Musa at
14:39:41 20 the time?

21 A. Well, we were on that parade ground when Foday Sankoh
22 himself came with a convoy from Sierra Leone. He, Mr Taylor, had
23 his commanders who were there together with his bodyguards.

24 Q. Now, just before we move on further you earlier said,
14:40:10 25 I believe it was in your first meeting, that the arms that
26 Mr Taylor had brought for you at Senge were distributed. To whom
27 were those arms distributed?

28 A. Well, these guns, many of it was given to the RUF because
29 some of the NPFL had guns.

1 Q. Also you have just mentioned that Mr Taylor gave a message
2 to Isaac Musa to tell you that you were going to have a big
3 mission in Sierra Leone. What did he say, or what did you
4 understand by that statement, a big mission, was it explained?

14:41:07 5 A. From that point in time I didn't understand a thing except
6 when we came to Sierra Leone I was able to understand that that
7 was the mission.

8 Q. Now, you were telling us about the arrival of Foday Sankoh
9 during that meeting. Can you continue, please.

14:41:28 10 A. When Foday Sankoh arrived at the meeting we were happy
11 because it had taken some - it had taken a long time without
12 seeing him and now he had requested for us to go back to Sierra
13 Leone, so they brought trucks. These trucks had arms and
14 ammunition covered with bags.

14:42:04 15 Q. When you said "they brought trucks", who brought trucks, or
16 could you tell under whose orders the trucks were brought?

17 A. Those trucks, it was Mr Taylor who gave Foday Sankoh
18 together with the ammunition. Those ammunitions were taken from
19 Harbel, there they got the ammunition from, because in the
14:42:31 20 meeting Mr Taylor said Sankoh had gone to collect ammunition from
21 Harbel, so therefore we should be on standby to move.

22 MR BANGURA: Harbel is H-A-R-B-E-L:

23 Q. Did anything happen?

24 A. Yes, it was not long. After two hours we saw the trucks.
14:43:03 25 Initially we saw two trucks that came. We boarded the trucks,
26 together with the arms and ammunition, and moved to Gbarnga. By
27 then Gbarnga was the headquarter for Mr Taylor in 1992.

28 Q. Which month in 1992 are we talking about, Mr Witness?

29 A. I believe it was around November, early November.

1 Q. Did you travel to Sierra Leone?

2 A. Yes, I travelled to Sierra Leone and I was not alone.

3 Q. With whom did you travel?

4 A. I travelled together with many members of the RUF,
14:43:58 5 including another high command of the RUF who was Rashid
6 Mansaray, including some Liberians.

7 MR BANGURA: Rashid is R-A-S-H-I-D. Mansaray is
8 M-A-N-S-A-R-A-Y:

9 Q. You had mentioned earlier, or you stated earlier that there
14:44:20 10 were a number of you that were pushed into Liberia from Sierra
11 Leone. Now, did all of you travel back into Sierra Leone on this
12 occasion?

13 A. No, in the first instance some men went to Sierra Leone.
14 They were based in where we called Libya that was in the Pujehun
14:44:50 15 District. There they went and based. Then another group that
16 I was in came to Kakata. That first group moved to Kailahun, but
17 every week they used to come and take some people and then take
18 them along.

19 Q. So which group were you in?

14:45:16 20 A. I was in the first group.

21 Q. Where in Kailahun did you go? Was it in Kailahun Town, or
22 was it in another location within Kailahun District?

23 A. It was in Pendembu. We were based in Pendembu. We in the
24 first group that went, we were based in Pendembu.

14:45:47 25 Q. Now, what was the situation in Pendembu at that time?

26 A. The situation in Pendembu was not good because the way the
27 war had treated Pendembu and the conditions the civilians were in
28 was not fine. It was only people carrying guns that you saw were
29 in Pendembu, together with a few civilians that were in the

1 bushes.

2 Q. When you say only people with guns, which people that had
3 guns that you saw?

4 A. It was the RUF and the NPFL.

14:46:39 5 Q. Once you arrived at Pendembu, did anything happen then?

6 A. Yes, so many things happened and so many things continued
7 to happen. When we arrived in Pendembu - when we were in
8 Pendembu they would go for manpower in Liberia with those RUF
9 persons that were there and then bring them, together with arms
10 and ammunition. When we arrived in Pendembu, those who were
11 fighters were sent to various target areas.

14:47:10

12 Q. You had said before that you started to be trained as a
13 radio operator. Now, when you got to Pendembu did you get any
14 further training at all?

14:47:36

15 A. Yes, immediately after we arrived at Pendembu, the next
16 day, Foday Sankoh requested for us and we reported to him that we
17 are the people. The reason why he requested for us, he said we
18 should continue our training in Pendembu and that was what
19 actually exactly happened. There a Liberian was introduced to us
20 whose name was Nya, he is Mano. He is an NPFL from Liberia.

14:48:13

21 MR BANGURA: Nya is N-Y-A:

22 Q. Did he have any title?

23 A. Well, what they told us, what Foday Sankoh told us and even
24 Nya himself, he said he is representing communication - he is
25 representing the communication between NPFL and Liberia. He said
26 Mr Taylor sent him personally to be with Foday Sankoh, so
27 therefore he said he is responsible for our training, how to use
28 the Liberian code and the Sierra Leonean code, how we are
29 supposed to be sending messages to Liberia and how to receive

14:48:48

1 messages from Liberia when we need them. That was what he told
2 us. From there he started to show us, during the time of the
3 training, Foday Sankoh used to send him talking to Mr Taylor in
4 Liberia through the radio. Mr Taylor will send a message from
14:49:45 5 the station in Liberia to the RUF station in Pendembu, Nya will
6 receive it and decode it and then put it in the log book and then
7 send a copy to Foday Sankoh in Pendembu. That was what he used
8 to teach us.

