



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

TUESDAY, 11 MARCH 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 William Romans
Ms Sidney Thompson

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis
Mr Mohamed A Bangura
Mr Nicholas Koumjian
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Terry Munyard
Mr Morris Anyah

1 Tuesday, 11 March 2008

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:30:07 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. If there are no
6 preliminary matters I will remind the witness of his oath and we
7 will proceed on. Mr Witness, you recall yesterday you swore to
8 tell the truth. That oath is binding on you today also. You are
9 to answer questions truthfully. Do you understand?

09:30:31 10 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed, Mr Koumjian.

12 WITNESS: TF1-532 [On former oath]

13 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR KOUMJIAN [Continued]

14 MR KOUMJIAN:

09:30:40 15 Q. Sir, before we go back to the messages brought from
16 Charles Taylor by Ibrahim Bah, I want to take you back for a
17 moment to your time with the NPFL. Sir, when you were with the
18 NPFL did you ever hear the name Zig Zag?

19 A. Yes.

09:31:06 20 Q. What is the name Zig Zag - excuse me. What did you hear
21 about this person named Zig Zag?

22 A. Well, the Zig Zag that I know was a person, but it was a
23 name that the person took and he was one of the men - he was one
24 of the operations men for Mr Taylor.

09:31:37 25 Q. When you say "operations men", what do you mean?

26 A. Well, when I say operation it means sometimes they used to
27 send a man to go to the front line, or sometimes to undertake to
28 execute people.

29 Q. Did Zig Zag have a reputation among other members of the

1 NPFL?

2 MR MUNYARD: That is a very sweeping question that is in
3 the same category as the questions that this Trial Chamber has
4 ruled inappropriate and has to be - really there has to be more
09:32:28 5 foundation before we can get to that stage.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, you have heard the
7 objection.

8 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes. My response is that it is a specific
9 question: What is his reputation? I can be more specific, in
09:32:40 10 which case I would expect an objection for leading.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, you cannot lead and it is a sweeping
12 statement. You are asking what was his reputation --

13 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: -- among the other members of the NPFL.
09:32:56 15 We do not know if this witness has discussed his reputation, or
16 how he would assess such a broad organisation.

17 MR KOUMJIAN: I understand that. Thank you:

18 Q. Mr Witness, did you hear other members of the NPFL talk
19 about Zig Zag?

09:33:14 20 A. Yes, they used to talk about Zig Zag.

21 Q. And what was his reputation among the other members of the
22 NPFL?

23 A. Well, people used to be afraid of him because he used to
24 undertake some killings that made him fearful to people, so
09:33:44 25 people used to be afraid of him.

26 Q. Thank you. Thank you, your Honours. Sir, going back to
27 the meetings you mentioned yesterday afternoon with Ibrahim Bah,
28 you said that there were two meetings. Where did the first
29 meeting take place?

1 A. The first meeting took place at Hill Station where Sam
2 Bockarie was residing. That is his house. That was where the
3 first meeting took place and the meeting took place amongst us
4 the RUF authorities and Ibrahim Bah.

09:34:34 5 MR KOUMJIAN: Unless I misheard, I believe the witness said
6 Hill Station:

7 Q. Is that correct, Mr Witness?

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: I heard Hill Station.

9 THE WITNESS: Yes, Hill Station.

09:34:45 10 MR KOUMJIAN: H-I-L-L, capitalised:

11 Q. Sir, you said it was Sam Bockarie's house. Was Sam
12 Bockarie present?

13 A. No, Sam Bockarie was not present, but it was in that house
14 that Sam Bockarie resided at the time we went to Freetown.

09:35:10 15 Q. At the time you had this meeting, to your knowledge was Sam
16 Bockarie in Freetown?

17 A. He was not in Freetown. He was in Kenema.

18 Q. Who was present at this first meeting at Bockarie's house
19 with Bah?

09:35:29 20 A. Issa Sesay was there, Morris Kallon, CO Nya, who is also
21 called Foday K Lansana, Gibril Massaquoi and then they sent for
22 me, I was also present, and some other people.

23 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. What happened at the meeting?

24 A. During that meeting Mr Bah came to talk to us, the RUF, for
09:36:38 25 us to join hands with the AFRC people whom had called on us for
26 us to work together with them. He said it was that message that
27 he brought from Mr Taylor for us.

28 Q. What was the reaction, if any, from the RUF members
29 present?

1 A. Well, we did not do anything because we knew Ibrahim Bah.
2 He had been with us before and we knew him to be a liaison
3 officer who had been with the RUF, so when we saw him, and when
4 he brought the message, we were happy and we received the message
09:37:56 5 according to how he brought it.

6 Q. Mr Witness, this message from Mr Taylor that you should
7 work - the RUF should work with the AFRC, did the members of the
8 RUF discuss that, or was there any reaction given to General Bah
9 about whether they accepted that?

09:38:20 10 A. Well, we accepted it because it was not that we went to
11 have another meeting because of the message that he brought. We
12 accepted it. We accepted that the message he brought, we
13 received it and then we took him, the Bah - we took him, the Bah,
14 to JPK's place, that is Johnny Paul Koroma, so that he will also
09:38:51 15 get to know the message that Ibrahim Bah brought.

16 Q. Where was Johnny Paul Koroma's place that you took Mr Bah
17 to?

18 A. Johnny Paul Koroma's house was at Spur Road.

19 Q. When you got to Johnny Paul Koroma's house who was present
09:39:15 20 there?

21 A. Johnny Paul Koroma, he sent to call the other officers.
22 Those were the SLA officers. They called SO Williams, they
23 called Gullit, Bazzy. They called on all the other authorities
24 who belonged to the AFRC and they were also present there.

09:39:57 25 Q. What was said at this meeting at JPK's house?

26 A. JPK and all of us who were there together with Ibrahim Bah,
27 we went to introduce the man to him to tell him that, "This man
28 was the man who has been with us and that it is the Pa who sent
29 him for him to come and talk to all of us." When I say the Pa,

1 that is Mr Taylor. "So, he brought a message that we should all
2 work hand in hand and that is the reason why Mr Taylor sent him
3 here. So, we brought him so that you will also see him and then
4 he will explain to you the reason why he was sent."

09:41:12 5 Q. When Mr Bah delivered this message, what was the reaction
6 of those present?

7 A. Well, everybody was happy for the message. We all accepted
8 it and we all agreed with him.

9 Q. Did Johnny Paul Koroma say anything?

09:41:43 10 A. Johnny Paul Koroma himself received the message and he was
11 happy too for the reason being that for the message for which
12 Mr Taylor had sent the man.

13 Q. You say that the reaction was that those present were
14 happy. Can you explain why they were happy?

09:42:19 15 A. Well, they were happy because we also needed help and the
16 reason why they also accepted it was because that man will be
17 able to help us to get ammunition because we were fighting and
18 the AFRC also never had enough ammunition that they would use to
19 continue the war.

09:42:54 20 Q. Was this something that was stated at the meeting: That
21 there was a need for ammunition?

22 A. Yes, we discussed that one. In fact, that was our main
23 topic that we had in mind.

24 Q. How long, to your knowledge, did Ibrahim Bah stay in
09:43:25 25 Freetown on that occasion?

26 A. Well, after that day, the next morning I didn't see him
27 again. He went.

28 Q. At the meeting when Bah delivered this message from Taylor,
29 was there any response given to Bah to take back?

1 A. Yes, we told Bah that we have agreed and the thing that he
2 explained to us, that he brought from Mr Taylor, we all accepted
3 it, that we were ready to work with Johnny Paul Koroma, and we
4 ensured that we submitted ourselves to Johnny Paul and we worked
09:44:20 5 hand in hand with him. But after that Johnny Paul and Ibrahim
6 Bah had a closed door meeting, but that was not disclosed to us,
7 whatever they discussed in that meeting.

8 Q. Thank you. Mr Witness, you indicated that for a time you
9 were a member of what you referred to as the Supreme Council and
09:44:52 10 you gave us the names of some others you recall present. Can you
11 tell us --

12 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, I don't recall the witness
13 referring to a Supreme Council. I may be mistaken, but he
14 referred to a council.

09:45:08 15 MR MUNYARD: I think Justice Sebutinde is right. He did
16 refer to a council, but my recollection is that is as far as it
17 went.

18 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I am corrected by my neighbour, my
19 learned colleague, that yesterday afternoon he did refer to a
09:45:30 20 Supreme Council. I apologise.

21 MR MUNYARD: I am not arguing about it, but I just think it
22 came up originally as "council".

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: It definitely did.

24 MR MUNYARD: I think he might have been then referred to
09:45:45 25 Supreme Council. I don't know. In any event, let us press on.

26 MR KOUMJIAN:

27 Q. Sir, these meetings you talked about of the Supreme
28 Council, where did they take place?

29 A. At first it used to take place at Johnny Paul's residence.

1 That was where the Supreme Council meeting used to take place.
2 Sometimes we will go to Cockerill, which was the military
3 headquarters. Sometimes we will go to State House. Those were
4 the places we used to have those meetings, but we preferred that
09:46:33 5 we had the meetings at Johnny Paul's place, but in case of the
6 other places, at any time we wanted to go there for the meeting
7 the enemies will know about it and then the Alpha Jets will not
8 allow us to sit in the places where we wanted to go and undertake
9 the meeting.

09:46:53 10 Q. Thank you. I think we all understand, but just so the
11 record is clear, when you say the Alpha Jets would not allow you
12 to sit in the meetings, what do you mean?

13 A. Because the Alpha Jets used to raid our positions and
14 I will recall at one time when we went for a meeting at
09:47:24 15 Cockerill, when the meeting was announced, and even before we
16 could reach there, the Alpha Jets went and bombarded the place
17 before we could even reach the place.

18 Q. Mr Witness, these Alpha Jets were part of what force?

19 A. It belonged to the ECOMOG.

09:47:53 20 Q. In the meetings that you had of the Supreme Council, that
21 you attended, what was discussed?

22 A. The things that we used to discuss were about ammunition
23 and the weapons that we needed to fight the war because we were
24 fighting against the ECOMOG and the Kamajors, so the things we
09:48:25 25 discussed in the Supreme Council were mostly about the materials.

26 Q. Can you tell us if any possible plans, or strategies, were
27 discussed of how to get these fighting materials?

28 A. Yes, we used to discuss them at the time when we received
29 the message from Ibrahim Bah, the message he brought from

1 Mr Taylor, and when we had all accepted and Johnny Paul Koroma,
2 who was the Head of State at that time, he had started having
3 communications with Mr Taylor and he used to tell us that he had
4 a plan to travel to Liberia. So, those were the things we used
09:49:27 5 to discuss and those were the plans that we had.

6 Q. Mr Witness, you said that Johnny Paul Koroma was having
7 communications with Charles Taylor. How do you know that?

8 A. Johnny Paul Koroma used to say them when we had meetings.
9 That was where I came to know.

09:49:58 10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Excuse me. Mr Interpreter, what do you
11 mean "used to say them"? What do you mean by that,
12 Mr Interpreter?

13 THE INTERPRETER: He said he used to talk about them.

14 THE WITNESS: When I said "them", it was all of us who were
09:50:18 15 in the meeting. That is the Supreme Council meeting. Those of
16 us who were there, he used to tell us. That is what I mean.

17 MR KOUMJIAN:

18 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. I think you clarified that. Can
19 you tell us what your own relationship with Johnny Paul Koroma
09:50:37 20 was?

21 A. Well, the relationship that I had with Johnny Paul Koroma
22 was that I was very close to Johnny Paul Koroma because I was the
23 person who used to take information from the front line and would
24 bring it to him, and the reports that I used to bring, they were
09:51:06 25 confirmed reports. So, he opened his door to me at any hour, any
26 minute, even if it was at night. I will go to his place, I will
27 sit with him and then we will discuss.

28 Q. Did Johnny Paul Koroma have bodyguards at this time in
29 Freetown in 1997?

1 A. Yes, he had bodyguards.

2 Q. Who were the bodyguards of Johnny Paul Koroma?

3 A. They were mixed. We had the RUF and we had the SLAs and
4 those were the ones that formed the bodyguard unit who were with

09:52:00 5 Johnny Paul.

6 Q. When you had your own private discussions with Johnny Paul
7 Koroma, did you discuss the general situation? What did you
8 discuss with Johnny Paul Koroma?

9 A. Well, I used to talk with Johnny Paul Koroma because he had
09:52:27 10 now known me, I was an NPFL man and he used to tell me that it
11 was now good that he was now in contact with the Pa, and that is
12 Mr Taylor, and that he had plans for him to go there and see him.
13 I also used to tell him that, "It will be nice that you will go
14 there and see him, because when the two of you meet you will be
09:53:05 15 able to sit down and discuss something that will make things
16 better for us all." So, those are some of the things that I used
17 to discuss with Johnny Paul.

18 Q. Did Johnny Paul Koroma ever discuss with you any - excuse
19 me. Let me try another question without making it leading. When
09:53:39 20 you suggested that it would be good for Johnny Paul Koroma to sit
21 down and discuss with Charles Taylor, what did Johnny Paul Koroma
22 say?

23 A. He also said yes, that is a good thing, and the way he said
24 he has been discussing with his brother, he believed that if they
09:54:11 25 see face to face and sit together and discuss, they will discuss
26 more.

27 Q. Now, earlier you talked about plans discussed at the
28 Supreme Council to obtain weapons and ammunition. Did you have
29 any discussions, or plans, of how this would be paid for?

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: What would be paid for?

2 MR KOUMJIAN: The weapons and ammunition.

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, because we discussed about the things
4 that we were to take along and those were diamonds. Those were
09:54:55 5 the things that we were going to take along to pay for those
6 items.

7 Q. Were economic matters, budget, money, ever discussed in the
8 Supreme Council meetings?

9 A. The money issues that we used to discuss were that, in
09:55:20 10 fact, the AFRC at that time never had any budget that we met, but
11 Johnny Paul organised that he sent some people to Kono who were
12 mining for the organisation and mining was going on there, so we
13 used to get those diamonds and normally when we had the meetings
14 he will show us the ones that they had already brought before he
09:55:48 15 would keep them, and those were the things that we planned that
16 the Pa, that is Johnny Paul Koroma, should take to the big Pa,
17 that is Mr Taylor, so that we will get those things that we
18 wanted and those were the ammunition and the arms.

19 Q. Mr Witness, you said - you talked about that Johnny Paul
09:56:13 20 Koroma would "take to the big Pa". What would he take to the big
21 Pa? What was the plan?

22 A. I have said the diamonds that we collected. Those are the
23 things I am talking about.

24 Q. You said that Johnny Paul Koroma sent some people to
09:56:34 25 organise mining in Kono. Do you recall the names of anyone that
26 he sent?

27 A. It was Gullit who was in Kono and he was in charge of the
28 mining, the mining that Johnny Paul had organised.

29 Q. Mr Witness, I see that in my question I used the word "big

1 Pa" when I asked - you said that Johnny Paul Koroma would "take
2 to the big Pa". Do you understand what I meant by "big Pa"?

3 I was quoting you earlier.

09:57:25

4 A. The big Pa is Mr Taylor. That was what I said. I said
5 when I talked about the big Pa, because I said - I referred to
6 Johnny Paul as "Pa". Now, when I said "big Pa", I was referring
7 to Mr Taylor and he was the big one.

8 Q. Thank you. Now, at the time that Johnny Paul organised the
9 mining and you said he sent Gullit, to your knowledge was RUF
10 engaged in mining of diamonds?

09:57:50

11 A. Yes, RUF also used to mine for diamonds and the AFRC men
12 were also doing mining.

13 Q. Do you know some of the locations where RUF commanders were
14 responsible for the mining?

09:58:25

15 A. RUF was doing mining in Kono and Tongo.

16 Q. When you say Kono, is that one site, or is that more than
17 one site?

09:59:01

18 A. Well, Kono, for people who know Kono, Kono Town is a big
19 town and the people who used to mine were in different - were at
20 different locations.

21 Q. You indicated that Johnny Paul Koroma showed some diamonds
22 at these meetings. Can you describe what happened?

09:59:36

23 A. Yes, the diamonds - when he had organised the mining in
24 Kono, the diamonds that they brought, he will display the
25 diamonds in the meeting, the diamonds that he brought. He will
26 show them to us. They will be in small containers and he will
27 show them to us and sometimes he will put them on piece of papers
28 and they will count the pieces of diamonds before he will put
29 them in a container and then he will keep them. That was how he

1 used to do it.

2 Q. Can you describe the containers that you saw the diamonds
3 kept in by Johnny Paul Koroma?

4 A. Well, they were in small jars. You know there are some
10:00:27 5 bottles that are gem bottles. There are some bottles that are
6 jam bottles. Those were the bottles in which he used to place
7 them. The size is like the glass that is in front of me here.

8 MR KOUMJIAN: Perhaps just a clarification from the
9 interpreter, on line 11 I believe the word was "jam bottles".
10:00:57 10 The LiveNote has "gem" and then it has "jam".

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is the way I heard it, the two
12 different words.

13 MR KOUMJIAN: I am wondering if that came from the witness,
14 or the interpreter. I am just asking for clarification from the
10:01:10 15 interpreter. Perhaps your Honours could ask if the witness used
16 the word "gem bottles", or only "jam bottles".

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, there are two words shown
18 with the bottles. Was one a "gem bottle" and one a "jam bottle",
19 or were the --

10:01:30 20 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, initially when the witness
21 called the word I heard it to be "gem" and at the second time
22 I heard it to be "jam".

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: So the record is correct. Just for
24 purposes of record I note the witness has indicated the glass in
10:01:47 25 front of him which I think is approximately 250 millilitre size
26 it looks.

27 MR MUNYARD: I have no idea of millilitres, but I am quite
28 willing to accept Madam President's description.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: It is a small whiskey glass.

1 MR MUNYARD: I am not a whiskey drinker.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Neither am I.

3 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: For the record, it is not millimetres, it
4 is millilitres, if that can be corrected.

10:02:22 5 MR KOUMJIAN:

6 Q. Mr Witness, how long were you in Freetown?

7 A. Well, I spent some time in Freetown, until the time of the
8 intervention when we were flushed out. I was always in Freetown
9 the time we joined the AFRC.

10:02:48 10 Q. During that period of time, from the coup, when you came to
11 Freetown, until you were pushed out, can you tell us what
12 relations were like between the AFRC and RUF?

13 A. Well, the relationship at that time was nice. We were all
14 working together well and in the town we were all doing things
15 together and we fought together and we used the arms together.

10:03:21 16 They also used to give us ammunition that we used to go to the
17 front line at any time we were going to fight the ECOMOG. So, if
18 you are asking for the relationship, the relationship between us
19 was nice. We never had any problem at all.

10:03:46 20 Q. When you say, "They used to give us ammunition to go to the
21 front line", who gave ammunition to who? Please use the names.

22 A. Well, it was Johnny Paul Koroma who was the Head of State
23 and he was the leader. He was the one who gave us the
24 ammunition. He used to supply us ammunition for us to go to the
25 front line.

10:04:09 26 Q. When you say "us", who do you mean?