9 Q. You mentioned earlier that some of you were deployed
14:50:14 10 variously. Did you yourself get deployed? Sorry, strike that.
11 How long did you go on with the training with Nya?

12 A. Well, Nya trained me up to a month as I can recall. It was
13 from there we were assigned to target areas, to the different
14 commanders in the Kailahun District.

14:50:44 15 Q. How many of you got into training again with Nya, do you
16 remember?

17 A. By then we were up to 15 manpower that were trained for
18 communication at the time.

19 Q. Now, can you talk about your deployment after the training?

14:51:11 20 A. After the training I was with Zino Mohamed whom we called
21 Zino. I was with him and he was the third in command for the
22 RUF.

23 MR BANGURA: Zino is Z-I-N-O:

24 Q. Continue.

14:51:41 25 A. He was the third in command for the RUF. He had the right
26 to patrol all Liberia RUF liberated zones in the Kailahun
27 District, so we used to move from place to place. We would go to
28 Daru barracks target, Kono target and some other areas, but a
29 radio man will not be only assigned to a commander. He will be

1 there for a month, or twice, and then the assignment will change.
2 As time goes on, the assignment changes.

3 Q. Did you get any changes in your assignment, in your
4 assignment?

14:52:33 5 A. Yes, after Zino Mohamed I was moved to CO Rashid. He too,
6 we called him Elephant. That was the way we used to call him,
7 Elephant.

8 Q. Can you tell the Court how long your assignment with CO
9 Mohamed lasted before you got reassigned, or assigned, to CO
10 Rashid?

11 A. I believe I was with CO Mohamed for two months and some
12 weeks, but I couldn't say how many days or weeks for now.

13 Q. Then you got on to Rashid. How long were you with him?

14 A. Rashid, I spent more time with Rashid, but I cannot recall
14:53:32 15 the length of time, the number of months. I was with Rashid and
16 then the assignment did change later to join Foday Sankoh, who
17 was the leader of the RUF.

18 Q. Now can you say where you were based when you served
19 Rashid?

14:53:48 20 A. Well, yes, I was in Pendembu then sometimes we spent time
21 in Geihun. Geihun is between Pendembu and Kailahun Town itself.

22 Q. G-E-I-H-U-N. Yes, continue.

23 A. After CO Rashid I was moved to Foday Sankoh.

24 Q. And how long were you with Sankoh?

14:54:37 25 A. I was with Sankoh until CO Mohamed Rashid left Kono and
26 came. I spent more time there.

27 Q. When you say left Kono, what time was this that they left
28 Kono?

29 A. It was in 1993.

1 Q. Did you serve any other commander after Foday Sankoh?

2 A. Yes, I served Issa Sesay.

3 Q. And any other after Issa Sesay?

4 A. I served Sylvester who is a Liberian. We called him CO

14:55:27 5 Sylvester. He was a captain.

6 Q. Now CO Sylvester, where was he based?

7 A. CO Sylvester was based at Ngeima in Kailahun District.

8 Q. Now you have said that CO Sylvester was a Liberian. Was he
9 the only Liberian you knew who was a commander?

14:55:55 10 A. There were Liberians that I knew. You mean in Ngeima, or
11 the entire Kailahun District?

12 Q. I am talking about the entire - within the RUF generally.

13 A. The Liberians were many.

14 Q. Can you name just a few, if you remember?

14:56:20 15 A. Isaac Mongor was one of the main people from Liberia,
16 Dennis Mingo alias Superman.

17 MR BANGURA: Isaac Mongor is M-O-N-G-O-R. I think we have
18 had the spelling for Dennis Mingo before.

19 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, there was a place Ngeima or
14:56:45 20 something like that.

21 MR BANGURA: Ngeima is N-G-E-I-M-A.

22 Q. Yes, continue please.

23 A. After Mr Isaac, Dennis Mingo, we had CO George who too was
24 a Liberian, Martin Barbue who too was a Liberian.

14:57:23 25 Q. Barbue is B-A-R-B-U-E. Okay, now you served - when did
26 your assignment with CO Sylvester end?

27 A. My assignment with CO Sylvester ended late 1994, but where
28 CO Sylvester was, at that time Issa Sesay was there as overall
29 commander, but they were both not based in the same town.

1 Q. Now, these several Liberian commanders that you have
2 mentioned, do you know which group they belonged to?

3 A. Some of them introduced themselves as NPFL and the others
4 said they were Vanguard, but before they became Vanguard they
14:58:36 5 were NPFL.

6 Q. Now you have just mentioned the word Vanguard. Who were
7 Vanguard, who were the Vanguard?

8 A. According to what Foday Sankoh told us at the training
9 base, he said the Vanguard were people who were able to organise
14:59:06 10 themselves from Liberia that compromised NPFL and Sierra

11 Leoneans. They were the ones who came. They were our elders.

12 Q. Do you remember any names of fighters that belonged to this
13 group the Vanguard?

14 A. Yes, one Sierra Leonean was Sam Bockarie alias Mosquito.

14:59:39 15 I recall that. And then another Liberian Matthew Barbue and
16 another Liberian Isaac Mongor. Another Liberian also was
17 Sylvester who I have made mention of earlier. Yes, Mr Momoh
18 Rogers.

19 Q. Momoh is M-O-M-O-H, Rogers is R-O-G-E-R-S. Now apart from
15:00:14 20 Vanguard were there any other groups within the RUF?

21 A. Yes, there were two other groups that said they were
22 Special Forces.

23 Q. Now when you say another two groups that said they were
24 Special Forces, two groups that called themselves Special Forces,
15:00:37 25 can you clarify?

26 A. What I said, besides the Vanguard there were two other
27 groups left out, number one among the two groups was the Special
28 Forces.

29 Q. Who were the Special Forces as far as you know?

1 A. From what I know the Special Forces were people who came
2 from Sierra Leone, they went to Libya. They formed the RUF and
3 planned it and came to launch the attack. The number one person
4 that I knew was Foday Saybana Sankoh who was the leader of the
15:01:27 5 RUF. The number two person - I am going to call them according
6 to their positions. The number two person was Rashid Mansaray
7 who was second in command to Foday Sankoh. The number three
8 person was Mohamed Tarawalli alias Zino who was the third person.
9 The number four, Mike Lamin. Those are the people for now that
15:02:04 10 I can recall who were the Special Forces for the RUF. And the
11 next group --

12 Q. Just before you discuss the next group amongst the Special
13 Forces do you know whether they were all just Sierra Leoneans,
14 the Special Forces?

15:02:20 15 A. Yes, the group I made mention of that were called the
16 Special Forces they were all Sierra Leoneans.

17 Q. Did you know of any other members of the Special Forces who
18 were not Sierra Leoneans?

19 A. Yes, they were the ones - they were not the ones who went
15:02:50 20 and organised the RUF. The Liberians of the NPFL, they also came
21 and said they were the Special Forces of the Liberian NPFL of
22 Charles Taylor. They also called themselves Special Forces, but
23 the ones I have made mention of now were members of the RUF.

24 Q. Can you discuss the last group that you were going to get
15:03:14 25 on to?

26 A. These were the ones that we called junior commandos, who
27 were these junior commanders. When the Special Forces formed the
28 RUF, they came into Liberia and trained the Vanguard and the
29 training base was referred to as Sokoto base and the Vanguard

1 entered Sierra Leone together with the force and trained those
2 they captured and they referred to them as junior commandos.
3 That was the batch I belonged to.

4 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you have just mentioned Sokoto base. Your
15:04:04 5 Honours, Sokoto is S-O-K-O-T-O. Now at this time - then you
6 discussed your activities with the RUF since you came across from
7 Liberia up until a certain period, that is when your assignment
8 ended with CO Sylvester in 1994. Can you tell this Court what
9 basis the RUF had at this time, starting from about the time you
15:04:37 10 entered Sierra Leone right up until this period that we are
11 talking of?

12 A. Please, I want somebody to come and do something about this
13 mic. It is giving me too much problems in my ears.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: With your hearing?

15:05:04 15 THE WITNESS: What I am experiencing, when I am being asked
16 a question the headphone makes too much of noise.

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, I notice the witness said
18 something about junior commanders or commandos I think would be
19 the translation, but I see the script has commanders. Now please
15:05:28 20 clarify is it junior commanders or junior commandos?

21 MR BANGURA: It may be that during the period we were
22 trying to get his console fixed the volume had been raised.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, when we try it again if it is
24 still a problem tell us again and we will check it once more.

15:06:34 25 Mr Bangura, if you would proceed or maybe repeat that last
26 question, the clarification required, and see if this volume is
27 all right.

28 MR BANGURA:

29 Q. Mr Witness, you have discussed different - three different

1 groups that you said were within the RUF at the time. You
2 mentioned the Special Forces. You also mentioned the Vanguard
3 and you mention a third group. What is that group, can you call
4 that name for us please?

15:07:03 5 A. Junior commandos.

6 Q. How is it with your hearing, is it okay?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Now my last question before this was for you to describe
9 the bases. You mentioned Sokoto base as one of the bases that

15:07:38 10 the RUF had. Could you tell this Court what other bases the RUF
11 had over this period that we are talking of, that is from the
12 time you came back into Sierra Leone up until about 1994?

13 A. This base that I called Sokoto base, that was the time when
14 Foday Sankoh was in Liberia.

15:08:06 15 Q. Now could you give this Court an idea as to what bases the
16 RUF had between 1992 when you came back to about 1994 in Sierra
17 Leone?

18 A. You mean 1992?

19 Q. 1992. You already mentioned Libya earlier on. Could you
15:08:39 20 just give the Court an idea of which other bases were there?

21 A. Well, from 1991 to 1993 they were at Libya, RUF was at
22 Libya which was in Pujehun District. And then RUF was in
23 Kailahun. 1993, RUF was in Kono. Those were the areas we were.
24 Those were the areas the RUF was from 1991 to 1993.

15:09:23 25 Q. Now up until '94 - did the military situation - just before
26 that, during the period that we are talking of up until 1993 how
27 was the RUF able to sustain itself now you were a fighting force?
28 How were you able to sustain yourself during this period?

29 A. Please go over that question. I didn't get it clearly.

1 Q. How did the RUF get its supplies during the period?

2 A. At what time are you talking about?

3 Q. 1992 through to 1994.

4 A. Well, from 1992 RUF used to get supplies from Taylor
15:10:24 5 through Foya until the time that the military situation changed.

6 Q. When you say the RUF had supplies, what sort of supplies
7 did you get?

8 A. We were getting arms, ammunition, food and drugs from
9 Mr Taylor.

15:10:52 10 Q. Now how were these supplies brought into Sierra Leone?

11 A. In the first place, the way I saw it, the ones that I saw,
12 let us start with that, when they went for the RUF members in
13 Liberia the RUF would load the ammunition that were given to them
14 by Mr Taylor. They would put it inside the truck and cover them
15:11:23 15 with bags of rice and manpower and then they will move from
16 Gbarnga and sometimes from Harbel and then they will penetrate
17 inside. Even when that happened, it's every two weeks.

18 Mr Sankoh will go and collect ammunition and then bring them
19 back.

15:11:45 20 Even when Mohamed Tarawalli entered Kono all the things
21 that were captured like diamonds, physical cash, a meeting -
22 Foday Sankoh summoned a meeting of the RUF members and then said
23 that we are going to use these diamonds and this money to get
24 ammunition through Mr Taylor and we were at Pendembu when Foday
15:12:20 25 Sankoh moved. After Foday Sankoh moved he was in Liberia and
26 only sent a message that ammunition was on the way and
27 ammunitions would come and they will put them in the store. We
28 continuously stored ammunitions that we had a pile of them and
29 then he himself came back to Sierra Leone. And then when he came

1 back he said, "The diamonds that I took along with me, these are
2 the ammunitions in return for them from Mr Taylor. Now we should
3 start the fighting."