27 A. Those of us who were the fighters, like the RUF, because we
28 were now mixed up. The SLA and the RUF, we all used to join
29 hands together to go and fight. We were faced with the same

1 target so we were mixed. It was not that RUF was in a separate
2 place and the SLA in a separate place. That was not how it was
3 at that time. We were all together and fighting together.

10:04:48 4 Q. You indicated that you were a front line commander. Did
5 you receive ammunition from Johnny Paul Koroma during that time
6 in Freetown?

7 A. Yes, I received it at first, but later I never used to
8 receive ammunition again.

10:05:09 9 Q. When you were a front line commander in Freetown, were the
10 troops under your command - from what factions, from what former
11 organisations did they come from?

12 A. We had STF. These were people who were in the national
13 army in Liberia, they were those soldiers, but because of the war
14 they ran away and crossed over into Sierra Leone, so they joined
10:05:55 15 the government troops, that is the SLAs. They joined them, so
16 they were with them up until the time of the coup when they
17 called on the RUF. So, we met those people with the AFRC, and
18 that is the SLAs, so we all joined hands together and we were
19 fighting.

10:06:22 20 Q. Okay, thank you. I want to ask you about the troops you
21 yourself were commanding in fighting during that period of time.
22 Were your own troops from the SLA, STF and RUF, or were they of -
23 from what factions were they?

24 A. Well, my own fighters - I had some SLAs who used to fight
10:06:52 25 together with my own men, like the RUF with whom I was together,
26 and even some STF men who I have just spoken about. They were
27 also with me and we were all fighting.

28 Q. During that time that you were in Freetown, who were you
29 fighting against?

1 A. We were fighting against the ECOMOG and the Kamajors.

2 Q. At the time of the AFRC coup, did all of the SLAs join with
3 the RUF?

10:07:39

4 A. Not all the SLAs joined the AFRC, but at the time we were
5 in town they all pretended as if they were with the AFRC. That
6 was how they used to do, but some were there who were spies, who
7 used to spy on our information and any plans that we had they
8 would reveal them to the people to whom they were loyal. What
9 I mean is the then President Kabbah.

10:08:11

10 Q. Mr Witness, I want to go back to ammunition. During the
11 time that you were in Freetown, do you know if any significant
12 ammunition shipments were received?

13 A. Yes, we received a small amount of ammunition that came
14 before the intervention.

10:08:42

15 Q. What shipments do you recall?

16 A. Well, the one that came it was at Magburaka that they
17 brought them, but even before they brought them Johnny Paul had
18 told us that his brother, who is Mr Taylor, was going to send
19 something for us and that was small amount of ammunition and he
20 said we should go and receive them at Magburaka, because at

10:09:14

21 Magburaka we had an airstrip. So, that was where we went and at
22 that time they appointed Fonte Kanu, who was an SLA. He led us
23 to go and receive the ammunition. Mike Lamin also went. I also
24 went. But whilst we were there, the aeroplane that brought the
25 things, when it alighted it was like the ECOMOG had intercepted
26 the movement so the Alpha Jet came around and bombarded the
27 place, but when it came, even before it could reach there, we had
28 already collected the items even before the Alpha Jet got there
29 to bombard the place.

1 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. I have several questions to ask you
2 about what you just told us, but first a spelling, Fonte Kanu,
3 F-O-N-T-E K-A-N-U. You said, Mr Witness, that, "Johnny Paul told
4 us that his brother, Mr Taylor, was going to send something for
10:10:43 5 us." Did Johnny Paul Koroma indicate how he knew that?

6 A. I have told you that Johnny Paul and Mr Taylor, they were
7 now having communications, so he received that through
8 communication before he called us and explained to us that we
9 should go to Magburaka and receive those things.

10:11:13 10 Q. When you say that Johnny Paul and Mr Taylor were having
11 communications, do you know how they were having communications?

12 A. Yes, I know how they used to have communication because
13 Johnny Paul had communication set, which was a Yaesu radio that
14 we used to use in the field. He also had one at his house and
10:11:42 15 also we had communication people who were in Liberia, who were
16 RUF members. They were there in Liberia. We had a woman there
17 who was called Memuna. We had another operator who was also
18 there, who was called Tollo, and we had another who was called
19 Ebony. So, those people were based in Liberia. They were there,
10:12:18 20 so they were the operators who were in Liberia who were doing the
21 communication from Freetown to Liberia, so that was how the
22 communication business went on. Even for them to open

23 frequencies that Johnny Paul would talk on, they were the ones
24 who used to show that to Johnny Paul and the operator that Johnny
10:12:51 25 Paul had, he also used to follow the instruction that he received
26 from those ones in Liberia, so that was how the communication was
27 when Mr Taylor and Johnny Paul Koroma used to talk. Johnny Paul
28 also used to tell us, at the time we had meetings, that he also -
29 that he always speak with his brother and I had already told you

1 that we had plans that Johnny Paul himself should go and see
2 Mr Taylor, so that communication was there.

3 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. First let me ask you, you said,
4 "Johnny Paul would tell us that he talked to his brother", just
10:13:31 5 so the record is clear, who do you mean by Johnny Paul's brother?

6 A. Well, I will call the name again. Maybe you did not get it
7 clear. I said he used to tell us that his brother was Mr Taylor
8 because he was also considering Mr Taylor as his own elder
9 brother. So, he took Foday Sankoh's footsteps, so he was also
10:14:06 10 calling Mr Taylor his brother.

11 MR KOUMJIAN: Some spellings, your Honour. Memuna,
12 M-E-M-U-N-A. Tollo, T-O-L-L-O:

13 Q. You said that you yourself were sent to Magburaka; is that
14 correct?

10:14:30 15 A. Yes, I went to Magburaka with Fonte Kanu and Mike Lamin,
16 together with other people.

17 Q. You described something being delivered. Can you tell us
18 what you remember as to what was actually unloaded from that
19 plane?

10:14:56 20 A. They brought two AA guns and those were anti-aircraft guns,
21 two of them. They brought some ammunition, the ammunition for
22 the AA gun, and they brought some GMG rounds. Those were the
23 things that they brought, but although we also received them, we
24 also expected to receive AK rounds. Although we had had AK
10:15:32 25 rounds before, but we needed more.

26 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness is going too
27 fast.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are going fast for the
29 interpreter, so if you can speak more slowly so the interpreter

1 can keep up with you, please. Please continue.

2 MR KOUMJIAN:

3 Q. Had you finished your answer? The last thing we understood
4 you to say was you had expected AK rounds, "Although we had AK
10:16:04 5 rounds before, we needed more." Is there anything else you
6 wanted to add?

7 A. Well, I said the AK rounds that we had was small in
8 quantity, so we expected more AK rounds. Although the one that
9 came, we accepted it, but we will have been happier if more AK
10:16:29 10 rounds came because that was what we expected.

11 Q. Now, you indicated that you received GMG rounds. Can you
12 tell us again what GMG rounds were for?

13 A. The GMG rounds is - we use it in a gun that has something
14 like a belt. That is where we fix the ammunition before we fix
10:16:59 15 it into the gun and it is that belt that that particular gun uses
16 with the ammunition to fight.

17 Q. Did you, the members of the AFRC/RUF, have GMG guns that
18 you could use these rounds in?

19 A. Yes, we had the guns.

10:17:23 20 Q. You also talked about two anti-aircraft guns with
21 ammunition. Can you describe what the anti-aircraft guns looked
22 like?

23 A. Well, the anti-aircraft gun is a gun. It has a stand that
24 you can put on the ground. Sometimes it can be mounted on a van
10:17:55 25 and sometimes when we wanted to take it to the front to fight we
26 will mount it on top of a vehicle and it has a long barrel that
27 has the magazine by the side. It also uses a belt and it is in
28 the belt that you will load the ammunition, and it has a box that
29 has the magazines that you put it by the side of the barrel.

1 Q. These anti-aircraft guns, could they be used for other
2 purposes besides shooting at aircraft?

3 A. Yes. We shot human beings with it, not just aircraft. It
4 was to kill human beings.

10:18:52 5 Q. The anti-aircraft gun rounds, can you describe them?

6 A. It is something that is big. It is longer and bigger than
7 the AK rounds and it is even bigger than the GMG rounds, but it
8 is an explosive.

9 Q. Do you know whether this shipment was paid for by the
10:19:30 10 AFRC/RUF?

11 A. Well, I have told you here that Johnny Paul and Ibrahim Bah
12 had a closed door meeting, so whatever they discussed in that
13 meeting they did not tell us and Johnny Paul himself did not tell
14 us that he sent something to be taken along, only that he told us
10:20:01 15 that it was an instruction that he received from his brother when
16 they were discussing and he said we should go and receive those
17 items.

18 Q. Thank you. Mr Witness, during this time between the coup
19 and the intervention when you were in Freetown, can you describe
10:20:18 20 what the civilians', in Freetown, reaction was to this AFRC/RUF
21 regime?

22 MR MUNYARD: Again, the civilians in Freetown is a rather
23 large population for one man to be able to speak on behalf of,
24 unless he was elected democratically by them as some sort of
10:20:43 25 spokesman.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, you have heard the
27 objection.

28 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes, your Honour. This witness said he spent
29 a year there. I can't ask him about the reactions of every

1 individual in Freetown.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: But we have no idea if he did some
3 research, polling, or read the newspapers, or how he would assess
4 the reaction of the general public. He was a member of the
10:21:07 5 military.

6 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes, and that would be the follow up question
7 as to what he observed. I believe the question - he will
8 probably give us what he observed about the civilians. Let me
9 try to deal with - I will try to --

10:21:20 10 MR MUNYARD: With respect, it still has to be more specific
11 than what he observed of the civilians. You can't ask a witness
12 of this sort what the civilians did, or didn't do.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: You have to be more specific,
14 Mr Koumjian.

10:21:42 15 MR KOUMJIAN:
16 Q. Sir, what did the university students in Freetown - how did
17 they react to the coup of the AFRC and RUF?

18 MR MUNYARD: I make the same objection. There has really
19 got to be more foundation before these great groups of people can
10:21:59 20 be gathered together under one umbrella and then this man give
21 evidence as to their attitude.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: We don't know if he observed them. We
23 don't know if he talked to them. We don't know if there was a
24 poll of them, or how he would reach any conclusions as to their
10:22:18 25 opinion.

26 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay, I can do it in the order your Honours
27 like, but I believe it will be more leading:

28 Q. Sir, was there a demonstration at the university against
29 the coup?

1 MR MUNYARD: I think that is called a leading question.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is a leading question, Mr Koumjian.

3 MR KOUMJIAN:

10:22:45

4 Q. Sir, are you aware of the reactions of the civilians of
5 Freetown? Did you observe anything yourself that told you what
6 the reactions of the civilians of Freetown was to the coup and
7 the regime, you yourself?

10:23:05

8 MR MUNYARD: I am sorry, we have not moved away from the
9 first proposition. The wording might be more specific to the
10 witness, but he is still being asked to comment on the civilians
11 of Freetown.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard --

13 THE WITNESS: You want me to talk?

10:23:23

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just pause, Mr Witness, please. We have
15 moved away slightly from, "What is your assessment of the
16 reaction of the population?" The question now is, "Are you aware
17 of the - did you observe anything yourself?" He is being asked
18 did he himself observe. He can say yes, he can say no and he can
19 describe what he observed.

10:23:43

20 MR MUNYARD: I accept that.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed.

22 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you.

23 THE WITNESS: Yes, I observed something.

24 MR KOUMJIAN:

10:23:57

25 Q. Can you tell us what you yourself observed as far as a
26 reaction from people in Freetown to the coup?

27 A. Well, the majority of the civilians were not in favour of
28 the government and even the students, who were the Fourah Bay
29 College students, were not in favour, so they demonstrated

1 against the AFRC and the RUF. Even fighting erupted between us
2 and the students, and during that some of the students died as a
3 result of the gunshots, so actually the civilians and the
4 students were not in favour. Some people only pretended, just
10:25:00 5 like I had said. Some soldiers pretended as though they were
6 with the government, but they were not actually with the AFRC
7 government. So, they used to take information that they revealed
8 and they had a propaganda radio, which was Radio Democracy, which
9 was located at Lungi. They used to talk over that one about all
10:25:29 10 our plans and the things that we did on a daily basis. So,
11 people who were with us were the ones that passed that
12 information and the radio will also say it. So, the students and
13 the majority of the population in Freetown did not favour us at
14 all.

10:25:51 15 Q. Did you ever discuss with other RUF and AFRC commanders how
16 they felt about the civilian attitude towards the junta?

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: You introduced a new word, Mr Koumjian.

18 MR KOUMJIAN:

19 Q. Sir, what did you call the AFRC/RUF union?

10:26:24 20 A. We used to refer to it as the People's Army.

21 Q. Were there any other words used for the government that you
22 formed?

23 A. Well, it was the AFRC and the RUF government combined
24 together.

10:26:49 25 Q. Mr Witness, did you ever discuss with other RUF and AFRC
26 commanders how they felt about the civilian attitude towards this
27 People's Army that you had formed?

28 A. Well, like I had said, we had started discussing amongst
29 ourselves that the civilians were not favouring us. They did not

1 I like us. They were only pretending to us, but deep down in their
2 hearts they did not like us. That was the reason why even the
3 students rioted and demonstrated against us, so those of us, the
4 commanders, used to discuss those things amongst ourselves. So,
10:27:44 5 we also did not have clear and clean hearts for the civilians
6 because of what they were doing to us.

7 Q. When you say you did not have "clear and clean hearts" for
8 the civilians, what do you mean?

9 A. What I mean is that we did not have that clear hearts for
10:28:15 10 them because they had also formed a group, that is the young men
11 had formed a group that they called the Civil Defence Force and
12 they started mounting checkpoints and manning checkpoints in
13 Freetown. That was what they used to do, you see? So, we also
14 did not have clear hearts for them and we were against them
10:28:39 15 totally.

16 Q. Mr Witness, you discussed the intervention. Can you recall
17 when the intervention took place?

18 A. The intervention took place in 1998, in February. That was
19 the time the intervention took place.

10:29:14 20 Q. When you used the word intervention, can you tell us what
21 it was? What does it mean?

22 A. It was the ECOMOG troops and the Kamajors that we were
23 fighting against. Those were the people that advanced on us to
24 flush us out of Freetown. So, other people who were soldiers,
10:29:51 25 who were with the AFRC and who were loyal to President Kabbah at
26 that time, they also joined the ECOMOG group to push us out of
27 Freetown, so that was the intervention that the ECOMOG took
28 against us when they came to push us out of the town.

29 Q. Thank you. Just so we are clear, you said the intervention

1 took place in February 1998. Prior to the intervention was there
2 fighting in Freetown with ECOMOG and these other opponents that
3 you mentioned?

10:30:44 4 A. We were fighting against the students. We would attack the
5 ECOMOG at Jui. That was where they were. That was where we were
6 attacking them. They were also based at Lungi from where they
7 were shelling into Freetown. They were bombing Freetown. It was
8 at Jui that ECOMOG had their base, so that was where we used to
9 launch attacks on them. They moved from that position and
10:31:10 10 advanced.

11 MR KOUMJIAN: Jui, your Honours, is J-U-I. Thank you:

12 Q. Now, Mr Witness, I want to go to February 1998, the
13 intervention. Can you tell us what happened to you at that time?

14 A. Well, at that time when we were fighting against the
10:31:53 15 ECOMOG, at that time we were running short of ammunition. The
16 guns, that is the AKs, which most of the fighters had had, there
17 were no ammunitions for them, so we started running away. We
18 pulled out through the peninsula to go to Tombo. That was where
19 we went. We crossed using the fishing boats that the people had
10:32:27 20 there and went to Four Mile, up to Masiaka. That was what we
21 did.

22 Q. Thank you. Masiaka is spelt correctly. I am sorry to go
23 back, but, Mr Witness, you mentioned the lack of AK rounds and
24 I want to go back for a moment to the Magburaka shipment you told
10:32:54 25 us about. You said that there were two AA guns. What happened
26 to those two guns?

27 A. Well, one of the guns was with the AFRC people, which they
28 had mounted at JPK's house for the Alpha Jet. One was given to
29 the RUF fighters, which was with Mike Lamin, but he had taken it

1 to Kenema and left it in the care of Mosquito, Sam Bockarie.

2 Q. What about the GMG rounds? How were they divided, if you
3 know?

10:33:42

4 A. The GMG rounds were used at the time when the fighting was
5 going on, when the people - the men were advancing. That was
6 what we were fighting with. We did not distribute them the way
7 the AA guns were distributed, no.

10:34:05

8 Q. Thank you. Mr Witness, you said, in regards to the
9 intervention in February 1998 "we started running" and "we pulled
10 out", who pulled out? Can you explain who it was?

11 A. When I say "we" I mean we the fighters for the AFRC/RUF and
12 our Head of State, who was Johnny Paul Koroma. All of us pulled
13 out together with the STF. We pulled out from Freetown and went
14 to go into the bush.

10:34:37

15 Q. When you got to Masiaka did you see anybody you knew?

16 A. Yes, I saw people whom I knew.

17 Q. Who was in Masiaka?

18 A. I met SO Williams, who was one of the senior men for the
19 AFRC. I met Issa Sesay there and other fighters.

10:35:13

20 Q. Were these people that had previously been in Freetown?

21 A. Yes, they were in Freetown.

22 Q. Do you know how they got to Masiaka from Freetown?

23 A. They passed through the peninsula to Tombo and they used a
24 boat to cross over to Four Mile. They walked and arrived in
25 Masiaka. That is how they travelled. Those of us who stayed
26 behind did the same thing.

10:35:47

27 Q. So at Masiaka were the fleeing soldiers all on foot, or did
28 you have any vehicles?

29 A. From Masiaka it was not everybody that walked because we

1 were going to Makeni. It was not everybody that walked to
2 Makeni. Some people, who were the soldiers, took vehicles from
3 the civilians who had them in that Masiaka area. So, they were
4 taking away these vehicles from them and used them to go to
10:36:45 5 Makeni.

6 Q. Where did you go?

7 A. I went to Masiaka and to Makeni. I first went to Lunsar,
8 that was where I was. Then I received a message. They sent a
9 message. Johnny Paul sent a message that I should go to Makeni.

10:37:15 10 Then I went.

11 Q. How did that message reach you?

12 A. Well, first I got it through radio and I saw people who
13 came with a vehicle to take me along.

14 Q. Did you go to Makeni?

10:37:36 15 A. Yes, I went to Makeni.

16 Q. What did you see when you got to Makeni?

17 A. Well, when I arrived in Makeni I saw a lot of commanders
18 who had pulled out from Freetown: Superman, Issa Sesay, Gullit,
19 Five Five. I saw those people there. I saw a lot of fighters
10:38:00 20 there, but Johnny Paul was not in Makeni Town. He was in his
21 village.

22 Q. Did you receive any instructions when you were there in
23 Makeni?

24 A. Yes, I received an instruction from Mosquito, that is Sam
10:38:24 25 Bockarie, that we should go with Johnny Paul to Kailahun, we
26 should go with him. So, that was the message he sent: That we
27 should not allow anything to happen to him. We should be with
28 him until we take him along.

29 Q. You said Johnny Paul Koroma was in his village. Do you

1 recall the name of the village?