15:12:53 4 Q. When Mohamed went to Kono what period are we talking of
5 here, Mr Witness?

6 A. It was in 1993, late 1992 and 1993 Mohamed was in Kono.

7 Q. Which Mohamed is this?

8 A. Mohamed Tarawalli, alias Zino.

9 Q. And what happened in Kono at the time?

15:13:17 10 A. At that time Mohamed Tarawalli went to Kono. Before he
11 went there we had a meeting, the RUF had a meeting. The RUF
12 leadership summoned a meeting and that was Foday Sankoh. He said
13 he just returning back from Mr Taylor and now he said he is there
14 to organise us so that we will use this ammunition to attack Kono
15:13:48 15 so that we will be able to get diamonds and money that will help
16 us to get more ammunition. That was what he said Taylor told
17 him. So he sent Mohamed Tarawalli on that particular mission.
18 Luckily for Mohamed Tarawalli he succeeded.

19 All the things that Tarawalli brought to Buedu I saw them
15:14:13 20 with my naked eyes and these were diamonds and they were in a big
21 bottle and including US dollars. Kono was a major diamond area
22 in Sierra Leone. So he took those and took them to Liberia to
23 Mr Taylor. In return he brought ammunitions and we will store
24 them. In fact any time ammunition were ready for Mr Taylor he
15:14:40 25 will send radio message to Sankoh and then Sankoh would move or
26 dispatch some of his men to go and collect the ammunition from
27 Gbarnga. This happened many times.

28 Q. You mentioned that during the attack on Kono Mohamed Zino
29 captured diamonds as well as currency, money. Apart from these

1 items was anything else brought back from Kono?

2 A. Yes, he brought arms and at that time even one of the
3 mortar, we never had bombs for it or ammunition for it. He had
4 two grenade launchers and he presented them to Foday Sankoh and
15:15:36 5 then Foday Sankoh said, "This grenade launcher, one is going to
6 stay with me for my own security and the other one I am going to
7 send to Taylor and for this one that we do not have ammunition
8 for Taylor said I should carry it to him" and then he had to put
9 it into the vehicle. And then the other grenade launcher was now
15:15:58 10 in the vehicle for his own security weapon. The other one, he
11 took it to Taylor. And the other one that we never had
12 ammunition for, he carried it to Taylor also. Those were the
13 things I saw.

14 Q. Which forces were in Kono at the time of the attack by the
15:16:13 15 RUF, which forces did the RUF attack in Kono?

16 A. They were government troops in Sierra Leone that I referred
17 to as the Sierra Leone armed forces.

18 Q. Now, Mr Witness, can you describe for the Court what the
19 command structure was within the RUF about this period that we
15:16:43 20 are talking of up to 1994?

21 A. What I knew about the structure in the RUF, Foday Sankoh
22 was the leader for the RUF. Then Rashid Mansaray was the battle
23 group commander of the RUF. That he was second in command.
24 Mohamed Tarawalli was the field commander, third in command.
15:17:17 25 Then from there at that stage we had some other commanders who
26 were responsible for brigades. We had others who were
27 responsible for battalions. We had others who were responsible
28 for companies. That was the hierarchy.

29 Q. Now did that structure change at some point?

1 A. Yes, it reached a point in time that the structures I am
2 referring to now changed, how people left, that was how the
3 others took the step by step promotions. That was how it went.

15:18:08

4 Q. What were some of the changes that occurred within this
5 period we are talking of?

6 A. In 1994 one of the commanders I have called who was
7 Mr Rashid Mansaray who was the second in command of the RUF, the
8 RUF made a claim that he had contact with the government troops
9 in Sierra Leone. So he was court-martialled. So in the army
10 there is a court referred to as court-martial.

15:18:52

11 Q. What were the findings of the court-martial about Mansaray?

12 A. Well, the law found him guilty and they said they should
13 kill him according to what the law said. They said Rashid should
14 die. As a result Rashid was killed by the RUF.

15:19:24

15 Q. Then what changes took place within the structure after his
16 death?

17 A. After the death of Mr Rashid then the third in command
18 automatically became the second in command and that was CO
19 Mohamed Tarawalli alias Zino. Then the one who was next to him
20 was Mosquito, followed by Issa Sesay. Mosquito's full name is
21 Sam Bockarie and he is nicknamed Mosquito. He was followed by
22 Issa Sesay.

15:19:53

23 Q. Now did this structure as you have described change again
24 at some point?

15:20:17

25 A. Yes. Before changes occurred in this structure so many
26 things happened, but it reached a certain point when this
27 structure changed and that was in 1996.

28 Q. And what were the changes that took place, just briefly
29 explain the changes for now?

1 A. What happened, when Sankoh was ready to go on the peace
2 talk in Abidjan he left Mohamed Tarawalli in charge as acting
3 leader. Mosquito came next to him and Issa too went next to
4 Mosquito and so then he went. After he went Mohamed Tarawalli
15:21:08 5 got missing in action. Then Foday Sankoh appoint Mosquito as the
6 leader. That was how the structure changed.

7 Q. You said Mohamed Tarawalli got missing in action. When was
8 this?

9 A. It was in 1996.

15:21:28 10 Q. Now during the period up until 1994 what was the state of
11 communication that you had, the RUF had with Liberia?

12 A. Repeat your question.

13 Q. What was the state of communication between the RUF and the
14 NPFL? You have mentioned that there was - a lot of supplies came
15:21:56 15 from the NPFL. What was the state of communication between you?

16 A. If you are talking about radio communication it was
17 cordial. It was cordial.

18 Q. And can you comment on the frequency of the communications
19 with the NPFL?

15:22:22 20 A. Well, we always spoke to the NPFL at any time Mr Sankoh
21 wanted to speak to Mr Taylor, at any time Mr Taylor wanted to
22 speak to Mr Sankoh. That happened every two, three days. But
23 every moment we used to send message to the NPFL in Liberia and
24 they would also send message to us because the Liberians knew our
15:22:49 25 communication code and we also had their own communication code.
26 So that was how it was arranged.

27 Q. When Mr Sankoh spoke to Mr Taylor on the radio did they
28 refer to each other - or when Mr Taylor spoke to Mr Sankoh on the
29 radio did they refer to each other by any code name when there

1 was communication between them? Were they referring to any
2 particular code names?

3 A. Yes, they had code names, even when they spoke directly.
4 When they were speaking directly to each other they referred to
15:23:29 5 themselves - Mr Taylor called Sankoh Toyota and Mr Sankoh, who
6 was Toyota, referred to Mr Taylor as Ebony at that point in time.
7 But at times they used to refer to themselves as subjects when
8 they never wanted to use the same code at all times. But
9 sometimes when we went on the Liberia net we referred - we called
15:24:00 10 Mr Taylor's radio station Butterfly and then when they went to
11 our radio net they would call 35, so we would know automatically
12 that they were calling from Liberia.

13 Q. Did the military situation in Sierra Leone change at some
14 point?

15:24:19 15 A. Yes, in that year 1994 the government troops attacked us
16 and we were restless. We always took our ammunitions and flee
17 and we always took our ammunitions and carried them on our heads,
18 but during this period in my presence Mr Sankoh called Mr Taylor
19 and Mr Taylor said, "You should stop attacking." He said, "You
15:24:57 20 should use your guerilla tactics at this point so you that will
21 be able to gain from the government troops." What was this
22 guerilla tactics? He said you should make sure you set an ambush
23 and secondly you should avoid towns. And indeed that was how it
24 happened. The ammunition we had we never used to attack again.
15:25:19 25 We would set an ambush and we would prepare ourselves in what we
26 referred to as the jungle. We avoid the towns and then we based
27 in the bush. We would cook only at night.

28 Q. Now before we even delve deeper into the change in the
29 military situation you had testified earlier about the flow of

1 supplies from Liberia, arms and ammunition. Now did this flow
2 continue for long?

3 A. Well, the point in time I am referring to, it was in the
4 middle of 1994, the Liberians had a force that was also a rebel
15:26:07 5 group that was called ULIMO. They came and occupied Foya and cut
6 off the entire borderline between Liberia and Sierra Leone. So
7 we never used to get supplies at that time. So what we had were
8 the only things we used at that time.

9 Q. And when you - you just mentioned that your positions were
15:26:30 10 attacked by the government forces, when was it that your
11 positions got attacked by the government forces, about what
12 period?

13 A. Let me say from 1994/'95 onwards. 1994 in Kailahun they
14 attacked us and moved us from out of all the towns in Kailahun
15:26:57 15 and then we jumped into the bushes. At that time the RUF had
16 arranged, and even before that Mr Taylor told Mosquito that he
17 should try by all possible means to move Foday Sankoh out of
18 Sierra Leone and bring him into Liberia and Sankoh said, "No, if
19 I decide to move now and leave my men behind they will not be
15:27:28 20 able to do anything good. They will start fighting amongst
21 themselves."

22 So he said, "Okay, the best thing", he said, "You should
23 take your little ammunition that you have and then you try to
24 establish jungles" and that was the time that Foday Sankoh jumped
15:27:48 25 into the bush and then he opened a jungle called Zogoda and out
26 of Zogoda - Zogoda was in the middle of a big forest, not even
27 close to a town. It was from Zogoda that we were able to
28 dispatch all over the country and open up different different
29 jungles. At that time we used to set ambushes and when we set an

1 ambush and we were successful we will get items and then we
2 started the attacks again. But any time that happened there were
3 communications between Mr Taylor and Mr Sankoh.

15:28:37 4 Q. Before you move on further, Mr Witness, your Honour I see
5 Zogoda is correctly spelt. Now apart from Zogoda which you
6 said - first of all, where was Zogoda? Where is Zogoda? Which
7 part of Sierra Leone?

8 A. Zogoda is in the eastern part of Sierra Leone which is
9 Kenema District.

15:28:57 10 Q. Now apart from Zogoda were there any other locations that
11 you captured at this time?

12 A. Yes. During this time round, that was in 1994, we had to
13 occupy places around Peyama and hide the jungle which was in
14 Kenema District also.

15:29:29 15 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, Peyama is P-E-Y-A-M-A:

16 Q. Continue.

17 A. Then also around that Peyama jungle we had Gandorhun jungle
18 also which was in Kono District.

19 MR BANGURA: Gandorhun is G-A-N-D-O-R-H-U-N:

15:29:49 20 Q. Continue, please.

21 A. Then from there we had another big base that was referred
22 to as Burkina which was in Kailahun District.

23 Q. Yes, any more bases?

15:30:13 24 A. We had also another big base that was an old base that was
25 referred to as Libya in the Pujehun District.

26 Q. Now you have said that ULIMO had cut the supply route with
27 Liberia, but what about the state of communications during that
28 period?

29 A. All the time I am speaking about that was the reason why we

1 were trained and we had Liberians. We had a Liberian man who
2 used to communicate with the Liberian station, that was NPFL.
3 There was cordial communication between the RUF of Sankoh and the
4 NPFL of Mr Taylor.

15:30:55 5 Q. Do you recall what sort of subjects would be discussed at
6 this time that there were no supplies coming through? What would
7 be the subject of their communication?