2 A. Magbonki neh, that is the name of the village. After Makeni
3 and Binkolo then you get to that village.

4 MR KOU MJIAN: I understand this has been spelt before, but
10:39:15 5 the spelling we gave before, to be consistent, is
6 M-A-G-B-O-N-K-I-N-E-H:

7 Q. How did you learn that Johnny Paul Koroma was in
8 Magbonki neh?

9 A. Well, Johnny Paul sent someone to tell me that he was in
10:39:46 10 that village and that I should go there, and I went there to see
11 him.

12 Q. How far was the village from Makeni?

13 A. Well, from Makeni to Binkolo it is about seven miles and
14 Binkolo to that village it could be, let us say, a mile and a
10:40:06 15 half.

16 MR KOU MJIAN: Binkolo, B-I-N-K-O-L-O:

17 Q. Did you see Johnny Paul Koroma there in his village?

18 A. Yes, I saw him in the village.

19 Q. Anyone else?

10:40:39 20 A. Yes, he was there with other securities who were fighters.
21 They were with him, together with his family members, his wife
22 and other people were also there.

23 Q. Did you speak with Johnny Paul Koroma there?

24 A. Yes, I spoke with him.

10:41:10 25 Q. What did he say?

26 A. Well, I told him that we should go to Kono and he said yes,
27 that was why he had called me, for us to prepare to leave Makeni,
28 because he wants to go to Kailahun. So, the plan which we had
29 for him to travel to Mr Taylor, it would be good for him to make

1 that trip, so I too said okay. I returned to Makeni to organise
2 ourselves to go.

3 Q. Sir, can you explain that answer? When you say that in
4 order for - because Johnny Paul Koroma had plans to travel to see
10:42:09 5 Mr Taylor, it would be good for him to go to Kailahun; can you
6 explain that?

7 A. Yes. I had told you that plans were underway at the time
8 we were in Freetown that Johnny Paul was to go to Liberia to
9 Mr Taylor, so that plan was still in place. So, when he goes to
10:42:34 10 Buedu the distance will be shorter because from Buedu to Liberia
11 was not a far distance. It was closer to Liberia. It was close
12 to Liberia, sorry. So, he agreed to go to Kailahun and the plan
13 that we had he still had in mind, so he thought that when he goes
14 to that end that plan could materialise, materialise for him to
10:42:59 15 travel, so that was why he wanted us to move with him from that
16 place to go to Kailahun.

17 Q. Thank you. Did Sam Bockarie, Mosquito, give you any
18 instructions what you were to do?

19 A. Yes, I have told you that he said I should go with Johnny
10:43:27 20 Paul Koroma, that we should take him along safely, so I and
21 Superman organised ourselves. I told Superman that, "It would be
22 better for you too to be with some security so that you could be
23 with the Pa, that is Johnny Paul. I will lead the convoy from
24 Makeni up to Koidu", because we had heard that in Koidu Town they
10:43:55 25 had had over 5,000 Kamajors there, so people were afraid to leave
26 Kono to go, so that was why most of the AFRC fighters did not
27 follow us to go to Kono. Some people went with SAJ Musa towards
28 that Kabala end, so I led a convoy because I had a twin barrel AA
29 gun, which I was using, and one mortar - 60 millimetre mortar

1 gun. I mounted everything in a truck and I was using the twin
2 barrel and at the same time I was launching the mortar as I was
3 advancing to Koidu, until I reached - after Masingbi I fell into
4 an ambush and I was able to bulldoze my way through the ambush,
10:45:03 5 but during the ambush they returned with Johnny Paul Koroma to
6 Makeni. I didn't know this until I arrived in Koidu. When
7 I checked, Johnny Paul was not in the convoy. They had returned
8 with him to Makeni, so I had to come back to Makeni to take the
9 convoy and lead them back to Kono. But by that time I had
10:45:19 10 deployment in Koidu Town. I left them there before I picked up
11 Johnny Paul with his group and returned to Koidu.

12 Q. Did you then arrive in Koidu Town with Johnny Paul Koroma?

13 A. Yes, I reached Koidu Town with Johnny Paul Koroma and his
14 family members.

10:45:41 15 Q. Did Johnny Paul Koroma stay there?

16 A. He spent some few time there when the BBC picked him up and
17 announced it over the air that Johnny Paul Koroma was in Koidu
18 Town, so we too - once he had been located we knew that we would
19 encounter pressure, so we decided to send him to Kailahun
10:46:10 20 straight away, but the route that we were to use for the man to
21 go, which was the Gandorhun route, there were Kamajors there.
22 So, I had to go there to fight to ensure that I cleared that area
23 and stayed there before I could send for Johnny Paul and his
24 group to be taken, together with Issa Sesay, Akim Turay, Leather
10:46:39 25 Boot and some other people, to move to Kailahun.

26 Q. Mr Witness, you mentioned a broadcast on the BBC. How do
27 you know about that?

28 A. Well, we too did monitor radio to know what was going on,
29 so I heard it over the radio.

1 Q. When you talk about BBC and the radio, are you talking
2 about a commercial radio?

3 A. I am talking about the commercial radio.

10:47:24

4 Q. Did many people, or few people, have these radios among the
5 RUF during the years of the conflict?

6 A. Many people had these commercial radios. Even the Yaesu
7 radio that we were using in the communication field, it had a
8 certain area which could be tuned to catch the commercial
9 frequency that you could use to listen to news.

10:47:50

10 Q. Was there any particular news or programmes that you
11 listened to?

12 A. We will listen to local media, that is the SLBS and Radio
13 Democracy, but we mostly listened to get the news about what the
14 government was saying, whether it was true or whether it was in
15 line with where we were, or the positions where we were. We also
16 listened to the BBC to hear from them the reports that they were
17 giving about us, whether they were saying the right thing. So,
18 that was why we too were listening: To know how things were
19 going on.

10:48:36

20 Q. How often would you listen to the BBC?

21 A. Well, I did it every day. I did it every day.

22 Q. Did the BBC report regularly on Sierra Leone, or how often
23 would they report on Sierra Leone?

10:49:19

24 A. Well, they were reporting about Sierra Leone saying they
25 have pushed the rebels out of Freetown, they have killed 500
26 rebels. All those things, that was what they were saying,
27 because they had one Kamajor reporter who was in Bo. He too was
28 reporting. He will say they have killed 500 rebels, they have
29 captured so and so rebels. That was just how they were

1 reporting. Sometimes some of the news that they report,
2 sometimes the places they say we were, we would already be there
3 but they would say we are not there. You know, such things, you
4 see.

10:50:01 5 Q. Mr Witness, during this time after you were pushed out of
6 Freetown and when you took Johnny Paul Koroma to Koidu Town, was
7 there any organisational changes in the structure of the People's
8 Army?

9 A. Yes, we had a structure when Johnny Paul Koroma went to
10:50:35 10 Buedu. They set up a structure where RUF would be as commander,
11 we should have the AFRC - one man should be there as deputy. If
12 they had an AFRC man at the other side as commander, RUF should
13 be there as deputy. That was how the command structure was.

14 MR KOUMJIAN: I didn't get any interpretation.

10:51:08 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mine was very light. Mr Interpreter,
16 could you check if you are close enough to the microphone,
17 please.

18 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, I am close enough.

19 MR KOUMJIAN:

10:51:27 20 Q. This structure, Mr Witness, that you talked about, did it
21 apply to any particular units, or to all units?

22 A. Well, it applied to all the units that I have spoken about
23 because it was the AFRC and RUF, so wherever you had the AFRC you
24 had an RUF deputy. Where you had an RUF commander, you would
10:52:02 25 have an AFRC deputy and vice versa. That was how the structure
26 was.

27 Q. Mr Witness, did you yourself then have an SLA deputy?

28 A. Yes, I had an SLA deputy at the time that I left Kono and
29 went to Kailahun District. I had an SLA deputy who was Mr Sammy.

1 He was the major.

2 Q. Thank you. In addition to this structure of each commander
3 having a deputy from the other faction, were there any other
4 changes in the command structure?

10:53:00 5 A. I want you to repeat it for me to understand properly.

6 Q. Was the top command restructured in any way after the
7 intervention?

8 A. Yes, they made changes. They made promotions at the top.
9 They made Sam Bockarie - he was over all of us the fighters.

10:53:49 10 They had Issa Sesay, Morris Kallon and other commanders like Akim
11 Toure, Leather Boot, Banya, those people they too had their own
12 promotions.

13 Q. You indicated Sam Bockarie was put in charge over all of
14 the fighters. Was there a title to this position?

10:54:30 15 A. He was the - he was the defence chief of staff for the
16 whole movement.

17 Q. Who was it that appointed Sam Bockarie to that position?

18 A. It was Johnny Paul who did the restructuring because he
19 said he had spoken to his brother and the plan that he had to
10:55:21 20 travel, he was going to travel, so he wanted to leave the AFRC
21 and the RUF in one accord. So, that was why he has done these
22 promotions, so that he would leave us on the ground before he
23 goes.

24 Q. Thank you. Mr Witness, please explain for the record, when
10:55:43 25 you said Johnny Paul had spoken to his brother, who did you refer
26 to?

27 A. I am talking about Mr Taylor and I have told you that the
28 way Foday Sankoh was talking - the way he referred to
29 Charles Taylor as his brother, that was the footstep Johnny Paul

1 had taken, so when he was talking about Charles Taylor he will
2 refer to him as his brother.

3 Q. Where were you assigned after you took - sorry. After you
4 took Johnny Paul Koroma to Kono, I am not sure if you have told
10:56:37 5 us, where did he go then? Where did Johnny Paul Koroma go?

6 A. I told you that. I think I said it, maybe you didn't hear,
7 but I said when he arrived in Kono we took him from there and he
8 went to Kailahun in Buedu. That was where he went, where
9 Mosquito was, but he did not stay at that place. It was at
10:57:03 10 Kangama in that village, that was where he stayed.

11 Q. Do you know how far the village of Kangama is from Buedu?

12 A. It is not too far away from Buedu. It is seven miles.

13 Q. What was your assignment then after Johnny Paul Koroma had
14 gone to Kailahun?

10:57:41 15 A. I was at the front line at Sewafe and Superman was our
16 commander for the entire Kono District where we occupied.

17 Q. In the Kono District, under the command of Superman, were
18 there any SLAs?

19 A. Yes, we had SLAs there. There were many.

10:58:18 20 Q. Can you name some of the SLAs that were with you in Kono?

21 A. We had Leather Boot, he was there. We had Five Five. Five
22 Five was there.

23 Q. Thank you. How about in Kailahun, do you know if there
24 were any SLAs in Kailahun with Sam Bockarie?

10:59:03 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, just pause. I notice you
26 have been using the word "SLA" in the last sequence of questions,
27 whereas before you used the term "AFRC". Are you using them
28 interchangeably?

29 MR KOUMJIAN: I am, but thank you, your Honour, I should be

1 consistent, so I will use the term "AFRC".

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Because I have in mind the fact that
3 there was earlier evidence that there were SLAs still with the
4 Kabbah supporters.

10:59:33

5 MR KOUMJIAN:

6 Q. The men you mentioned, Leather Boot, Five Five, were they
7 AFRC members, or were they supporters of the Kabbah Government?

8 A. They were the AFRC people because the SLAs at that time had
9 been divided into two. There were those who were loyal to Kabbah
10 and there were those who were loyal to Johnny Paul, who joined
11 the RUF to go into the bush.

11:00:01

12 Q. Thank you. In Kailahun District were there AFRC loyal army
13 soldiers?

14 A. Yes. Gullit was there, Akim Toure too was there. You had
15 Eddie Kanneh, he too was there. You had Major Sam, whom I have
16 spoken about, he too was there. You had a lot of AFRC men who
17 were there whose name I can't call now.

11:00:36

18 Q. You also mentioned, I believe, earlier that there was a
19 force that went to the north. Were there forces of the People's
20 Army in the north?

11:01:03

21 A. Yes, you had RUF people who were in the north with SAJ
22 Musa. They were there.

23 Q. Can you name any of the RUF people that were in the north
24 with SAJ Musa?

11:01:27

25 A. You had King Perry, Alfred Brown and there were other
26 commanders, other fighters. They too were there.

27 Q. Now, just to clarify, I have used this term before, "the
28 north", when you say "the north", what do you mean? What
29 districts are covered?

1 A. It is the Koinadugu District.

2 Q. When you yourself were the commander of the northern
3 jungle, where was your headquarters, if you had one?

4 A. I was in the bush. I was in the bush at that time. Before
11:02:19 5 I joined the AFRC I was in the bush at that time. I was in the
6 Kangari Hills.

7 Q. Where was the SAJ Musa force that you have talked about
8 after the intervention?

9 A. They were at that Krubola area. That was where they were.

11:02:51 10 MR KOUJIAN: Your Honour, I would like to show the witness
11 a document. It has been marked already admitted as P-11.

12 MS IRURA: Your Honours, P-11 is a video clip.

13 MR KOUJIAN: I am sorry, if I can just have one moment.

14 I will come back to that after lunch when I get myself organised.

11:04:02 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: You are deferring the P-11?

16 MR KOUJIAN: Yes, I will do it after lunch, or the next
17 break:

18 Q. Sir, when you were in Kono was there any order given to you
19 and the other commanders there?

11:04:26 20 A. I want you to repeat it for me to understand.

21 Q. You said you were assigned, under the command of Superman,
22 in the Kono District. What were your orders there?

23 A. Our order was to go to Kono and we should not let go of
24 Kono.

11:04:54 25 Q. Do you know why the order was to not let go of Kono?

26 A. Yes, because it was in Kono that we did our mining. It was
27 there that we got our diamonds from.

28 Q. Who gave you the order to hold Kono?

29 A. It was Sam Bockarie who passed the order for us to hold on

1 to Kono.

2 Q. When you were in Kono, what was your ammunition situation?

3 A. Well, there was no ammunition, but I sent to Buedu for them
4 to send me some ammunition and Mosquito told me to exercise some

11:05:59 5 patience, so I exercised some patience and he told me that

6 Colonel Jungle had gone to Liberia, to Mr Taylor, to get some
7 ammunition, so when he comes with the ammunition he will send
8 them to me and indeed when they brought the ammunition, he sent
9 some ammunition for me in Kono. He sent ten boxes. He

11:06:25 10 dispatched them to be taken to me, but when the men were coming
11 they fought on the way, so they were not able to get to me with
12 all of them, so I just received half of them.

13 Q. Just to explain, when you say they fought on the way and
14 you only received half, can you explain that a little bit?

11:06:46 15 A. Yes, when the men were coming - because usually the route
16 that we used to come, people who were coming from that Kailahun
17 end, when they were coming they will cross the Moa River, they
18 will use bush path to come, but they met the Kamajors on the way
19 and they fought against them, so they were able to use some of
11:07:20 20 the ammunition they were bringing along to fight these men. So,
21 they were able to reach me with half of the ammunition.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, it is not clear from the
23 testimony, when the witness says "he sent ten boxes to me" is he
24 referring to Colonel Jungle, or to Mosquito, or who is he
11:07:44 25 referring to?

26 THE WITNESS: I am talking about Mosquito who had told me
27 that he would send ammunition for me, but that he had sent - that
28 Colonel Jungle had gone to Mr Taylor to bring ammunition and that
29 when he brought the ammunition Sam Bockarie took ten boxes and

1 dispatched them to me, to be taken to me in Koidu.

2 MR KOUMJIAN:

3 Q. So, Mr Witness, are you saying that the ten boxes that
4 Bockarie said he was sending you, he told you were from the
11:08:20 5 ammunition received from Colonel Jungle?

6 A. Yes, that is the ammunition.

7 Q. When you say boxes, what do you mean? Boxes of what?

8 A. Boxes of AK rounds, which were explosives.

9 Q. Can you describe the box?

11:08:45 10 A. The box had four corners and in that box you had two
11 sardine tins in there. When I talk about sardine tins, I am
12 talking about the tins that are in the box that I am talking
13 about. One tin is there that contains 35 packets and the other
14 tin contains 35 packets, so that is how they were in the boxes.

11:09:26 15 Q. What was the box made of, what material?

16 A. The box is a wooden box, but in that box you had the tins
17 that are made of metal. That is where the ammunition packets
18 were.

19 Q. How would you open the metal tins that you spoke of?

11:09:57 20 A. Well, it had its key there. The key was there and you will
21 open it like the opener that you had to open made tins. It had
22 its own key there to open the metal tin.

23 Q. So you have indicated that each box had two metal tins.
24 What was inside each metal tin? I believe you said 35 packets;
11:10:37 25 is that correct?

26 A. I said 35 packets are contained in one of those tins and in
27 one packet - in one packet, you have 20 rounds of ammunition in
28 one packet.

29 Q. Mr Witness, you told us that a box contains two pans, that

1 each pan contains 35 packets and that each packet contains 20
2 rounds. My multiplication indicates that that means each box
3 contains 1,400 rounds. Does that sound about right to you?

4 A. Yes.

11:11:45 5 Q. In Kono was there fighting?

6 A. Yes, there was fighting going on. It started at Sewafe, up
7 to Koidu.

8 Q. Who was fighting? What were the sides involved?

9 A. We were still fighting against the ECOMOG troops and the
11:12:16 10 Kamajors and SLA loyalists to Kabbah.

11 Q. Now, at any time did you get called to any meetings while
12 you were in Kono?

13 A. Yes, I was called to a meeting to go to Buedu, but I was
14 unable to go.

11:12:43 15 Q. Do you know if you were the only one called to the meeting?

16 A. I was not the only person who was called. They called
17 other commanders, like Superman and other commanders who were in
18 Koidu. They called us. They said the vanguards who were there
19 should also go to that meeting. That was the meeting that was
11:13:07 20 summoned by Sam Bockarie at Buedu.

21 Q. Mr Witness, you used the word "vanguards". Can you explain
22 what that term means?

23 A. Those who were the vanguards were the people who were
24 trained in Liberia for the Sierra Leone war, those whom
11:13:28 25 I trained.

26 Q. Why were you unable to attend the meeting in Buedu?

27 A. Because the two of us who were commanders, I will not leave
28 and Superman will not also leave. The two of us cannot leave
29 together, so Superman went and I sent somebody to represent me at

1 the meeting.

2 Q. At that time in the Kono District who controlled Koidu
3 Town?

4 A. Well, ECOMOG had pushed us out of Koidu Town, so we were
11:14:14 5 not in control of Koidu Town, but we were in the outskirts of
6 Koidu Town.

7 Q. Did you receive any reports about what happened at the
8 meeting in Buedu that you were unable to attend?

9 A. Yes, I received a report.

11:14:39 10 Q. Which person, or persons, told you about what happened at
11 that meeting?

12 A. It was Superman who came and met me at Gandorhun where
13 I was. He came with ammunition, a lot of AK rounds, boxes, and
14 he said the meeting that they had was for us to run a mission to
11:15:22 15 capture Koidu, to dislodge ECOMOG from Koidu, so he brought the
16 ammunition. The mission - the name of the mission was to have
17 been Fiti Fata. That was the mission we were to run in Koidu.
18 So, after we had spoken I too received a call from Mosquito in
19 Buedu and I tried to ask him about what Superman had told me and
11:15:54 20 he confirmed what Superman had told me, saying that a small
21 quantity of ammunition had arrived and that Brother Jungle had
22 taken it from Mr Taylor, so that is why he had sent them the
23 ammunition: For us to endeavour to capture Koidu, to dislodge
24 ECOMOG from Koidu. So, he showed me the ammunition and I agreed
11:16:24 25 for us to go on that mission.