8 A. Yes, you know, as we all observed the process in Sierra
9 Leone, Mr Sankoh always - was always advised by Mr Taylor. At
10 any time Mr Sankoh received message from Mr Taylor we will
11 undertake a serious attack. The RUF will attack the government
12 troops. On many occasions as a radio man of the RUF I received,
13 I monitored, I read from the log books, for example, when a place
14 like Sierra Rutile, because Sankoh told us that he wanted to look
15 for a major place that he would attack according to Mr Taylor's
16 advice.

17 MR BANGURA: Sierra Rutile, your Honours, is Sierra as in
18 Sierra Leone and Rutile R-U-T-I-L-E:

19 Q. Continue, please.

15:32:18 20 A. And so in his conversation with Taylor he said, "You should
21 either attack the major places like Kono or Sierra Rutile." As a
22 result he chose to attack Sierra Rutile and the attack on Sierra
23 Rutile was a successful one. Sierra Rutile was a place --

24 Q. You probably were going to talk about Sierra Rutile, but
15:32:47 25 let me ask you where was Sierra Rutile?

26 A. It is in the Bonthe District. It is the southern part of
27 Sierra Leone.

28 Q. What was happening at Sierra Rutile, what activity goes on
29 there?

1 A. Well, Sierra Rutile is a mining company. They dug for
2 bauxite and other minerals that I don't know of.

3 Q. When was this attack on Sierra Rutile?

4 A. It was in late 1994 to 5.

15:33:28 5 Q. And what happened during the attack?

6 A. During this attack the RUF reported about the manager and
7 otherwise that were captured together with him and also the
8 missions commander for that particular mission was CO Mohamed
9 Tarawalli. He came with money and the money was in the rice bag

15:33:58 10 together with the white man. When they brought this money the
11 money was reported to Foday Sankoh and all of these went through
12 the radio message. And anything that happened at that time the
13 communication systems in the total RUF will receive that message
14 at the time. When they brought this money, we monitored a call,

15:34:20 15 he called the NPFL radio station and he sent message to Mr Taylor
16 about this money and then Mr Taylor told him that, "You have to
17 save that money to do some other things with it, for instance to
18 get ammunition, food and drugs for your fighters." Then he kept
19 the money for some time. Then also, "You can use this money to
15:34:52 20 establish diplomatic relationship with the outside world." He
21 showed him ways to establish the diplomatic relationship with the
22 outside world. He told him, and then he did it. We all saw it.
23 I saw it myself.

24 Q. How was he advised? How was Foday Sankoh advised to
15:35:16 25 establish a diplomatic relationship with the outside world?

26 A. What he did, he said the civilians that were amongst us who
27 were educated people, he should send them through Guinea because
28 by then the Liberian border was closed. He said he should be
29 able to send them through Guinea so that they can travel to Ivory

1 Coast and then buy a house there, get a base there and then get a
2 radio communications there. But how will they have done this?
3 He said they should do that through the white men who were
4 captured at Rutile and at the time they should be released, that
15:36:03 5 was the time the people should go with them. Who was appointed
6 for that mission was Fayiah Musa, Deen Jalloh, Mr Palmer and
7 their families.

8 MR BANGURA: Our Honours, let me spell first. Fayiah is
9 F-A-Y-I-A-H and Musa. Deen Jalloh is D-E-E-N and Jalloh is
15:36:30 10 J-A-L-L-O-H.

11 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

12 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, my screen keeps flip flopping
13 from the live feed to LiveNote to live feed and I miss much of
14 what goes on. I will just go back to the names so I can spell
15:37:20 15 them.

16 THE WITNESS: Should I call the names?

17 MR BANGURA:

18 Q. Yes, you called three names, I believe, Deen Jalloh, Fayiah
19 Musa and what was the third name?

15:37:34 20 A. Philip Palmer.

21 Q. Mr Witness, can you just briefly explain again, it wasn't
22 quite clear to me, how the timing of setting up a diplomatic
23 relationship should be linked to the white men? It was not
24 clear. Can you explain that again, please? You mentioned
15:37:59 25 something about one should be timed to the other.

26 A. Okay, during the time he said this was when he said that
27 when we will be leaving to release those people, the whites who
28 were captured from Sierra Rutile, and he said that should be the
29 same time that the people were appointing; that we were using

1 them as civilians as hostages and we should leave all of them
2 together, release all of them together to go. As long as they
3 have money they will travel to Ivory Coast and that was how it
4 happened. When the Red Cross came to receive the white people
15:38:43 5 they all went together with Deen Jalloh. We just pretended as
6 though they were people who we also captured so we are now
7 releasing them to go and then when they went they went with the
8 money and established a base in the Ivory Coast. That was where
9 they were. When they got to Ivory Coast they bought a house for
15:39:06 10 the RUF and bought a radio and that was where they were based and
11 from there we received another stranger. He was called Dr Simbo.
12 Dr Simbo was a man who brought instruments.

13 Q. Simbo is S-I-M-B-O - I will spell it as the witness has
14 pronounced, S-I-M-B-O. Yes, continue?

15:39:33 15 A. Dr Simbo when I saw him, he was a man that brought
16 satellite phone from Ivory Coast through - he passed through
17 Liberia. He said he came from Liberia but he passed through
18 Ivory Coast and entered into the RUF territory. At that time we
19 had now established communication with the people that we sent to
15:40:07 20 Ivory Coast and that was when himself and Sankoh spoke and he
21 said he had a satellite phone - he had satellite phone that he
22 was doing business with. And then he said they passed through -
23 he came from Liberia and then he went to Ivory Coast, Kailahun,
24 Zogoda and then he brought the satellite phone that Sankoh was
15:40:28 25 using in 1995 up to 1996 when Sankoh left.

26 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, I am sorry to interrupt. The
27 witness is recorded as saying he came from Liberia and passed
28 through Ivory Coast. Is that what he said or did he say it the
29 other way round?