26 Q. Thank you. Mr Witness, you told us about this ammunition
27 and the information you received as it came through Colonel
28 Jungle from Liberia. Let me just ask you: From the time of the
29 Abidjan Accord, in 30 November 1996, until the end of the

1 conflict, are you aware of the RUF receiving ammunition from any
2 other country other than Liberia?

3 A. Yes, we used to receive ammunition from Guinea. We used to
4 buy ammunition from the Guinean soldiers who were at the border.

11:17:12 5 We used to buy ammunition from them, but it was not much. It was
6 just a few. Sometimes we would get three boxes with some
7 grenades that we used to get from them. That was it.

8 Q. What years was that that you received this ammunition from
9 the Guineans? Do you recall?

11:17:38 10 A. Well, that was at the time that the ULIMO fighting was on,
11 when I told you that ULIMO had blockaded that border. That was
12 in 1993. That was the time that we used to take cocoa, coffee,
13 to the waterside and sell them to the Guineans. We did it like
14 an exchange when we used to buy those things from them.

11:18:09 15 Q. Aside from the ammunition purchased from the Guineans
16 during the time that ULIMO blocked the border, do you know
17 whether ammunition came from any other country to the RUF, other
18 than Liberia?

19 A. Well, apart from Liberia, during that year I am not sure if
11:18:40 20 any ammunition came from any other place.

21 Q. Thank you. Sir, you talked about this mission having a
22 code name Fiti Fata. Can you tell us what that means, Fiti Fata?

23 A. Fiti Fata means to do something as if you are senseless.

24 You were doing it as if you were a mad man. You were doing it as
11:19:19 25 if you have lost your senses. You were doing it that you have no
26 feeling that "If I did this, this was the consequence", that this
27 was the consequence that it would have. That was what it was.

28 Q. Did you participate in this Fiti Fata mission?

29 A. Yes, I took part in it.

1 Q. What were the orders as to how you were to carry out this
2 mission?

3 A. Well, in that mission we were to ensure that we recaptured
4 Koidu, like I have told you, and we were to kill anybody whom we
11:20:10 5 could lay hands on.

6 Q. Was the Fiti Fata mission successful in taking Kono?

7 A. No, we did not succeed at all.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, what would be helpful is to
9 have some time frames for some of these activities.

11:20:40 10 MR KOUMJIAN:

11 Q. Mr Witness, you have talked about being sent to Kono after
12 the intervention. Can you tell us approximately how long after
13 the intervention it was that you arrived in Kono?

14 A. The intervention - after we had been dislodged and we went
11:21:06 15 to Koidu, let me say we were in Koidu for a month when the ECOMOG
16 and the other troops dislodged us from Koidu Town.

17 Q. Okay, but my question was how long did it take you to go
18 from Freetown to get to Koidu?

19 A. I can take it that, because the day - not all of us went
11:21:38 20 together. I want you to note that. All of us that left Freetown
21 did not go together at the same time. To say that we went

22 together, no. Whilst we were fighting, others were retreating
23 and they had already reached Masiaka, but when I reached at
24 Masiaka I told you I left there and went to Lunsar and from

11:22:01 25 Lunsar I got an order to go to Makeni. On that same day I went
26 to Makeni, passed the night there and the following morning we
27 went to Kono. So, I want you to look into my explanation and you
28 should know how many days I spent, but I can say I spent about a
29 few days before we arrived in Kono. We didn't take more than one

1 week.

2 Q. You have indicated that after you arrived in Kono, in
3 Koidu, about a month later you were dislodged by ECOMOG; is that
4 right?

11:22:40 5 A. Yes, that was when ECOMOG flushed us out of Koidu Town.

6 Q. Now, do you recall the month of Fiti Fata, or do you recall
7 how long after it was that you were flushed out of Koidu Town
8 that the Fiti Fata operation took place?

9 A. Well, I have told you that when we were dislodged from
11:23:04 10 Koidu Town we were in the outskirts and we had Superman Ground at
11 the Guinea Highway and we had some other people in the Gandorhun
12 area and some other areas, and the month that we ran that mission
13 - I cannot tell you the specific month. If I did that, I will be
14 telling lies to you because I can't remember everything, because
11:23:27 15 my head is not a computer to say that I can store everything in
16 there to be each time I want to know about them I will look into
17 the computer. But when we were pushed out of Koidu Town, it was
18 not too long when we undertook this mission.

19 Q. Thank you. I understand that. Mr Witness, do you recall,
11:23:48 20 first of all, was Fiti Fata the same year that you were pushed
21 out of Freetown, the intervention, or was it a subsequent year?

22 A. The Fiti Fata happened in that year that we left Freetown.
23 It was in that year that we did the Fiti Fata. It was in 1998.

24 Q. Do you recall if it was rainy season, or dry season when
11:24:32 25 Fiti Fata took place?

26 A. The Fiti Fata was in the dry season.

27 Q. When you say the dry season, was it before the rainy
28 season, or after the rainy season?

29 A. We ran the Fiti Fata mission before the inception of the

1 rainy season.

2 Q. After the failure of the Fiti Fata mission to take Koidu
3 Town, were there any subsequent operations?

4 A. Yes, we had another operation called Operation Spare No
11:25:25 5 Soul.

6 Q. How did you hear about this operation?

7 A. I heard about the operation when Morris Kallon left Buedu
8 and came for us to undertake this mission. The mission was for
9 one of the towns in the Kono District.

11:25:53 10 Q. Which town was the target of the mission?

11 A. It was Njaima Nimi koro where we were to carry out the
12 mission.

13 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honours, the spelling for Njaima
14 Nimi koro. I see Nimi koro is spelt correctly in the transcript,
11:26:24 15 but Njaima, N-J-A-I-M-A, Njaima Nimi koro:

16 Q. Did this mission have a name?

17 A. Yes, I said it was Operation Spare No Soul.

18 Q. Who was the commander for this mission?

19 A. It was Morris Kallon.

11:26:55 20 Q. Do you know if this mission was successful in taking Njaima
21 Nimi koro?

22 A. We did not succeed in taking the entire Njaima Nimi koro.
23 I too, talking here, did not go on that mission, but I sent some
24 of my men who went with a group on that Njaima Nimi koro mission.

11:27:30 25 Q. You indicated, Mr Witness, that it had the name Spare No
26 Soul. Where did you hear this name? From which person, or
27 persons did you hear the name?

28 A. The Spare No Soul name came from Buedu. When Morris Kallon
29 came they went over the air and said it. It was Eldred Collins

1 who went over the air and said it over the BBC.

2 Q. Did you hear Eldred Collins on the BBC?

3 A. Yes, I heard him.

11:28:24

4 Q. What do you recall Eldred Collins saying about this
5 mission?

6 A. He said the mission which the RUF and the AFRC are going to
7 run was Operation Spare No Soul.

11:28:54

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, I am just watching the time.
9 I think we are up to our limit now on the tape, if this is a
10 convenient moment?

11 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Mr Witness, we are now going
13 to take the mid-morning break. We will adjourn for 30 minutes
14 and we will come back at 12.00. Please adjourn court.

11:29:11

15 [Break taken at 11.30 a.m.]

16 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, please proceed.

18 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you. Your Honours, it would be
19 convenient now for me to have the witness be shown P-51.

11:59:41

20 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated]. P-51, that
21 is fine.

22 MR KOUMJIAN: My mistake. It was under tab 11 of that
23 binder, but it is P-51.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Oh, I see.

12:00:30

25 MR KOUMJIAN: I am sorry, we have a different document as
26 P-51. P-51 and it has the ERN number 0025572 on the first page:

27 Q. Actually I can ask you some questions, Mr Witness, about
28 this before it is shown to you. I want to ask you whether you
29 recognise some names and, if you can, can you tell us what you

1 know about those persons. First, do you know a Lieutenant
2 Colonel Hector Lahai?

3 A. Colonel Hector, I know him.

4 Q. Who was Colonel Hector?

12:01:36 5 A. He was one of the honourables who staged the coup.

6 Q. Thank you. Can you explain what the term "honourables"
7 means?

8 A. Well, those people who were called honourables were the
9 people who staged the coup which took place in Freetown.

12:02:05 10 Q. When you say the people that made the coup in Freetown, did
11 these people belong to any organisation?

12 A. Yes, they were soldiers.

13 Q. Was - when you were in Kono, do you know where Lieutenant
14 Colonel Hector was?

12:02:40 15 A. Colonel Hector? Colonel Hector too was - he was in Kono.

16 Q. Do you recognise the name Amara Salia? (Your Honours, I am
17 referring to number 28 on the second page of the document.

18 MR MUNYARD: Your Honours, could we have some spellings?

19 Before we move off Hector, we have got a collection of different
12:03:08 20 last names for him on the transcript.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, one of whom sees to be "alcohol".

22 So, let us have it spelt so it can be properly recorded.

23 MR MUNYARD: It may be whisky, your Honour.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Nothing to do with me, Mr Munyard.

12:03:23 25 Wouldn't dream of touching the stuff.

26 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honours, the name as spelt in the
27 document is Hector initial B L-A-H-A-I:

28 Q. Mr Witness, I asked you about an Amara Salia. That is
29 A-M-A-R-A second name S-A-L-I-A. Do you recognise that name,

1 Amara Salia?

2 A. I know a lot of Amaras, but it the surname that is
3 confusing me. I am not familiar with it.

4 Q. In Kono --

12:04:08

5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Madam Court Officer, could you ensure
6 that we follow the document. We only have the screen and we
7 don't see any of these names that counsel is referring to.

8 MR KOUMJIAN:

12:04:28

9 Q. In Kono, Mr Witness, was anyone assigned as the mining -
10 were any individuals assigned as mining commanders?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What were the names that you recall of mining commanders?

13 A. I can recall Kennedy. Mr Kennedy.

14 Q. Do you know any other mining commanders' names?

12:05:03

15 A. I know the other man who is called Abdul.

16 Q. When was Kennedy a mining commander?

17 A. It was in '98 that Kennedy was the mining commander.

18 Q. What happened? Did anyone replace Kennedy after he was no
19 longer the mining commander?

12:05:45

20 A. At that time I was not there, but it was after - it was
21 Alpha and Kennedy who were leading the mining. They were the
22 mining commanders.

23 Q. On line 27 is a name Matthew Barbu. Do you recognise that
24 name, Matthew Barbu?

12:06:14

25 A. Yes, I know him.

26 Q. Who is Matthew Barbu?

27 A. Matthew Barbu was an NPFL man, but he was trained as a
28 vanguard. He was one of the commanders.

29 Q. What was his nationality?

1 A. He is Liberian.

2 Q. On line 24 there appears to be "Major Parker" and then in
3 parentheses "Base Marine". Do you recognise that name, or names?

4 A. Yes, I know him.

12:06:56 5 Q. Who is that?

6 A. Base Marine was one of the SBUs whom I trained at Camp
7 Naama. He was a vanguard.

8 Q. When you trained Base Marine at Camp Naama, can you
9 estimate how old he was?

12:07:25 10 A. Base Marine was about ten years old when he was at the RUF
11 base.

12 Q. In 1998, when you were in Kono, do you know where Base
13 Marine was assigned?

14 A. Base Marine, we were all in Kono when we were fighting.

12:07:58 15 The troubles were in Sewafe.

16 Q. At line 20 there is a name "Major MJ Wallace". Do you
17 recognise the name Major MJ Wallace?

18 A. Yes, I know that name.

19 Q. Who is MJ Wallace?

12:08:24 20 A. Wallace was an STF.

21 Q. Do you know where Major Wallace was when you were in Kono
22 in 1998?

23 A. Mr Wallace too was in Kono.

24 Q. Mr Witness, what were you known as? What did people call
25 you at that time in 1998?

12:08:57 26 A. Well, they used to call me Colonel Isaac.

27 Q. The document in front of us has a list with numbers and the
28 first name is number 1 "Colonel Dennis Mingo". Do you recognise
29 that name?

1 A. Yes, I know it.

2 Q. Who is Dennis Mingo?

12:09:48 3 A. Dennis Mingo was the one whom we called Superman. He was
4 the commander when we were in Koidu. He too was one of the area
5 commanders in the western jungle at the time that we were in the
6 bush.

7 Q. At the time that you were in Kono in 1998, who was the
8 commander and who was the deputy in Kono?

12:10:26 9 A. It was Superman who was the commander and I was next to
10 him.

11 Q. Now continuing with this document, Mr Witness, I want to go
12 to the page that has the ERN number 25579 and there appears to be
13 a date in the top right, handwritten, "5" and it appears to be
14 "17/98". Do you recognise Banya Ground? Does that word - those
15 words mean anything to you?

16 A. Banya Ground, yes.

17 Q. What is Banya Ground?

18 A. Well, that was where that man was a commander. That was
19 his own area.

12:11:33 20 Q. Whose area?

21 A. Where he was. He, him, Colonel Banya, that you are talking
22 about.

23 Q. Okay, so Banya Ground is named after a Colonel Banya. Is
24 that correct? Do I understand you?

12:11:57 25 A. Yes, it was named after the ground.

26 Q. Earlier, Mr Witness, you used the words "Superman Ground".
27 What is Superman Ground?

28 A. Where Superman himself was based at the Guinea Highway,
29 that was where they called Superman Ground.

1 Q. The Colonel Banya that you mentioned for Banya Ground, who
2 was he?

3 A. He too was an SLA, loyal to Johnny Paul Koroma.

12:12:47

4 Q. On the page that we are on now there appear to be some
5 names and then a dash and then - next to the first two names
6 Lieutenant Gbarrie, G-B-A-R-R-I-E, and then the next two names
7 Lieutenant Kellie and then the next two names - that is
8 K-E-L-L-I-E. Do you recognise those names?

9 A. Yes, I know these names.

12:13:21

10 Q. Who are Lieutenant Gbarrie and Kellie?

11 A. They were SLAs.

12 MR MUNYARD: Well, on the document I am looking at there
13 are two Lieutenant Gbarries and two Lieutenant Kellies. Are we
14 talking about all four of them, or just two of them? The
15 question was asked in an ambiguous way.

12:13:46

16 MR KOUMJIAN: Well, on my interpretation of the document it
17 is one person.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am not too about that, because one is
19 Celia Gbarrie and then there is Esther Kellie and Susan Kellie
20 and Coomber Gbarrie.

12:14:02

21 MR MUNYARD: Yes, there is Coomber Gbarrie as well.

22 MR KOUMJIAN: Well, your Honours, my own interpretation of
23 the document is that it is the names of civilians and then the
24 assigned officer for each civilian.

12:14:14

25 PRESIDING JUDGE: We don't have that. Was that adduced in
26 evidence?

27 MR KOUMJIAN: No, but I don't think they are separate
28 individuals:

29 Q. Let me ask this. Sir, in lines 10 through 25 there appear

1 to be names and then a dash and then it says "G5". Do the words
2 G5 mean anything to you?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What is a G5?

12:14:44 5 A. G5 is one of the units in the RUF which controlled the
6 civilians.

7 Q. Do you recall the names of any G5s in Kono District in
8 1998?

9 MR MUNYARD: Well is he being asked to recall them, or is
12:15:11 10 he being asked to look at this list and pick some off, because at
11 the moment in response to the question he is staring at the
12 screen. That is different from recall.

13 MR KOUMJIAN: He is not being asked to pick the names off
14 the screen and I don't think the names are on the screen. These
12:15:31 15 are a list of civilians, it appears:

16 Q. Sir, do you recall the names of any G5s that were in the
17 Kono District?

18 A. One, the G5 commander - the G5s I am not so familiar with
19 all of them, but their overall commander was one Prince Taylor.
12:15:56 20 He was their overall commander. He was one of the commanders.
21 He was one of the commanders - he was one of the vanguards who
22 controlled the other men and he assigned the orders to the
23 different areas. Now, I want to tell the Court that my own focus
24 was at the front line. That was where my attention was.

12:16:15 25 Q. Thank you. So, you are saying that you are not so familiar
26 with the G5s duties because you were a front line commander. Is
27 that correct?

28 A. I know about the G5 that it is a unit between the civilians
29 and the soldiers, those of us carrying guns like I have said, but

1 what I am trying to say here to say that I am familiar with the
2 commanders who were in the different areas in Kono District.
3 That is what I am talking about.

12:16:50 4 Q. Okay, thank you. As a commander - as a front line
5 commander - did you ever co-ordinate with G5s, or give any
6 requests to the G5s to carry out some operation for you, or to do
7 anything for you, excuse me?

8 A. Yes, I used to ask. For instance at the time that we were
9 in the bush I used to ask the G5 to send some civilians to erect
10 my hut where I would stay, or sometimes to come and work for me.

11 Q. How were those civilians compensated, do you know, if they
12 were?

13 A. Well there was no compensation to say you would use money
14 to pay them, no. They were civilians and they had no choice.
12:17:56 15 They are with the gunmen, they were under the control of the
16 gunmen and so whatever the gunmen wanted them to do for them they
17 will do just for them to survive.

18 MR KOUMJIAN: I would like now to have the witness shown
19 page 00025594:

12:18:50 20 Q. Mr Witness, reading the top of that document it says
21 "Civilian Women and Officer in Charge" and then there is a list
22 going from numbers 138 to 171 on this page. I am just going to
23 read the first few lines. It appears to be Tenneh Tua, that is
24 T-E-N-N-E-H T-U-A is how I would read it and then "Major Sam MP
12:19:30 25 Commander" next to that name. The next line 139 "Agness",
26 A-G-N-E-S-S, "Francis", next to that line "MP Sergeant Francis
27 Amara. It appears to be A-M-A-R-A to the best that I can
28 decipher the handwriting. Sir, as someone who was working in
29 Kono at that time with the RUF, can you tell us why there would

1 be a list "Civilian Women and Officer in Charge"? What would
2 that mean to you?

3 A. Well, those civilians, they were with most of the
4 commanders. Like the G5 can go to - the commanders can also go
12:20:28 5 to the G5 to sign for the civilians to stay with them, to work
6 for them, to be doing some things for them which they wanted them
7 to do. Those things were happening. The G5 too would make
8 records that they would keep.

9 Q. So, when the list says "Civilian Women and Officer in
12:20:54 10 Charge", can you tell us what would be the relationship between
11 the woman and the officer in charge?

12 MR MUNYARD: Well unless this witness is saying he knows
13 who these particular individuals are, how can he say that? And
14 before the witness answers, furthermore we haven't established at
12:21:15 15 the moment at any rate through this witness whether he does know
16 what this list is all about. He has not been asked anything
17 about the provenance of the list. He has just been shown the
18 names and now is asked to give a general view of his own as to
19 the relationship between the people in the two columns.

12:21:38 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, your response to that
21 objection, please.

22 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honours, you do not have to put the
23 provenance of each document to a witness especially when the
24 document is in evidence. This is a witness who was present with
12:21:52 25 the RUF. He was the number 2 commander of the RUF in this
26 district. I believe his knowledge of how things worked in the
27 RUF in Kono in 1998 would be helpful to the finders of fact in
28 understanding a document that may not be so apparent on its face.
29 He can --

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: But I personally have not established so
2 far that he knows what kind of a document this is, how it would
3 have been compiled, or what its purpose was, so I am - and I
4 speak now for myself - not sure how he can answer questions on
12:22:31 5 it. I would like to know what he knows about the document first
6 before we get into the specifics.

7 MR KOUMJIAN: Well, then, I will ask the witness about the
8 relationship between - I am not asking the witness about the
9 document, of course the document's contents speak for themselves,
12:22:48 10 and this witness I do not believe has a knowledge of how the
11 document was made, I believe. I am going to ask the witness
12 about his knowledge of facts which I think confirm and help us
13 interpret the document. The document can be taken away from the
14 witness, but I would ask your Honours to follow the document:

12:23:09 15 Q. Sir, do you - can you tell us what the relationship was
16 between women in Kono District in 1998 and - no, please take it
17 away from the witness. I am sorry.

18 MR MUNYARD: I don't think my learned friend understands
19 that those of the rest of us in Court can't follow it unless it
12:23:28 20 is on the screen in which case the witness sees it.

21 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay, then I don't need to use the document
22 at this point. Thank you. We could maybe I think turn the
23 screen off, but I don't think it is necessary. I can go over it
24 without the document. I have lost my LiveNote for a moment:

12:24:31 25 Q. Mr Witness, how were civilian women treated in the Kono
26 District in 1998?

27 A. Well, those civilian women, some gunmen took them to be
28 their wives. Some of them used them to work for them. So if you
29 are talking about a relationship between the women and the gunmen

1 that you are asking about, you - whoever the civilian, you who
2 were the gunman who has been captured you had no choice. You
3 were under the sole control of the gunmen and the gunman was
4 going to take you as his wife. You would not refuse, because you
12:25:39 5 want to protect your life.

6 Q. When you say take as his wife, what does it mean to take as
7 his wife?

8 A. Well, they will take them to go and sleep with them, to use
9 with them, to have sex with them.

12:26:02 10 Q. Where were these civilian women who were taken as wives in
11 the Kono District?

12 A. Well, they were at the PC Ground.

13 Q. Where is the PC Ground?

14 A. The PC Ground was at the same Guinea Highway, but behind
12:26:31 15 Superman Ground where we had one commander.

16 THE INTERPRETER: Can he kindly repeat the commander's
17 name?

18 MR KOUJIAN:

19 Q. Can you tell us again the name of the commander again
12:26:44 20 slowly, please?

21 A. I said the commander's name is Konowa. Major Konowa.

22 MR KOUJIAN: Your Honours, I am not familiar with the
23 name, but perhaps to give my own uneducated guess it is
24 K-O-N-O-W-A:

12:27:15 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, I hope you are going to
26 establish who these gunmen were, because I haven't a clue
27 personally who he is referring to.

28 MR KOUJIAN: Your Honour:

29 Q. Sir, when you say the gunmen would take the wives, who were

1 the gunmen? Did they belong to any organisation?

2 A. We, the RUF, SLA and STF, we were the ones who took these
3 women and turned them into our wives.

12:28:02

4 Q. And, Mr Witness, when you say "we", are you including
5 yourself?

6 A. Yes, I am part of it, because the woman that I had I did
7 not give any money for her, I did not go to her parents, so I
8 take her as my wife too.

12:28:25

9 Q. You mentioned PC Ground. Just so we understand, is this a
10 name that existed before the war, or is this the name given to it
11 by your forces?

12 A. Well, we ourselves gave that name to it.

12:28:53

13 Q. Besides PC Ground, were there other areas or camps in Kono
14 District where women were kept as wives in the manner you
15 described?

12:29:29

16 A. Well the place where we called PC Ground was where no
17 fighting was where we were based, where our families were. That
18 was where we called the PC Ground. So the PC Grounds were at
19 areas that were in the Kono District, but that particular ground
20 that we spoke about, when we said PC Ground where Major Konowa
21 was was where we entered when we had pulled out from Koidu. When
22 Superman had created his own ground, all the other civilians whom
23 we captured from the bush that was where we camped them. We
24 encamped them, sorry.

12:29:52

25 Q. You mentioned now where Superman created his own ground.
26 Did that have a name?

27 A. That was where we called Superman Ground at the Guinea
28 Highway.

29 Q. Were these women who were taken as wives in the manner you

1 have just described kept at Superman Ground?

2 A. If somebody has - if somebody hadn't - a man who was
3 stationed at Superman Ground, he would bring that woman there for
4 that woman to stay with him there.

12:30:40 5 Q. Okay, but that is my question. Were women taken as wives
6 in the manner you described to Superman Ground?

7 A. Yes, they used to bring them there. As long as you have
8 taken the woman and you wanted her, if you were at Superman
9 Ground you would bring her there.

12:31:06 10 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, my colleague has pointed out in
11 line 16 of the transcript I believe the witness said "if somebody
12 hadn't a woman", but this indicates a man. I am sure it will be
13 corrected when the transcript is corrected.

14 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: But it also doesn't make sense, as you
12:31:21 15 can see reading that sentence. I don't know what that sentence
16 means.

17 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay:

18 Q. Witness, I am going to read your answer and then ask you to
19 explain it again. You said what we have on the transcript, "If
12:31:35 20 someone has - if somebody hadn't a man who was stationed at
21 Superman Ground, he would bring that woman there for that woman
22 to stay with him there". Can you explain again what you mean by
23 that?

24 A. Well what I mean, okay. For example I, Colonel Isaac, I am
12:32:03 25 at Superman Ground and behind Superman Ground, which we call PC
26 Ground, that was where the civilians were. If I go and take a
27 woman from that PC Ground, I will bring that woman to where I am.
28 That is what I mean.

29 Q. Sir, was there any - how did soldiers choose the wives,

1 these wives in the manner you have described? Could the soldier
2 choose, or how would they get assigned a woman to a man?

3 A. Well someone did not take a woman and say, "Here, I am
4 giving the woman to you", but when you go on attacks - when you
12:32:57 5 go on attacks the civilians whom you captured there those were
6 the people whom they took as their wives.

7 Q. Sir, was there any hierarchy in who had the choice? What
8 if two different soldiers, a lieutenant and a colonel, wanted the
9 same woman?

12:33:26 10 A. Yes, there was a choice. You, the junior man, would have
11 to give it up for your senior. That is what you will do. But
12 when your superior wants a particular woman, you the junior man
13 would not insist that you would want that same woman. It
14 wouldn't work.

12:33:54 15 Q. Thank you. I want to go back now, Mr Witness. We talked
16 about Operation Spare No Soul, the attack on Njaiama Nimi koro,
17 and you told us it was not successful. At that time, did the
18 command in the Kono District change at all after the Operation
19 Spare No Soul?

12:34:28 20 A. Yes, it was after the Operation Spare No Soul that the
21 command that was in Kono changed.

22 Q. How did it change?

23 A. Well, it changed after we have run the Operation Spare No
24 Soul. Superman left and went to Krunbola in the Koinadugu
12:35:01 25 District where SAJ Musa and others were. That is where he went.

26 MR KOUMJIAN: We will have a spelling in just one moment
27 for Krunbola:

28 Q. When Superman left the Kono District, who became the
29 commander for the RUF/AFRC People's Army in Kono District?

1 A. Well I was in charge there, but later I too was replaced.
2 They called me. Something happened and they called me and the
3 command changed again.

4 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay, first the spelling of Krunbola is

12:35:56 5 K-R-U-N-B-O-L-A:

6 Q. For how long were you in charge in Kono before you were
7 replaced, approximately?

8 A. Well, I did not stay long. I did not stay long when he was
9 in command there, because a problem ensued.

12:36:29 10 Q. Okay, we will come to that. Can you tell us when Superman
11 went to Koinadugu District, do you consider first of all
12 Koinadugu the north?

13 A. Yes, that is where it is.

14 Q. And Superman went to the north. Can you tell us if
12:36:51 15 anything happened at that time?

16 A. Yes, something happened. When Superman went there his
17 bodyguards and SAJ Musa's bodyguards had a problem and that
18 resulted in some shooting between them, but it resulted - it also
19 resulted in the separation of the two men. Later, Mosquito sent
12:37:34 20 for Superman to leave that end. Superman was unable to come
21 back, so they sent Rocky C0. They gave him ammunition, and
22 another boy whom they called Senegalese, and they went there to
23 ensure - they sent Rocky C0 to go and kill Superman, but when he
24 went he was unable to do anything to Superman, so he joined
12:38:12 25 Superman.

26 So, Mosquito became angry and he said a problem had erupted
27 between him and Superman. Superman refused to take command from
28 him, so Mosquito wanted to send troops to go and fight against
29 Superman in that area because the first one had failed. So

1 during the ensuing argument over the communication set, the
2 operator called me and said, "Your brothers were calling over the
3 communication set". I came to advise Mosquito, that is
4 Sam Bockarie. I told him, "Well, this quarrel, that you are
12:39:02 5 quarrelling is not good. When you say you are sending troops to
6 go and fight against Superman there ...", I said, "... that was
7 not good. It is not good for us to be fighting against each
8 other. It would be good for us to concentrate on the enemies
9 that we are fighting against".

12:39:18 10 So Sam Bockarie told me that we will not be able to discuss
11 everything over the radio, but that I should go to Buedu for us
12 to sit together and talk. So, that was why the command structure
13 - that was why the command changed. When I went it was Morris
14 Kallon who was in charged - who was in charge, sorry. Then I
12:39:46 15 went to Buedu.

16 Q. Okay, thank you. You gave a long answer and so I want to
17 ask you just a few questions just to clarify and make sure we
18 understand. When you said that they sent Rocky C0 and I believe
19 you said Senegalese to kill Superman, who sent them?

12:40:08 20 A. It was Mosquito who sent them and, when they were going,
21 Rocky C0 met me and he had ammunition. He called me. He said,
22 "Big Brother, this is the mission that Sam Bockarie has given me
23 to implement", but he said, "That man is my own brother. I
24 cannot do a thing like that to him, but I am just telling you and
12:40:34 25 you should keep it in the dark. You should not tell anybody".
26 And I said, "Okay", but when I go - he said "But when I go there
27 I am not going to do it".

28 Q. Now, you said that you were called by your operator and
29 that Superman and Bockarie were arguing over the communication.

1 When you say they were arguing over the communication, what do
2 you mean?

3 A. They were insulting each other. This one was telling his
4 companion words that were unpleasant and other one too was
12:41:16 5 insulting the other and Superman said he was not taking orders
6 from that man. He was not taking him to be anybody. He will not
7 take orders from him. In fact, he was senior to the man. So,
8 that was the argument that was going on.

9 Q. When you say over the communication, can you just make it
12:41:32 10 clear what you mean? How were they communicating?

11 A. Well Superman was in his own place, that is the Koinadugu
12 District that I have been talking about, and Mosquito too was in
13 Buedu. He had his own radio set and this exchange was going on.
14 When this one speaks, the other one will speak. When this one
12:42:04 15 speaks, the other one will speak. That was how they were doing
16 it.

17 Q. Thank you. So you are talking about radio communications,
18 correct?

19 A. Yes, I am talking about radio communication.

12:42:14 20 Q. I want now to interrupt this current subject for just a bit
21 to talk about radio communications. In 1998, can you tell us how
22 many radios were available to the RUF and AFRC approximately?
23 And I am talking about the communication radios.

24 A. If I give you a specific number here then I would be
12:42:50 25 telling lies to you, but the radios that we had were many because
26 we had areas where sometimes we had two radios and some other
27 areas we had three. That is what it was like. We had some other
28 radios whereby those groups were just monitoring. Sometimes it
29 would be three, or four, and these would be the men. So if I

1 give you a specific number then I would be telling lies to you,
2 but I am telling the Court and I am telling you that we had many
3 radios which were communication sets that we were using.

12:43:34 4 Q. Okay, thank you. If you could just speak a little bit
5 slower, it would be easier for the interpreter. Mr Witness, you
6 talked about operators on these radio sets. What was the job of
7 the operator?

8 A. Well, those operators received messages. You, who were the
9 commander, the adjutant would write down your message that you
12:44:07 10 are sending to your field commander, or the next commander. The
11 operator - the operators would look at the message, decode it,
12 before sending it. So, that was their own job. They were
13 permanently on the radio.

14 Q. When you say "permanently", are you - explain what you
12:44:31 15 mean? Were the radios used a certain number of hours per day, or
16 how long? How many hours per day were the radios on and able to
17 receive messages?

18 A. Well, our radios were on 24 hours throughout the entire
19 day. We - our radio we did not - even when it is on standby,
12:45:01 20 people will be monitoring it at night to know the movement or the
21 plans of the enemy at night. So, we had people who monitored at
22 night. We had operators who worked all day. There are others
23 who worked all night. So, that was what it was.

24 Q. In the People's Army, did the RUF and the AFRC use the same
12:45:26 25 channels, or different channels, to communicate?

26 A. Well we all used the same channel when we were talking to
27 each other, but please note that the radio set I can tell you
28 that, "Let us go to the frequency", and the operator and the
29 other operator know which frequency they should tune so that when

1 he is going there that other person who is going to the other
2 frequency on which they will communicate. That is how it worked.
3 It was not just a single frequency. Although they had one
4 frequency which was stagnant for messages which was coming to all
12:46:15 5 stations which was stagnant, a stagnant station, a stagnant
6 frequency, where all stations monitored the headquarters, all
7 stations had that, but when it is time for message they will tell
8 them to tune it to so and so channel and they will go there to
9 receive that message, or make that message.

12:46:38 10 Q. Mr Witness, you have told us that you were a front line
11 commander and not at the headquarters. First of all, where was
12 the headquarters of the People's Army in 1998?

13 A. Our headquarters was Buedu. That was the headquarters.

14 Q. Were you as a field commander able to monitor
12:47:07 15 communications between Buedu and other commanders in other
16 locations?

17 A. Yes, my operator who I had used to monitor headquarters and
18 other monitoring teams that were in Buedu they monitored them.
19 They monitored other stations, the other station which was in
12:47:37 20 Liberia. Those people who were there were also being monitored.

21 Q. Did you yourself ever listen to communications between
22 other commanders, or the headquarters and other commanders?

23 A. Yes, I listened to communications. I had told you other
24 one like Superman and Sam Bockarie, when he was at the
12:48:10 25 headquarters when he and Superman were arguing I used to monitor
26 them sometimes.

27 Q. And why did you as a front line commander monitor these
28 other communications?

29 A. Well, I was monitoring it because we heard there was the

1 Alpha Jets that was in the air and troubling us and we had a
2 station that was monitoring the movement of the enemy troops that
3 we were fighting against. Especially when they were sending the
4 Alpha Jet, they had a signal that they sent to all stations for
12:48:55 5 us to be on the alert. That was why I was monitoring.

6 Q. I was going to deal with that later, but perhaps this is an
7 appropriate time. What was the signal that you are talking about
8 that was used for the alert?

9 A. Well, we had - for the Alpha Jet we had a code name 448
12:49:23 10 which they send to all stations. They will say "448". As long
11 as the monitoring team is monitoring the ECOMOG troops and the
12 Alpha Jet movement either from Liberia or from Buedu, they would
13 alert us. They would alert all stations.

14 MR MUNYARD: I don't think that has actually answered the
12:49:53 15 question, which was about a signal. Which signal?

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: I thought he had said the code name was
17 448. It was a signal.

18 MR MUNYARD: That was a code name. That was not a signal,
19 as I understood it. If I have misunderstood then I am happy to
12:50:06 20 have that clarified, but I thought the signal was the radio
21 signal.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, perhaps we will make that clear.

23 MR KOUJIAN: I believe it is quite clear.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: The signal is 448, is that correct? Is
12:50:19 25 that what the witness is saying?

26 MR KOUJIAN: I can ask the witness.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, it should come from him.

28 MR KOUJIAN:

29 Q. Sir, when you used the word "signal" and then I asked you

1 "What was the signal?", what was the signal?

2 A. The signal was the "448" which was the password that comes
3 to all stations.

4 Q. What does that mean? When you hear "448" as a field
12:50:46 5 commander, what does that mean to you?

6 A. When I hear "448" - when I heard "448" it meant that the
7 Alpha Jet was in the air, so when I have monitored the station
8 and they have alerted all stations "448", whether it was coming
9 to your location or not, because they were not saying - they
12:51:16 10 wouldn't say it was coming to a specific area, but wherever the
11 RUF and AFRC occupied, that was their target. So, those areas
12 where we had the front lines and where the radio sets were, they
13 would alert everybody to be on the alert when they say "448".

14 Q. As a front line commander, did these alerts, 448, have any
12:51:44 15 value to you? Did they help you?

16 A. It helped us a lot.

17 Q. Can you explain why hearing the 448 alert when Alpha Jets
18 were in the air would help the front line commanders?

19 A. Yes, it is good for you who is at the front line to know
12:52:17 20 about it, so that you will be able to take cover, you and your
21 men, so as to avoid a lot of casualties.

22 Q. Were the Alpha Jets a threat to the RUF and AFRC forces?

23 A. Yes, it was a threat to us.

24 Q. Would the Alpha Jets make any difference in your
12:52:57 25 operations?

26 A. Yes, it used to make a difference because it did not allow
27 us to advance the way we wanted to advance.

28 Q. You have mentioned monitoring teams in various locations.

29 Can you go over those again, where the monitors were and tell us

1 what you know about what they did? Well, first, where were the
2 monitoring teams?

3 A. The monitoring teams were in Buedu. Most of the men who
4 were there were operators - were the operators who were SLAs,
12:53:54 5 because their own way of monitoring was different from that of
6 the RUF communication. The Nigerians too, when they are
7 communicating they were not using voice procedures. They had
8 something which was a key that made that sound, so those SLAs had
9 been trained with the Nigerians so they know those sounds, so
12:54:36 10 they were using keys. So, when they are monitoring - when they
11 are monitoring they put the message that they have received and
12 they will put it together and tell the commander. That is the
13 field commander. If it was the Alpha Jets' movement that they
14 monitored, or the movement of ground troops, they would alert all
12:54:58 15 of us to know that their ground troops were moving, or the ground
16 troops are moving - the ground troops are moving and they have an
17 Alpha Jet that is going to give them support.

18 MR KOU MJIAN: I will attempt, for the record, to describe
19 the sound that the witness made.

12:55:20 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please go ahead, Mr Koumjian.

21 MR KOU MJIAN: The witness gave a series of long and short
22 what sounded like electronic tones.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

24 MR KOU MJIAN:

12:55:32 25 Q. Now, sir, you mentioned Buedu. Was there any other
26 monitoring location for the Alpha Jets?

27 A. Yes, some were in Liberia. They too, at that time, ECOMOG
28 was in Liberia where the Alpha Jets depart from to hit targets in
29 Sierra Leone, so when they are taking off from there they too

1 will be monitoring them and they will alert us too. They will
2 tell us.

3 Q. Do you know the names of the monitors in Liberia?

12:56:27

4 A. I have told you about Memuna. I told you about Tollo. I
5 told you about Ebony.

6 Q. Thank you. Sir, in your answer a few answers ago you said
7 in addition to alerting on the movements of the Alpha Jets, there
8 were alerts on ground troops that were moving. Did that have any
9 value to you as a front line commander?