1 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour, that is what we have
2 written down here. I will get him to clarify his statement.

3 Q. Mr Witness, can you again tell the Court the route that you
4 understood Mr Simbo to have taken - Dr Simbo to have taken to
15:41:05 5 come to Zogoda?

6 A. According to what Mr Simbo said, he said he was from
7 Liberia. He went to Ivory Coast to Mr Deen Jalloh and others.
8 He said he did not stay too long then he managed to enter Guinea,
9 but in Guinea the RUF people who were the senior people like
15:41:31 10 Mamie Iye, they used to disguise and enter into Guinea. For
11 example that woman entered into Guinea and then she was captured
12 by the Guinean government and sent over back to Sierra Leone to
13 the Sierra Leonean government. Then Dr Simbo also used that
14 opportunity and in fact he was escorted by Mamie Iye and then he
15:41:51 15 took her from Ivory Coast, they came to Guinea and then he
16 managed, escaped and entered into Sierra Leone. That was how he
17 entered. And then when he came to Ngeima, that was in Kailahun,
18 he was given few security escorts.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter will have
15:42:08 20 trouble keeping up with you. Please slow down a little.

21 MR BANGURA:

22 Q. Mr Witness, you mentioned a name, I just need to spell
23 that, Mamie Iye, it's M-A-M-I-E I-Y-E. Now where did Dr Simbo
24 come from? Where was he coming from?

15:42:30 25 A. He was from Liberia and went to Ivory Coast to join a
26 delegation that was based there. From there himself and Mamie
27 Iye managed to enter Sierra Leone through Guinea. That was how
28 they passed.

29 Q. Before he got to Liberia where did he come from? Did he

1 say where he was coming from?

2 A. No, only told us that he was from Liberia. He met our
3 delegation in Ivory Coast. Besides Liberia, Ivory Coast and
4 Guinea he didn't tell me about any other area.

15:43:14 5 Q. Now you were talking about advices that were given to
6 Mr Sankoh following the capture of Sierra Rutile and one of those
7 pieces of advice was that the RUF should set up diplomatic
8 relations with the outside world, as you stated it. Apart from
9 that was any other advice given on anything else?

15:43:41 10 A. Yes, I recall some that I can say now. In fact, this was a
11 message from Mr Taylor to Foday Sankoh saying for now those
12 people have moved to that point, they should try and make an
13 arrangement to choose a particular area where they should
14 construct an airstrip for aeroplane to be alighting there and it
15:44:13 15 was a written message from Mr Taylor to Foday Sankoh.

16 After Mr Sankoh had received the message, he sent the
17 message to Kailahun and then he appointed somebody who was called
18 Peter B Vandj and said to him that he should be with the
19 civilians day and night and that they should make sure that they
15:44:41 20 do the job and what was the job? For them to construct an
21 airfield. And this airfield, it was chosen at Buedu.

22 Q. Just pause there. Vandj is V-A-N-D-I, Peter B Vandj. B is
23 a middle initial, I believe, yes?

24 A. It was Peter Borbor Vandj.

15:45:08 25 Q. Borbor is B-O-R-B-O-R.

26 A. That was his own job and as he was told the man started
27 doing this job. Civilians were working there day and night.

28 Q. Where did you say that the airfield was supposed to be
29 constructed?

1 A. It was a village close to Buedu, that was where the
2 airfield was.

3 Q. Now you have said that you received training as a radio
4 operator. Now how far did you rise in the rank when you were
15:45:49 5 with the RUF as an operator, how high?

6 A. Well, I went as far as major in communications. That was
7 where I stopped. That was my last rank.

8 Q. Now was there any distinction between the radio
9 communicator as yourself and ordinary fighters within the RUF who
15:46:19 10 did not have your kind of training?

11 A. Repeat once more.

12 Q. Was there a difference between radio communicator, a radio
13 operator, I'm sorry, and a combatant?

14 A. Yes. There was a big difference between us and those men
15:46:41 15 who were in the field. One thing I can say now was that there
16 wasn't any information in the movement that the radio man would
17 not be aware of as far as it concerned air and that was messages
18 that came in and messages that went out. That was one
19 difference. Then the radio man in the RUF, that is the guerilla
15:47:09 20 army, he had the rights to attend every meeting. Whether it was
21 the head of the movement that was Foday Sankoh himself, all other
22 fighters will be stopped to enter that meeting, but the radio man
23 will never be stopped to enter that meeting. That was another
24 difference.

15:47:31 25 Q. Were you under the same command hierarchy? The radio
26 operator and the combatant, were you under the same commanders
27 directly?

28 A. Go over that.

29 Q. Was there a difference in the command under which you

1 operated?

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, did you understand the
3 question?

4 THE WITNESS: Yes, I can go ahead.

15:48:13 5 MR BANGURA:

6 Q. Mr Witness, can you explain how the radio operator worked
7 with the combatants?

8 A. Yes. In the first place let me just make it clear to you
9 that the radio man - radio was a unit on its own and we had our
10 own commanders besides other commanders and at first Foday Sankoh
11 himself was our commander and then later he handed the position
12 over to Mr Nya, but if you were to be sent to a battalion or a
13 company you should work directly under the company commander and
14 nobody else but the company commander.

15:49:05 15 Q. Now --

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think you have got one name there,
17 Mr Bangura, that the radio operators were put under.

18 MR BANGURA: Nya, your Honours. I think I spelt that
19 earlier. It is N-Y-A:

15:49:21 20 Q. Now the person you just mentioned, Nya, did he have a title
21 that went with his name?

22 A. He was the commander in charge of the radios. He was the
23 overall commander after the position had been handed over to him
24 by Mr Sankoh.

15:49:46 25 Q. Was he commonly called CO Nya?