12:57:03

10 A. Yes, you had asked me. I told you it had value to us, the
11 front line commanders, because it would always put us on alert
12 and we would know how to move so that we will not just sit by and
13 allow the thing to take us unawares, because sometimes we will
14 lose manpower. We lost - so when we were alerted we will know
15 how to manoeuvre, or how to take position for it. So, it was
16 value to us.

12:57:36

17 Q. I just want to make sure, Mr Witness, you understood my
18 question. I am asking you now not about the Alpha Jets, but you
19 also said that you were alerted about the movement of ground
20 troops. So, first, when the alerts came about the movement of
21 ground troops, which troops are you referring to?

12:57:51

22 A. We are talking about the ECOMOG troops when they were about
23 to move. If we knew that they were moving and that they were
24 coming to hit a particular area, then the commander who was
25 around that area, he will ensure that he and his men were in
26 readiness to meet with them for the battle.

12:58:18

27 Q. Okay, thank you. Now, I want to go back and you have told
28 us about hearing the argument over the radio between Superman and
29 Bockarie and then your intervention and you said that Bockarie

1 then told you you should not talk about this on the radio. What
2 happened then?

3 A. He told me that I should go to Buedu for us to sit together
4 and talk, so I also prepared myself and then I left to go there.

12:59:06 5 Q. Okay. Between --

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, who is the "he"?

7 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: "What happened then?", and he said "He
9 told me".

12:59:15 10 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you:

11 Q. Who told you to come to Buedu?

12 A. It was Sam Bockarie, who was my commander. He was the one
13 who called me to go.

14 Q. Before you actually went to Buedu, did you receive any
12:59:32 15 other information?

16 A. Yes, I had information that the advice that I gave to the
17 man, he became angry with it because he took it that I was siding
18 Superman, so he had already planned that if I went he would also
19 kill me. So, somebody told me, somebody told me secretly, and he
13:00:13 20 said as I was going I shouldn't forget myself. I should go like
21 a man. I also said "all right" and I went.

22 Q. When you say in your answer that after you "had information
23 that the advice that I gave to the man, he became angry", who is
24 the man that became angry?

13:00:42 25 A. It was Mosquito who became angry.

26 Q. Okay. Mr Witness, we will understand now when you say
27 Mosquito that you mean Sam Bockarie unless you tell us
28 differently, okay? Is that understood?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. You mentioned another Mosquito much earlier in your
2 testimony. So, after you received the information - you said you
3 received information that he was planning to kill you. Who was
4 planning to kill you?

13:01:19 5 A. It was Sam Bockarie who was planning to kill me.

6 Q. So after receiving that information, what did you do?

7 A. I also prepared myself. I took my bodyguards and the arms
8 that I had with me and then I decided to go to Buedu, because he
9 had called me that I should go to Buedu to discuss about the
10 advice that I gave him and he said I should go so as to sit and
11 discuss better.

12 Q. Mr Witness, help us understand, if you believed there was a
13 chance that he was planning to kill you why did you obey the
14 order and go to Buedu?

13:02:05 15 A. Well, I went there - I never wanted anything that will
16 spark off and spread over to other people, so that was the reason
17 why when the problem was between himself and Superman, I decided
18 to intervene. So, if I had also refused to go he was going to
19 order some other people to come and meet me and do something else
13:02:42 20 to me. So, if he decided to do that and if the people came, I
21 was also going to command my own men and that was not going to
22 stop between him and I, and if that happened it will have been an
23 infighting. So, that was what I was trying to avoid, although I
24 did not understand that that was what he was about to do, but I
13:03:08 25 went there. So, if I went there and he wanted to do that, we
26 were both going to die together.

27 Q. Okay. Just a bit slower in your answers, please,
28 Mr Witness, would be helpful for the interpreters. Can you tell
29 us then what happened after you prepared yourself to go to Buedu

1 with your bodyguards?

2 A. Well, I prepared myself and I went with some people, who
3 were mining people who were in Kono. They had already got some
4 diamonds and that was Mr Kennedy. They also joined me to go to
13:03:56 5 Buedu, so we all travelled together and we went to Mosquito at
6 Buedu.

7 Q. What happened when you got to Buedu?

8 A. Well, when we got to Buedu, when I entered the town, his
9 bodyguards used to sit in front of his house under the tree and
10 so they were sitting there. So, when I got there the bodyguards
11 were talking to me and they said my men should not enter
12 Mosquito's ground with arms, so they said they should disarm.

13 Then I said no. I said "I am also an authority, so, it doesn't
14 mean that if I am coming to meet this man my bodyguards should

13:04:56 15 disarm." So, whilst we were talking Mosquito was inside the
16 house and he heard - he overheard my voice and then he came and
17 he told his men that, no, they should forget about me, so that my
18 armed men will enter. So, my bodyguards joined his own

19 bodyguards where they were seated and then I also entered to
13:05:22 20 Mosquito. So, when I went we shook hands, we greeted each other
21 nicely. I didn't see - I didn't see a countenance of him about
22 the information that I had received, because myself I had already
23 alerted my own men, so whilst I was with him inside, if anything
24 was going to happen they should also do what they will be able to
13:05:57 25 do. But when I got there the man gave me a smiling face, we sat
26 down, we smoked together, he brought rum, we drank and then we
27 started discussing.

28 Q. Tell us about your discussions with Sam Bockarie at that
29 time?

1 A. Well, at that time the reason why he called me was because
2 of the advice that I gave him about the Superman issue, so that
3 we will discuss it, and then what he also told me was that he
4 said, "Bra, I was waiting for somebody like you, for you to come
13:06:47 5 here, because we have a problem here on the ground. So, we all
6 need to sit together and hang heads and then we discuss and then
7 we will act on what to do next." And then I asked him, "What can
8 we do next?" Then he said, "It is about this ammunition
9 business." Then he said, "There is nothing that we will be able
13:07:12 10 to get now because the one we have at hand now has almost
11 finished", and he said, "I have been discussing this with some
12 other commanders here so that we will send somewhere for us to
13 get ammunition and luckily I called you and you are here. So, we
14 have to discuss it and when the other commanders arrive here, we
13:07:42 15 always sit together and discuss it and then we will see what to
16 do next." I said, "All right", and then I went to bed and slept.

17 So, the next morning all of us, the commanders who were in
18 the town there, we discussed that we should request for
19 ammunition from Mr Taylor and that we should write a letter and
13:08:23 20 give to Brother Jungle to take it along. So, those of us, the
21 commanders who were there, we went, we had the meeting, we held
22 the meeting, we discussed. Even Pa Rogers was present in the
23 meeting. We all sat down, we discussed and then we came to a
24 conclusion that we should write a letter, and then we wrote the
13:08:43 25 letter.

26 Q. Let me stop you and go over this a little more slowly.

27 MR KOUMJIAN: First of all, your Honours, line 25, it
28 states the "war" has almost finished. I thought the witness said
29 "what we had was almost finished".

1 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: He said "the one we have".

2 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you, your Honour.

3 MR MUNYARD: "Bra" just disappeared off the top of the
4 page, which I think must mean "Bro". I think it is line 20.

13:09:21 5 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you:

6 Q. So, do you want to go back for a moment. When you talked
7 about the advice you gave Mosquito/Sam Bockarie about Superman,
8 can you tell us again what advice you gave to Sam Bockarie about
9 his argument with Superman?

13:09:43 10 A. When I told him that we should forget about this and that
11 he should forget about Superman, I said we shouldn't have
12 anything like infighting because I wanted us to concentrate on
13 the enemies, but if we started petty conflict amongst ourselves
14 the enemy will take that as an advantage to advance on our
13:10:10 15 positions. So, I told him that we should forget about those
16 things. So, he listened to me and he agreed. That was the
17 reason why he brought the discussion up when he was trying to get
18 some other people and when I came he said I was lucky to be
19 present and that when we all meet, we sit and discuss it. That
13:10:40 20 was how it happened.

21 Q. Then you told us that the next day there was a meeting of
22 commanders; is that correct?

23 A. Yes, we met.

24 Q. Where did that meeting take place?

13:10:55 25 A. Well, we held the meeting in Buedu. That was where we held
26 the meeting.

27 Q. Okay. Who was present at the meeting?

28 A. Myself who is speaking, I was there. Mosquito was there.
29 Jungle was there because he was also based in Buedu. We had

1 other commanders who were also based on that ground, like one SLA
2 he was called Sambebe. He was also present and some other
3 commanders who were in Buedu, we and the late Pa Rogers.

13:12:04 4 Q. At first you mentioned an SLA and I just wasn't familiar
5 with the name. Can you say the name of the SLA who you said was
6 present and based in Buedu?

7 A. Sambebe.

8 MR KOUMJIAN: Taking a guess, it is S-A-M-B-E-B-E:

9 Q. Who is Pa Rogers?

13:12:29 10 A. Pa Rogers was the - one of the RUF - he was the RUF
11 Secretary-General who was there and he was the War Council
12 Chairman.

13 Q. At that meeting - sorry, and then you said Jungle was
14 there. Are you referring to the person who you said was also
13:12:59 15 named Tamba?

16 A. Yes, that is the person that I am talking about.

17 Q. What was discussed again at this meeting of the commanders?

18 A. Well, I have told you that we did - during our discussions
19 we were talking about ammunition because we had run out of
13:13:27 20 ammunition. So, we did not have enough ammunition again to
21 continue our offensive, or to fight, or to even defend our areas,
22 so we discussed that it will be better that this time around we
23 all ensure to write a letter and give it to Brother Jungle to
24 take it to Mr Taylor for him to help us get some ammunition. So,
13:14:07 25 those were the things that we discussed and we all came to the
26 conclusion that we agreed. We told the adjutant, who was Rashid
27 Sandy, to write a letter and he wrote it. He read the letter out
28 to everybody and from there we enveloped it and we gave it to
29 Colonel Jungle to take along. So, Colonel Jungle went with the

1 letter and after three days Sam Bockarie called us and said he
2 had received a message from the Pa, and that is Mr Taylor, that
3 he himself should go, that is Sam Bockarie, that he should go to
4 Monrovia. So, Sam Bockarie called us and informed us and we also
13:15:11 5 said okay, it is not bad, and he said, "Okay, but since I am
6 leaving I want Issa to come to Buedu and stay here and you,
7 Isaac, you should go to Pendembu and stay there", because that
8 was where Issa was. That was his own area of control. So, I
9 went to where Issa was and then Issa came to Buedu. So, when
13:15:36 10 Mosquito was leaving he said, "I will not go alone. I wanted to
11 go with some other people." So, he went with Rashid Sandy, he
12 went with Pa Rogers and then he went with Lawrence Wohmandia and
13 Eddie Kanneh also.

14 Q. Mr Witness, do you recall, or can you give us an estimate
13:16:09 15 of when it was that you held this meeting in Buedu where you
16 drafted the letter for Charles Taylor?

17 A. Well, at Buedu the place where they used to hold meetings,
18 or discussions, it was not actually in the town itself, but it
19 was out of the town going towards Liberia. There was a place
13:16:42 20 that was called Waterworks. That was where we used to hold our
21 meetings.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, I think the question you
23 asked was when. It relates to a time frame, not where.

24 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes, your Honour, before I re-ask the
13:16:57 25 question I believe Wohmandia may not be spelt correctly. Our
26 spelling is W-O-H-M-A-N-D-I-A:

27 Q. Mr Witness, do you recall when the month, or the season,
28 that it was that you held the meeting in Buedu where you drafted
29 the letter to Jungle? I realise it was ten years ago.

1 A. The letter I can say it was in early November, something
2 like that.

3 Q. Do you recall if it was rainy season, or if rainy season
4 had ended?

13:17:57 5 A. Well, it was during the dry season.

6 Q. Thank you.

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Which year is this? November of which
8 year?

9 MR KOUMJIAN:

13:18:06 10 Q. Mr Witness, you have indicated earlier that the operation -
11 well, what year was it that we are talking about when you drafted
12 the letter?

13 A. It was in 1998.

14 Q. Thank you. You indicated that Sam Bockarie left and he
13:18:44 15 asked you to have a new assignment because he was going to
16 Liberia; is that correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Did you take that assignment? Did you fulfil that order?

19 A. Yes, I took it.

13:19:05 20 Q. So, where did you go?

21 A. I went to Pendembu.

22 Q. Do you know if Issa Sesay replaced Bockarie in Buedu during
23 the time he was gone?

24 A. Yes, Issa Sesay replaced Bockarie in Buedu.

13:19:32 25 Q. Now, the letter you said was given to Colonel Jungle and
26 you have mentioned him before, but you said he is based in Buedu.
27 Can you explain what you mean when you say he was based in Buedu?

28 A. Colonel Jungle was based in Buedu with Mosquito. He had
29 his own place there where he was staying, but he would go to

1 Liberia and come back because himself and Mosquito belonged to
2 the same tribe, so they were doing things together. So, he was
3 also there. He had his own bodyguards with him and he was there
4 in the place.

13:20:27 5 Q. When you say that Jungle and Mosquito were the same tribe,
6 which tribe were they?

7 A. It was Kissi.

8 Q. What language would Jungle and Mosquito speak when they
9 spoke to each other?

13:20:51 10 A. Well, they would speak the Liberian English and sometimes,
11 when they are ready again, they will speak the Kissi.

12 Q. What was Jungle's job when he was there in Buedu?

13 A. Well, Jungle was there as a liaison officer. He used to
14 carry messages and he will bring things come again. So, that was
13:21:33 15 just what he was.

16 Q. When you say liaison officer, liaison between which
17 parties?

18 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, what do you mean "he will
19 bring things come again"? What do you mean by that?

13:21:51 20 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness said he would
21 bring things come. He did not specify what thing.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: [Overlapping speakers].

23 THE WITNESS: I have said before that Jungle will go to
24 Monrovia and then he will bring ammunition. I have even told you
13:22:15 25 that at one time when I was in Kono I requested for ammunition,
26 when Mosquito told me that I should exercise patience because
27 Brother Jungle had gone to Monrovia to bring some ammunition. He
28 went to the Pa, that is Mr Taylor. So, if you are asking that
29 when he took something along and then he brought something back,

1 the something that I am talking about is ammunition.

2 MR KOUMJIAN:

3 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. You indicated he was a liaison,
4 liaison between who?

13:23:06 5 A. A liaison between the RUF and the NPFL.

6 Q. Do you know if at that time in 1998 Colonel Jungle belonged
7 to any unit?

8 A. Colonel Jungle was part of the Executive Mansion guard, but
9 they had changed his name. At that time I was not there any
10 longer, but at that time I knew him to be an Executive Mansion
11 guard, but they had changed the name from Executive Mansion
12 guards and they now had another name.

13 Q. Do you recall what the name was, the new name for the
14 Executive Mansion guard?

13:24:09 15 A. Well, they said they had SS unit.

16 Q. Thank you. Did you ever speak to Jungle yourself?

17 A. Yes, the time I went to Buedu I spoke to Jungle. He and I
18 spoke.

19 Q. Do you have knowledge of who it was that Jungle reported to
13:24:39 20 within the Liberian structure?

21 A. Jungle was going to Mr Taylor because it was to him that we
22 were sending a message, so he was going to him.

23 Q. How do you know that? How do you know that he was going
24 directly to Mr Taylor?

13:25:19 25 A. Well, I had told you that I have been talking to him and he
26 also told me that, so I knew that for himself.

27 Q. Just to be completely clear, when you say the Executive
28 Mansion guard you are speaking of the Executive Mansion for which
29 country and which person?

1 A. It was in Liberia and it was Mr Taylor, the place where he
2 was.

3 Q. Going back for a moment to the time you were in Buedu and
4 you drafted the letter, the group drafted the letter for Jungle,
13:26:20 5 how many days were you in Buedu area for that stay?

6 A. I said I was there for three days in Buedu Town.

7 Q. During that time did you go outside of Buedu at any time?

8 A. Yes, I went to the village that is Kangama. I went to
9 Kangama where Johnny Paul Koroma was.

13:26:55 10 Q. Why did you go to Kangama?

11 A. That is my village and I later understood that Johnny Paul
12 was there and so I went there.

13 Q. You told us, I believe, at the beginning of your testimony
14 that you were born in that village; is that correct?

13:27:24 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. When you got to Kangama, did you see Johnny Paul Koroma?

17 A. Yes, I saw Johnny Paul Koroma. I met him. He was in
18 zorbush [phon]. Because of the Alpha Jets, in the morning people
19 would go and hide somewhere, so when I arrived in the town there
13:28:00 20 people told me that Johnny Paul was in the zorbush, so I went
21 there.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Would you please spell the name of that
23 location for us.

24 MR KOUJIAN: It is S-A-W-B-U-S-H. Let me just clarify
13:28:18 25 with the witness:

26 Q. Is it Sawbush?

27 A. Zorbush, zorbush.

28 Q. Is that a place?

29 A. It is a kind of hideout in the bush, a kind of hideout in

1 the bush. We just refer to it as zorbush because it is not in
2 the town. You will leave the town and then go to the bush and
3 hide there. So, that was why we called it zorbush.

13:28:54 4 Q. So is zorbush a word you would use for different locations
5 outside of a town, or is it one particular place?

6 A. No, they were different places. It was not a specific
7 place that had that name.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian --

9 MR KOUMJIAN: [Overlapping speakers].

13:29:18 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: It sounds like a generic term meaning a
11 place in the bush.

12 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes. Is it time, your Honour?

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am afraid it is.

14 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you.

13:29:30 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we are now going to take the
16 lunchtime break for one hour. We will resume at 2.30. Please
17 adjourn Court.

18 [Lunch break taken at 1.30 p.m.]

19 [Upon resuming at 2.30 p.m.]

14:29:08 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, are you moving on to a new
21 aspect of this evidence or you're continuing to deal with these
22 meetings and the outcome thereof?

23 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes:

14:29:27 24 Q. Actually, Mr Witness, we were having some trouble with one
25 word when we stopped and you used a word to describe the location
26 where Johnny Paul Koroma was. Can you say that word again,
27 please?

28 A. I told you it was a zorbush.

29 Q. Mr Witness, do you believe that word zorbush is a word in

1 Krio?

2 A. Yes, it's in Krio.

3 Q. Mr Witness, I would also like to ask you, your Krio, do you
4 know when you speak Krio do people from Sierra Leone hear an
14:30:11 5 accent or no in your Krio?

6 A. Yes, they will know.

7 Q. They will know what, can you explain?

8 A. You said they wouldn't know, is that what you're asking me?

9 Q. I'm sorry, you said that - I asked you if when you speak

14:30:38 10 Krio people in Sierra Leone hear an accent, do they know that
11 you're from or believe that you're from another place. That's my
12 question?

13 A. Yes, they will know.

14 Q. And can you explain where do they think you're from?

14:30:57 15 A. They will say I'm from Liberia because I have told you
16 during the earlier stages that I grew up in Liberia.

17 Q. Thank you. When you say JPK in Kangama, Johnny Paul
18 Koroma, did he have any means of communication with him?

19 A. Yes, I spoke to him. I went where he was and both of us
14:31:29 20 spoke.

21 Q. Did he have any way to communicate with other people,
22 that's what I'm asking you, outside of his location?

23 A. Yes, he had a communication set with him there. He too had
24 operators who were with him.

14:31:50 25 Q. Thank you. And did JPK indicate or do you know if he was
26 in contact with anyone outside of his location?

27 A. Well, he told me that he was communicating with his brother
28 who was Mr Taylor. That was what he told me.

29 Q. Now you indicated that you received an order from Bockarie

1 to go replace Issa Sesay temporarily in Pendembu. How long were
2 you in Pendembu?

3 A. I went there and was there let me say for three weeks when
4 Mosquito came back.

14:32:49 5 Q. How did you find out that Mosquito had come back?

6 A. Well, when he came they made it possible for us to know
7 through communication.

8 Q. What were the messages you received about Bockarie's
9 return?

14:33:20 10 A. Well, Bockarie - the message that I received was that he
11 said he has come and that he was calling the commanders from the
12 other areas to report at Buedu.

13 Q. Did you then go and report to Buedu at that time?

14 A. Yes, they sent a vehicle for me and I went to Buedu.

14:33:48 15 Q. How long was it between when you learned that Bockarie had
16 returned and when you arrived in Buedu?

17 A. Bockarie arrived, like this evening they told us and - they
18 told us that we should come to Buedu the following morning. The
19 following morning we came.

14:34:19 20 Q. Mr Witness, if you can help us can you tell us to the best
21 of your recollection when this was that you went to Buedu on this
22 occasion. Can you give us a month or a year?

23 A. It was in that same November that I have spoken about. It
24 was in that November that I came to Buedu.

14:34:43 25 Q. So this is 1998?

26 A. Yes, it's 1998.

27 Q. When you got to Buedu where did you go exactly?

28 A. I went and I arrived in the evening because we did not
29 travel during the day because of the Alpha Jet, especially when

1 we were using vehicles. So I arrived in the evening and went to
2 Sam Bockarie's house.

3 Q. What happened when you got to Sam Bockarie's house?

14:35:32

4 A. When I arrived at Sam Bockarie's house we went into his
5 room, the two of us, we sat down there and he briefed me about
6 his return and what he has brought. He told me that he's brought
7 some ammunition, food, medicines.

8 Q. What did you observe about Sam Bockarie's mood at that
9 time?

14:36:01

10 A. Well, Sam Bockarie, he was happy. I saw that he was happy.
11 So when we entered his room we started talking and he was telling
12 me how they did things, the result of the invitation that was
13 extended him to by the Pa, he came with some ammunition, he came
14 back so that we can run some missions. He said they went to

14:36:33

15 Burkina Faso, he brought some pictures of the hotel where they
16 lodged. He showed me the pictures and the swimming pools, the
17 restaurants where they ate. He brought out those pictures and
18 showed them to me and he told me that he brought some ammunition.

19 So in his room he had a door there leading to a place where
14:37:00 20 he packed the ammunition. It was a shop like place. So he
21 opened the door leading from his room into the shop. So we
22 entered there and saw the ammunition that he had brought. He
23 showed those ammunitions to me. When I saw the ammunitions I was
24 happy because they were many.

14:37:29

25 Q. Okay, thank you. Now you said in Bockarie's room, next to
26 his room, there was a shop like place. Before this was
27 Bockarie's house do you know what kind of place this was, what it
28 was used for?

29 A. Well, that place was owned by people. It's - the house had

1 a shop.

2 Q. And do you know, if you don't know or if you don't know
3 just tell us, what kind of shop that was before it became Sam
4 Bockarie's house?

14:38:09 5 A. Well, that shop, that was where we kept the ammunition.
6 It's a store. That's where we kept the ammunition and the food
7 stuff which he brought. That's where we kept them. It was not
8 owned by Mosquito himself. The house was owned by civilians, but
9 the house had a shop before Mosquito moved into that house. So
14:38:30 10 he just turned the shop into a store.

11 Q. Had you been inside that shop area in Mosquito's house
12 before?

13 A. Yes, I went there.

14 Q. When you went into the shop, when he took you into the shop
14:38:51 15 area of his house this time what did you see?

16 A. I said I saw the ammunition that he'd brought. They were
17 packed from the floor up to the ceiling, that was how the
18 ammunition boxes were packed. The ammunition was plenty at the
19 time that he brought them. So when I saw the ammunitions I was
14:39:17 20 very happy.

21 Q. You indicated that the ammunition was packed up to the
22 ceiling. Can you point to something perhaps in this room or give
23 us an idea of the height in comparison to my height or in
24 comparison to something you see in the room as to how high the
14:39:35 25 ammunition was?

26 A. Well, the ceiling that was in the house, I can say this one
27 is higher a little. This one is higher a little. But it could
28 be where that - I don't know if that's a speaker, where that
29 speaker is. From down here to where that speaker is. That's how

1 the boxes were packed.

2 MR KOUMJIAN: It appears to me, your Honours, that the
3 speaker is about three metres. Two and a half, three metres
4 high.

14:40:21 5 MR MUNYARD: From here - I suppose it's the same height as
6 this. Yes, I'd agree with that.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: We will put on the record that the
8 witness has indicated a piece of machinery on the wall which is
9 approximately three metres from the floor.

14:40:39 10 MR KOUMJIAN:

11 Q. Can you give any estimate or did Sam Bockarie tell you how
12 many boxes there were of ammunition in that room?

13 A. Well, the ammunition boxes that were packed there, he told
14 me they were more than a hundred, but they were mixed because
14:41:01 15 they were different. He brought AK rounds, RPG and GMG rounds.
16 So it was mixed.

17 Q. Just so the record is clear, when you say RPG what do you
18 mean?

19 A. RPG is a rocket. It's a bomb. It's a rocket that we
14:41:25 20 launch.

21 Q. Had you ever seen this much ammunition before, you
22 yourself, in Sierra Leone?

23 A. Well, when we started the war I did not see any kind of
24 ammunition that Bockarie showed to me. I have not seen any - I
14:41:53 25 had not seen any ammunition that could be up to that quantity.

26 Q. Now you also mentioned that Bockarie said he brought back
27 medicine. Do you know what kind of medicine he brought back?

28 A. They brought injections, medicines, tablets, but they were
29 in cartons.

1 Q. Do you know, and if you don't just tell us, what the
2 injections were for?

3 A. Well, the injections, they were injections for like when
4 somebody gets injured. Like if somebody gets injured in the
14:42:47 5 front line, for the combat medics to be treating them.

6 Q. You also mentioned a phone. Can you explain what you mean
7 when you said Bockarie said he brought back a phone?

8 A. I said food.

9 MR KOUMJIAN: Sorry, the record had said phone earlier.

14:43:12 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: It did say phone. I remember seeing
11 that.

12 MR KOUMJIAN:

13 Q. Now you've told us quite a bit about Bockarie talking to
14 you about his trip. I would just like you to go over that more
14:43:30 15 slowly. Where did Bockarie indicate he had been on this trip
16 outside of Sierra Leone?

17 A. He went to Liberia because that was where he had received a
18 call to go. When he called us to inform us, that was why he gave
19 me that assignment to go to Pendembu. But when he went to
14:44:02 20 Liberia, what he told me, when he had gotten those things and
21 brought them, he said Mr Taylor had made another connection for
22 him when he connected him to the Burkina Faso president. So he
23 went there to see the man, the president. So it was he and
24 Mr Rogers who went there.

14:44:39 25 Q. When Sam Bockarie went to Liberia you said he was looking -
26 trying to obtain ammunition, correct?

27 A. Yes, in Liberia.

28 Q. Was he planning on exchanging anything for that ammunition?

29 A. Yes. The thing that we had heard, I told you that when I

1 was coming I came along with some people who were in the mining
2 group who brought some diamonds. So those diamonds were the ones
3 he took along and when he came back he told us that the diamonds
4 that he went with, he left them there with Mr Taylor.

14:45:29 5 Q. Now you said that Mr Taylor had made a connection for
6 Bockarie with Burkina Faso and Bockarie went to Burkina Faso.
7 Did he say who he went with on this trip to Burkina Faso?

8 A. Yes, he said he went with SYB Rogers.

9 Q. Okay. And the photographs that he showed you, did he
14:46:09 10 indicate where they were taken?

11 A. Yes, he said they took those photographs at the restaurants
12 where they were eating in Burkina Faso and the hotel where they
13 lodged and the swimming pool where they used to go swimming.

14 Q. Did you see the photographs?

14:46:36 15 A. Yes, I looked at them and I saw them.

16 Q. And do you recall now, I realise it's a long time ago, any
17 persons you recognised in those photographs?

18 A. I saw Sam Bockarie himself. He was on that picture. The
19 late SYB Rogers, he too was on that picture.

14:47:14 20 Q. Did Sam Bockarie indicate what the result was of his time
21 in Burkina Faso?

22 A. Well, he said he had gone and seen the Burkina Faso
23 president and they have spoken for us to be able to buy
24 ammunition from there. So they had made those - that arrangement
14:47:44 25 - they had made that arrangement already. So whenever we want
26 those things he will make sure that he goes there. So that was
27 what he said.

28 Q. Did Sam Bockarie indicate where the ammunition came from
29 that you saw in the storeroom?

1 A. The ammunition which he brought, he told me he had brought
2 them from Liberia and that it was Mr Taylor who gave them to him.

3 Q. After your conversation with Sam Bockarie where he showed
4 you the ammunition what happened then in Buedu?

14:48:45 5 A. Well, after he had shown the ammunitions to me he told me
6 the plan that he had come with with respect to those ammunitions.
7 He told me that he and Mr Taylor sat together and planned to come
8 and run an operation. He said he sat with the Pa, Mr Taylor, who
9 took out a map and showed the locations where the RUF and the
14:49:26 10 SLAs, where we occupied. He showed that to him. He came with a
11 plan for us to launch an operation whereby we'll capture Kono,
12 Makeni and advance to Freetown. And we were also to attack Joru.
13 So those were the areas we were to capture. We were also to
14 launch another attack on Kenema. We were to attack Kenema as
14:50:06 15 well.

16 He said he discussed with the Pa, that is Mr Taylor, to
17 meet with Superman, that of the two of us one person should
18 attack Joru, when that person would have attacked Joru he should
19 advance on Zimmi. He said he discussed that.

14:50:33 20 MR KOUJIAN: Your Honour, if I can just get a
21 clarification. Well, I'll ask the witness:

22 Q. The interpretation we got is that Bockarie told you he
23 discussed with the Pa, that is Mr Taylor, to meet with Superman
24 and I thought I heard you say something different. When Bockarie
14:50:50 25 discussed with Taylor what did they say about you and Superman?

26 A. Bockarie discussed with Mr Taylor for I and Superman, one
27 of us should attack Joru. But Superman was in Koinadugu
28 District, so Mosquito told the Pa, that is Mr Taylor, that
29 Superman was far away from the Buedu end. So I was close to the

1 place and they said I should attack Joru and advance, when I
2 would have captured Joru I should advance on Zimmi because I was
3 to receive some other people from the NPFL who were to come from
4 Liberia. I was to receive them. I was to receive them in Zimmi,
14:51:46 5 I should be in Zimmi when they came. That was the reinforcement
6 that would have arrived.

7 Q. Now you indicated that Mr Taylor had told Bockarie that you
8 or Superman should attack Joru and advance to Zimmi in order to
9 receive some NPFL who were to come from Liberia. Do you know why
14:52:13 10 it would be you or Superman who would have been chosen for that
11 assignment?

12 A. Yes, because the two of us used to be NPFL fighters and we
13 were familiar with the NPFL brothers.

14 Q. Did Sam Bockarie indicate what the purpose of this attack
14:52:51 15 was going to be? What was the ultimate purpose?

16 A. The reason for this attack, for this advance on the various
17 places and for us to take those places, you can remember that at
18 that time Foday Sankoh had been moved from Nigeria and he was in
19 jail in Freetown. So we were to attack Kono and take there. We
14:53:26 20 were to attack Freetown in order to free Foday Sankoh and the
21 others who were in jail there. We were also to ensure that we
22 seized power.

23 Q. Did Sam Bockarie indicate to you in his discussions with
24 Mr Taylor if there was any discussion about how the attack should
14:53:51 25 be carried out in order to free Sankoh?

26 A. Yes, he said they discussed it. After he had shown those
27 places to him they discussed that we should run that mission to
28 ensure that we free Foday Sankoh and others and on the operation
29 we should ensure that the ammunition is not wasted. We should

1 make the operation fearful than all the other operations that we
2 had undertaken because we want to make sure that we take Freetown
3 and hold on to power.

14:54:44 4 Q. Mr Witness, are you telling us now when you talk about the
5 plan for a fearful operation that this is what Bockarie told you
6 he discussed with Charles Taylor?

7 A. Yes, that was what Sam Bockarie said.

8 Q. What happened after your private discussion there in the
9 storeroom and in the house with Bockarie?

14:55:13 10 A. After that, because they had sent for the commanders to
11 come, the following morning the commanders came to Buedu. Then
12 we had a meeting where he told us all I have explained here and
13 what he had brought to show them to the commanders and what the
14 mission was for those ammunitions that he's brought. So just
14:55:48 15 like he told me, that was what he also told the commanders after
16 they had all come, including the SLA commanders who had come. We
17 had the meeting and he explained the same thing that he had
18 briefed me on. He also showed the ammunition to the people.

19 So when he spoke at the meeting the late Pa Rogers, SYB
14:56:18 20 Rogers that I spoke about with whom he came, he stood and told
21 and thanked Sam Bockarie and he told us that if Sam Bockarie was
22 the rebel leader at the time the war started then the war would
23 have ended quickly because the ammunition which they brought, the
24 man who was Foday Sankoh who was the rebel leader had never
14:56:55 25 brought that quantity of ammunition which they had now brought.

26 Q. Who was present at this meeting of commanders in Buedu that
27 you just discussed?

28 A. I was there. Mike Lamin was there. Leather Boot was at
29 that meeting. Akim Turay, Eddie Kanneh and other commanders from

1 other places, they too came and they were present.

2 Q. First, Mr Witness, can you tell us what faction Akim Turay
3 belonged to?

14:58:10

4 A. Akim Turay was an SLA. He was a soldier in the Sierra
5 Leone Army.

6 Q. What faction did Leather Boot belong to?

7 A. Leather Boot too was a soldier, an SLA.

8 Q. What faction did Eddie Kanneh belong to? Who was Eddie
9 Kanneh?

14:58:31

10 A. Eddie Kanneh was one of the soldiers. He too was a
11 soldier, an SLA.

12 Q. Can you tell us if you recall any RUF commanders besides
13 Mike Lamin being present at this meeting, and yourself?

14 A. You had Monkey Brown who was also another RUF commander.

14:59:12

15 Q. Thank you.

16 A. Issa Sesay too was there. Morris Kallon was there.

17 Q. Thank you. Do you recall any other names at this time?

18 A. Augustine Gbao, he too was there.

14:59:52

19 Q. Now, sir, you indicated that the plan for your own
20 assignment was to go and attack Joru and Zimmi to receive NPFL
21 troops. What do you mean at this time in 1998 by NPFL forces?

22 A. NPFL fighters were those who came from Liberia who were
23 Charles Taylor's men and who were in Liberia. They were the ones
24 who were to join us. But I was to go and receive. That was why
25 he said I should attack Joru and advance on Zimmi for me to
26 receive them. They were to join us for us all to run the
27 operation.

15:00:36

28 Q. You did not mention Superman. Was Superman at the meeting?

29 A. No, Superman was not there. I had told you that Superman

1 was now in Koinadugu District and there was no space - there was
2 no way he could have left that place to come because ECOMOG were
3 at Koidu Town, they had occupied Koidu Town.

15:01:21 4 Q. Thank you and that is part of my next question. You talked
5 about an attack on Kono. Can you explain when the plan was to
6 attack the Kono District what was the situation in Kono at the
7 time you had this meeting, what forces were occupying various
8 locations in Kono?

15:01:49 9 A. In Kono ECOMOG occupied there, Kamajors and you had
10 loyalists, that is the SLAs of former President Tejan Kabbah.

11 Q. Did these forces occupy all of Kono District or parts of
12 Kono District?

15:02:29 13 A. Well, they were in Koidu Town itself. They occupied Koidu
14 Town itself. They were in some other areas, but we too had men
15 around them.

16 Q. Thank you. At this meeting in Buedu that you've talked
17 about was SAJ Musa present?

18 A. No, SAJ Musa was not there. SAJ Musa and Superman were in
19 that Koinadugu area, so he was not there.

15:02:50 20 Q. At the meeting was there any discussion of the forces in
21 the north, SAJ Musa and Superman's forces, taking any part in
22 your plans?

23 A. Yes, we discussed them and we all agreed that we should
24 send - Mosquito should send radio message to them for all of them
15:03:25 25 to join hands so that we can run the operation. But we all
26 decided that Mosquito would not be the best person, but it would
27 be better for Johnny Paul to talk to SAJ Musa, for us to forget
28 about the past, to put all that infighting behind us and run the
29 operation. That was what we agreed upon and sent to Johnny Paul

1 and Johnny Paul was able to talk to SAJ Musa and others for us
2 all to join hands together to run the operation and they agreed.

3 Q. How do you know about the communication between Johnny Paul
4 Koroma and SAJ Musa?

15:04:14 5 A. Well, that was something that we talked about at the
6 meeting and we all agreed that Johnny Paul should do it because
7 he will be the best person and it went on because I too had a
8 radio in my own area. So my radio man monitored it and he told
9 me that the message went, that they've sent the message to
15:04:48 10 SAJ Musa and others for all of them to join hands in the
11 operation.

12 Q. Do you know if SAJ Musa gave any response to Johnny Paul
13 Koroma's request that they all join hands?

14 A. Well, SAJ Musa accepted to run the operation.

15:05:16 15 Q. Do you know if there were any RUF with SAJ Musa at that
16 time?

17 A. Yes, I had said it from the early stages that at that place
18 we had some RUF men who retreated from Makeni to that end. So
19 there were some RUF men with SAJ Musa.

15:05:39 20 Q. Can you remember any names of RUF that you know were with
21 SAJ Musa at the time you had these discussions in Buedu about the
22 national offensive?

23 A. I told you that the RUF men like one of the senior men who
24 was there, Alfred Brown, I told you about that. He was a radio
15:06:08 25 man. He was a radio operator. I told you about King Perry and
26 other fighters who were there.

27 Q. Did you know Alfred Brown yourself?

28 A. Yes, I know Alfred Brown.

29 Q. During this period of time in November in 1998 you told us

1 was the meeting were you in any communication with Alfred Brown
2 yourself?

3 A. At the time that he was in Koinadugu I did not communicate
4 with him, but at the time that the offensive started when all of
15:06:50 5 us had gone on the offensive in our different areas I
6 communicated with him.

7 Q. Okay. So when the offensive started you had some direct
8 communications with Alfred Brown, is that correct? On the radio,
9 I mean?

15:07:11 10 A. Yes, yes.

11 Q. After that meeting what did you do, after the meeting of
12 all the commanders where the plan was made for the offensive?