26 A. Yes, he was called CO Nya but he also had a rank. In the
27 case of the rank he had a rank and at the start he was captain
28 and then later he went up to the level of lieutenant-colonel and
29 he moved from major and during the last period he was

1 Lieutenant-colonel.

2 Q. Can you describe the kind of radio equipment that you used
3 during this period, or radio sets?

4 A. Say again?

15:50:31 5 Q. What radio sets did you use over the period?

6 A. Well, we used different types of radios. The first one was
7 the Yaesu radio that was always on the desk. Two, we used
8 military radio that was always in the bag, you put it on your
9 back and then you can move with it to anywhere. And then we had

15:51:01 10 Icon, Kenwood et cetera.

11 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, Yaesu has been spelt before in
12 this Court, Y-E-A-S-U. Kenwood is a brand name, K-E-N-W-O-O-D.
13 Icon I believe is I-C-O-N:

14 Q. Now can you discuss the suitability of these radios to your
15:51:26 15 particular operational needs at the time? Which one of these
16 radios did you use more often and why? It sounds double.

17 A. I didn't understand.

18 Q. Which one of these radios did you use more often?

19 A. Well, it was the Yaesu radio.

15:51:52 20 Q. Can you describe its features?

21 A. Yaesu radio was a radio that was always placed on the desk.
22 It used car batteries and solar plates.

23 Q. How different was it from the other kinds of radios that
24 you mentioned?

15:52:16 25 A. Yaesu and Kenwood, they were almost the same. But in the
26 case of Thompson, it was a military radio. You can put it on
27 your back, the battery and everything was fixed on it together
28 and the antenna on it, you can just draw it up and just like any
29 commercial radio.

1 Q. Can you explain how the RUF set up its communications
2 system? Can you just describe how your system was set up?

3 A. Go over that.

4 Q. How was the communication system set up within the RUF?
15:52:58 5 How were the different radios set up?

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: There are three questions there
7 Mr Bangura. One at a time.

8 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, I was seeking to be more
9 explicit:

15:53:10 10 Q. Do you understand the question, Mr Witness?

11 A. No, say again.

12 Q. You have testified to this Court that radio operators were
13 assigned to commanders and they would work only with commanders.
14 Is that right?

15:53:25 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And the RUF had various bases and locations. Is that
17 right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Now can you explain how these various points and locations
15:53:42 20 where radio operators were deployed, can you describe or explain
21 how they linked up with other radios in other areas?

22 A. Fine, thank you. How the RUF radio communications worked,
23 the RUF radio communications worked on one net and with one
24 frequency number when where all the stations will meet and

15:54:16 25 listen. To start with our general frequency number where we
26 would all come sit together and listen to was 70110. Just when
27 it is done in the morning everybody will tune the radio and once
28 when one station wanted to send a message you will call the
29 station that you wanted to send a message to and it was

1 controlled by one control station that was Foday Sankoh's radio
2 station. And then if the control station, which was Foday
3 Sankoh's radio station, wanted to send message or a general
4 message to all stations they will call and he will make sure that
15:55:10 5 all the stations are available and then the message will be
6 transmitted to all the stations. Any station that was omitted
7 and could not get the message and when that station comes back on
8 the net they will report that, "We were not on the net but now
9 I have reported again, is there any general message for us?"

15:55:37 10 Then another station will respond and say yes. Then they will be
11 on stand by to receive the message.

12 But if a sub-station had a message for another sub-station
13 what will they do? We had different numbers that we tune our
14 radios to. I will call you and say, "Station A, you go and meet
15:56:00 15 me at station B" at so so area on a number that we all knew on
16 the communications. It was - if it was operation messages all
17 stations will go there again and monitor. You will not just sit
18 down and listen. You will write what the message is saying.

19 Your responsibility was to gather all the information that came
15:56:31 20 in and then send all information. That was the responsibility of
21 the radio man according to the RUF radio communications.

22 Q. Mr Witness, you have mentioned that the control station was
23 at Foday Sankoh - was with Foday Sankoh. Where was the control
24 station based? Was it based in one place?

15:56:59 25 A. The control station will only be based at a place where
26 Foday Sankoh was, or somebody who took over the place of Foday
27 Sankoh at the time.

28 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I am mindful of the time having
29 regard to the length of the tape.

1 MS IRURA: Your Honour, we have about four minutes left.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: At least a question then, Mr Bangura.

3 MR BANGURA:

4 Q. Now, Mr Witness, if a commander wanted to send a message to
15:57:45 5 another commander can you describe how this process went?

6 A. Thank you. Any commander who was assigned to a radio, if
7 he wanted to disseminate message what will he do? He had a clerk
8 and as you speak the clerk will go on writing on paper - sorry,
9 in the log book in the radio room. Then the radio man, the
15:58:19 10 commander will sign the message and say that he has - then he
11 will give it to the radio man and the radio man will code the
12 message, will put it into a code, and then it will be transmitted
13 to the place where the message is designed for. And after that
14 message has been sent the date and the time will be written under
15:58:47 15 the message and it will be signed that - and he will ensure that
16 he has actually signed this message, he has endorsed it. That
17 was how the message went.

18 Q. Can you describe what happens on the other end where the
19 message is received?

15:59:03 20 A. Say again?

21 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I don't know, it might take a
22 little longer to explain this. This would probably be a
23 convenient time to end.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we are finishing now a little
15:59:21 25 early today because we started earlier at lunchtime. As you have
26 taken the oath you are obliged to not discuss any of your
27 evidence until all your evidence is finished. We will resume
28 tomorrow morning at 9.30. Do you understand what I say?

29 THE WITNESS: Yes.

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[Whereupon the Court adjourned at 4.00 p.m. to
be reconvened at on Tuesday, 5 February 2008 at
9.30 a.m.]

I N D E X

WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:

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EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR BANGURA	3021