13 A. Well, everybody agreed to run the operation. People had
14 their various targets where they should go and they were to be
15:07:40 15 supplied with ammunition to go. The only people who were not
16 able to receive the supplies at that moment were the ones who
17 were in the northern jungle in the Koinadugu District. At that
18 moment they were not able to receive any supplies. But those of
19 us who were to go to the various targets, we received supplies.

15:08:06 20 Q. And can you explain again why those in the northern
21 district could not receive supplies at that time?

22 A. I think I have said it and I'll say it again. I said
23 because there was no way for us to transport any ammunition to go
24 their way because the enemies who we were fighting, that is the
15:08:32 25 ECOMOG troops and the loyalists to former President Tejan Kabbah
26 and the Kamajors, were based in Koidu Town. So we had no way of
27 taking any ammunition to them.

28 Q. After the meeting did you receive ammunition?

29 A. Yes, I received ammunition to go to my own target.

1 Q. And do you recall what ammunition you received?

2 A. Yes, I received AK rounds, RPG and GMG.

3 Q. Do you recall how many boxes of AK rounds you received, and
4 if you don't recall just tell us?

15:09:30 5 A. Well, I can recall I received 15 boxes of AK rounds but the
6 15 boxes which I received, I was to leave five at the other place
7 called Mobai. I was to take it there and leave it there. The 10
8 was to stay with me.

9 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, we're checking the spelling of
15:10:02 10 Mobai but in the meantime - apparently it's spelled correctly on
11 the transcript - we did receive some information that there is a
12 word in Krio that the witness was saying jorbush and that is
13 spelt J-O B-U-S-H. I was talking about what he was saying before
14 the break.

15:10:31 15 MR MUNYARD: I think he was saying zorbush before the
16 break.

17 MR KOUMJIAN: Correct, he was - I would stipulate to that.

18 MR MUNYARD: And I don't personally remember hearing him
19 call it jorbush since the break, but I might have missed that.

15:10:49 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: He didn't. I don't think he referred to
21 it at all, but rather than go into the semantics, it is a word
22 that we've come across before and we accept that the witness has
23 a different accent so that's as far as I'm prepared to go.

24 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, I entirely agree. We've all
15:11:09 25 seen it, amongst other places, in transcripts from other cases.

26 MR KOUMJIAN:

27 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you've indicated that you left five boxes
28 in Mobai. Who did you leave those boxes with?

29 A. The commander who was there, that was where I left them.

1 Q. Who was that commander, if you recall?

2 A. It was one Vandi who was there.

3 Q. Is that Varney?

4 A. Vandi.

15:11:52 5 Q. Vandi, thank you. I believe it's spelled correctly. Now
6 you said you had five boxes of - was it AK-47 rounds that you
7 had? Let me ask you --

8 A. The one that I left at Mobai, is that what you're talking
9 about? I told you I had 15 boxes of AK rounds. I was to leave
10 five at Mobai and the 10 were to stay in my care.

11 Q. Okay, so you had 10 of these boxes of ammunition that
12 contained the number of rounds that we calculated earlier, these
13 were the boxes you told us with the two pans and packets inside
14 the pans, is that correct?

15:12:44 15 A. Yes, that is how the AK rounds were. Each box contained
16 the two tins.

17 Q. And in addition to the AK rounds you had some other
18 ammunition, is that correct?

19 A. Yes, I had six boxes of RPG wherein in each box you had
15:13:12 20 three rockets, together with a TMT which you screwed up to the
21 rocket before you could shoot it. And I had five boxes of GMG
22 rounds.

23 Q. Where did these boxes of ammunition come from that you took
24 with you?

15:13:42 25 A. They had all come from Liberia when they were brought to
26 Buedu and it was in Buedu that I was given for me to take to my
27 own target.

28 Q. After the meeting when the ammunition was distributed do
29 you know if any ammunition was given to SLAs - or, excuse me,

1 AFRC soldiers.

2 A. Yes, because the commander like Akim Turay, they too were
3 there. They too were to go to their own targets. So they had
4 their own ammunition. Issa Sesay too was to go to his own target
15:14:28 5 together with Morris Kallon. So all of these people were
6 supplied.

7 Q. Now when you left for your target, which was said first was
8 Joru, did you have any means of communication with you?

9 A. Yes, I had means to communicate because I had a
15:14:52 10 communication set.

11 Q. What happened after you left for your mission?

12 A. Well, I left and went on my own mission because it was a
13 vehicle that took me along and a vehicle stopped with me at
14 Jojoi ma and I took people who carried the ammunition and I had
15:15:38 15 people who carried the ammunition towards Joru and I went to my
16 target and attacked Joru. I attacked Joru and I was able to
17 capture Joru and I was there for three days, because when I
18 attacked and captured Joru I was to wait until I received another
19 supply before I advanced on Zimmi. So I was waiting for those
15:16:09 20 three days, that was when ECOMOG was able to dislodge me from the
21 position which I had captured.

22 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honours, Jojoi ma we've spelled before
23 J-O-J-U-I-M-A:

24 Q. Mr Witness, did you receive information while you were
15:16:35 25 involved on your mission about any of the operations in other
26 parts of the country?

27 A. Yes, I heard.

28 Q. How did you hear?

29 A. I heard it from the radio which we were using because it

1 was a field radio. I heard that they had captured Koidu Town and
2 Akim Turay too had advanced on Njaiama Nimi koro and Rambo was
3 advancing towards Makeni. And those who were going to Freetown,
4 Superman too had left the northern area and they had attacked
15:17:35 5 Makeni together with Rambo and they were fighting at Teko
6 barracks and they had been able to capture Teko barracks.
7 SAJ Musa and Alfred Brown moved towards Freetown and arrived in
8 Waterloo - sorry, Masiaka. That was where I spoke with Alfred
9 Brown. Alfred Brown told me that they had arrived in Masiaka and
15:18:15 10 that was where they were, but that he would talk to me when they
11 reached the next target which was Waterloo and that was where
12 they were heading. Then I said okay.

13 Q. You indicated in your answer, Mr Witness, that Superman had
14 left the northern area and had attacked Makeni together with
15:18:40 15 Rambo. Now you told us that Superman was not at the November
16 meeting in Buedu. Was Rambo at that meeting?

17 A. Rambo was - he did not come to Buedu but he was around
18 Koidu Town, the area where we had defences - where we had
19 defences. That was where he was.

15:19:08 20 Q. Rambo belonged to which faction?

21 A. Rambo was an RUF.

22 MR KOU MJIAN: I'd like the witness to be shown now what has
23 previously been marked MFI -28. It also is on tab 3 for this
24 witness.

15:19:44 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, whilst that is happening I
26 think in line 20 the transcript has, "Where we had the fences",
27 but I think it was "defences".

28 MR KOU MJIAN: Yes, that's what I understood. Is it line
29 20, your Honour?

1 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Line 20. "That area where we had
2 defences".

3 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, mine is line 25 on page 121.

4 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: It is still line 20 on my transcript.

15:20:21

5 MR KOUMJIAN:

6 Q. Sir, were you talking about fences or defences in your
7 answer?

8 A. I am talking about defences.

15:20:53

9 Q. Thank you. Sir, referring to the document that is on the
10 screen it indicates it's addressed to Major General Sam Bockarie,
11 chief of defence staff. Do you recognise that title, chief of
12 defence staff?

13 A. Yes.

14 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is this an exhibit?

15:21:17

15 MR KOUMJIAN: No, your Honour, it is marked for
16 identification.

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: When?

18 MR KOUMJIAN: I'm not sure with which witness, but it's
19 MFI-28.

15:21:29

20 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Madam Court Officer, is that the case?

21 MS IRURA: Your Honour, the document was marked for
22 identification with a previous witness but was not tendered. It
23 was marked MFI-28.

24 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: But if it was, unless it's still pending
15:21:46 25 being given an exhibit number it is no longer MFI 20 anything.

26 MR KOUMJIAN: I believe it is still pending.

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is it pending admission into evidence.

28 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes, that's my understanding.

29 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is that the case, Madam Court Officer?

1 MS IRURA: Your Honour, it was marked but it was not
2 tendered.

3 MR KOUMJIAN: Correct, that's my understanding.

4 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Then which is it? Either it's an MFI
15:22:09 5 awaiting admission in an application that's before the Court or
6 it is not an MFI. Once that witness has closed their evidence
7 that MFI disintegrates, it doesn't exist any more, so maybe this
8 is a fresh document that we're now looking at.

9 MR KOUMJIAN: Okay. My concern, your Honours, and your
15:22:32 10 Honours decide the procedures, is that the record may not be
11 clear that the two times in the record that we're referring to
12 had same document, but if your Honours would like to give this a
13 new MFI number I would ask that it be given a new MFI number.

14 MR MUNYARD: Can I just inquire where it is pending from?
15:22:51 15 Whose evidence, if that is something that can be spelled out in
16 open court. If it can be then it would help us to establish the
17 status of this document because I'm not aware of any documents
18 that are still awaiting a decision.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Those from 1 to 16 in the Corinne Dufka
15:23:14 20 evidence are still pending and to the best of my knowledge those
21 are the only ones that are pending.

22 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour is quite right that that is, but
23 this document isn't anything to do with her evidence at all.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: It's up to 15 or 16 or somewhere about
15:23:29 25 that.

26 MS IRURA: Your Honour, at 15.

27 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, just to be clear, I think Madam
28 Court Officer correctly stated the situation, that is the
29 document was referred to but never tendered previously and that

1 was in the testimony, for the benefit of counsel who requested
2 the information, of TF1-371.

3 MR MUNYARD: Thank you.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: This one will have to start again,

15:24:08 5 Mr Koumjian, on its journey.

6 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you. I recall now the procedure is to
7 discuss the document before it's given a number:

8 Q. Sir, this document indicates it's addressed to Major
9 General Sam Bockarie, chief of defence staff. Do you recognise
10 that title?

11 A. Yes, I can recall it.

12 Q. What is that title, chief of defence staff?

13 A. The chief of defence staff was the man who was in charge of
14 the whole movement, the fighters. He was the senior most man for
15 all of us.

15:24:50 16 Q. It indicates it's from Issa H Sesay. Do you know what Issa
17 - are you looking at the screen now, Mr Witness?

18 A. Yes, I'm looking at it.

19 Q. Can you read the document or no?

15:25:07 20 A. As you go along I'm in line with you.

21 Q. Sorry, I didn't understand the answer.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, could you --

23 THE WITNESS: I said as you're reading I'll be going along
24 with you.

15:25:21 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Could you let the witness finish the
26 answer, you're overlapping.

27 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you. Sorry. I apologise:

28 Q. What was Issa Sesay's title at that time?

29 A. He was the battlefield commander and he was a brigadier.

1 Q. Mr Witness, I'd like to turn to the last page of this -
2 excuse me, before I do that do you know at this time if Issa
3 Sesay had an adjutant in 1998 at the time of the - in 1998 and
4 early 1999, January 1999, do you know if Issa Sesay had an
15:26:16 5 adjutant?

6 A. Yes, he had an adjutant.

7 Q. Who was Issa Sesay's adjutant?

8 MR MUNYARD: Is he being asked to read this off the page or
9 recall? Before the witness answers is he being asked to read it
15:26:28 10 off the page, as he did with the Issa Sesay reference, or is he
11 being asked to recall? I mean this is turning farcical now.

12 MR KOUJIAN: He's being asked to recall, but --

13 MR MUNYARD: In that case we shouldn't be turning to the
14 back page with the answer on it.

15 PRESIDING JUDGE: If he's recalling please - that's it.
16 Then when he's finished his memory answers we will move to
17 [overlapping speakers] if still required.

18 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, turn on the right channel
19 because I think you're not on the right channel.

15:27:06 20 MR KOUJIAN: You're correct, thank you. I don't know when
21 that happened:

22 Q. Sir, Mr Witness, who was Issa Sesay's adjutant?

23 A. It is was one major - I am thinking of his name because his
24 name just escapes me a little. The adjutant's name has escaped
15:28:07 25 me a little, but I know it. I am trying to think about his name
26 which I'll tell you later as we go along.

27 Q. We can come back to that later. Now going forward a bit
28 you indicated that there were some forces attacking Makeni. Did
29 the People's Army forces succeed in taking Makeni?

1 A. Yes, they took Makeni.

2 Q. Do you recall what date it was when Makeni fell to the
3 People's Army?

4 A. They took it a day before Christmas Day.

15:28:58 5 Q. Okay, thank you. Can you tell us, Mr Witness, if there
6 were ever occasions when commanders reported in writing to the
7 chief of defence staff?

8 A. Yes, you will write to report to the chief of defence staff
9 when once you've completed your mission. You would report - you
10 would report everything that you've captured to the chief of
11 defence staff.

12 Q. What kind of information would you include in that report
13 to the chief of defence staff?

14 A. You will write the ammunition that you've captured, the
15:30:27 15 guns that you've captured. If you captured any radio set you
16 will talk about it. If somebody among you got wounded you would
17 report on that. If somebody died during that battle you would
18 report that as well.

19 MR KOU MJIAN: I'm not going to show the witness more of the
15:30:55 20 document this time, but at this time I would ask, for the record
21 to be clear, for it to be given an MFI number.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: You're seeking to mark for identification
23 a document, are you putting it through this witness?

24 MR KOU MJIAN: I will, yes, put it through this witness,
15:31:23 25 yes.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, let's do that and then we'll mark
27 it for identification.

28 MR KOU MJIAN:

29 Q. Okay. Mr Witness, would you please look at the document.

1 Can you read the document, Mr Witness? Are you able to read it
2 or no?

3 A. I can.

15:32:12

4 Q. Can you read beginning, "On the 6th December"? Can you
5 read that out loud for us?

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Koumjian, it's not my place to tell
7 you how to run your case, but it appears putting a matter like
8 this, a potential exhibit, it's not enough just to read it out,
9 there has to be some form of identification.

15:32:32

10 MR KOUMJIAN: Is your Honour - just so I can understand, I
11 understand your Honour's asking if I can establish with this
12 witness the reliability of this document?

15:32:49

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Not just that. Does he recognise it.
14 The purpose of marking a document for identification is that it
15 will be a potential exhibit and it's not enough just to read it
16 out. The witness must in some way identify or show that he has
17 some knowledge of the document so that it has a potential, and I
18 try and be guarded, to be an exhibit and he's either got to
19 recognise it or in some other way adopt it.

15:33:14

20 MR KOUMJIAN: My submissions to your Honours is that if the
21 document itself contains information that taken on its face would
22 be relevant to the case then the reliability of the document,
23 which would include testimony from someone who may recognise a
24 document or be able to testify to how it was prepared, that's one
25 way the reliability could be established.

15:33:35

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, well, we haven't got that yet.
27 That's the whole point of the exercise.

28 MR KOUMJIAN: My understanding of the procedures at the
29 Special Court, and I have it in this Trial Chamber's decisions in

1 other cases, in particular I'm referring to your decision on 18
2 November of 2005, I know your Honours are familiar with this. It
3 was stated that it's not necessary, on page 3, to demonstrate the
4 reliability of the evidence before it is admitted. You quote the
15:34:23 5 Appeal Chamber.

6 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, let's even stop you there.
7 Who is talking about reliability? Nobody has talked about
8 reliability. We are talking about identifying this document.
9 Does this witness know what this document is? As simple as that.
15:34:40 10 It has nothing to do with reliability. It has everything to do
11 with identification of the document.

12 MR KOUMJIAN: I'll accept your Honour's --

13 JUDGE LUSSICK: I think what the Presiding Judge was
14 referring to, Mr Koumjian - there's obviously some
15:34:59 15 misunderstanding here. You're focusing on reliability, but what
16 the Presiding Judge was referring to is simply why are you
17 seeking to tender this document through this witness? There
18 doesn't seem at this stage to be any connection.

19 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, the connection is that the
15:35:15 20 document - if I could just have a moment to make my submission.
21 Obviously the person who is responsible who sent the document is
22 not available to us, Brigadier Issa Sesay. The document in its
23 contents is very relevant and relates to the testimony of this
24 witness. The contents of this document are clearly relevant to
15:35:37 25 the issues before the Court. The issue of whether or not in fact
26 this is a genuine document can be established by other ways other
27 than this witness. What this witness could talk about or we
28 could compare is this document to this witness's testimony, but I
29 have no further submissions I wish to make to your Honours.

1 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, let's try again. You have
2 not asked this witness if he knows what this document is. Why
3 don't you ask him and give him a chance to tell us. He might
4 surprise you.

15:36:13 5 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes, you're right. Thank you:

6 Q. Sir, you've been reading the screen for a while, do you
7 know what this is, this document?

8 A. Yes, I know what this document is about.

9 Q. What is this document?

15:36:37 10 A. This document is showing - it's a report that this man is
11 making to the boss, that is the chief of defence staff who is
12 Major General Sam Bockarie. The fighting that he did in Koidu
13 Town, when he captured - the materials he captured, medicines and
14 the things that he got. This is the report that he was making to
15 the chief of defence staff for his knowledge.

16 MR MUNYARD: Can I just interrupt at this stage to inquire
17 how it is that the witness knows all of that when as far as I'm
18 aware we've only been looking at the first page and then an
19 attempt to turn to the back page came to a halt. I might have
15:37:29 20 missed something, I accept that, but as far as I was aware we've
21 been debating the principle of the document rather than going
22 through it. He's now telling us what's on pages 3, 4 and 5.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard, I have not yet asked
24 Mr Koumjian to reply to your objection, but my initial reaction
15:37:50 25 is the procedure we're going through now is does he recognise
26 this document in order for it to be marked for identification and
27 it would appear that he has an in depth knowledge.

28 MR MUNYARD: It appears that he's read it before if not
29 now. I'll say no more.

1 MR KOU MJIAN:

2 Q. Mr Witness, on the first page that you have does it
3 indicate there that his mission was to attack Koidu?

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: You're leading.

15:38:28 5 THE WITNESS: What he said in this document, he said I left
6 defence headquarters on 6 December 1998. I left as per your
7 instruction for assignment which was a mission to attack Koidu
8 which was a 2nd Brigade axis - the 2nd Brigade axis. He said
9 below, this list, are the materials which I captured.

15:39:35 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: It appears to me he's just reading it.
11 That's not the purpose of the exercise, Mr Koumjian.

12 MR KOU MJIAN:

13 Q. Sir, my question: Is this document consistent with other -
14 have you seen similar reports before?

15:39:53 15 A. Well, I have told you. You asked me and I have told you
16 that whenever we were going on mission, when we carry out the
17 mission we have to submit the report to the defence chief of
18 staff or the person who was your immediate boss. You had to
19 report to him. So it was not something that was strange to me.
15:40:13 20 We were doing it.

21 MR KOU MJIAN: I have no further questions on the document
22 at this time unless your Honours would like me to clarify.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: You're pursuing your application?

24 MR KOU MJIAN: Yes.

15:40:46 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: A five page document headed "Restricted",
26 marked for identification MFI-16. Mr Koumjian, please proceed.

27 Incidentally if you're moving on to another topic of the
28 witness's evidence there's one terminology I wish to clarify. It
29 was used by the interpreter when he was describing the meetings

1 at Buedu or the meeting at Buedu and he used the term to "hang
2 heads". What exactly does that mean? This was pre-lunchtime.
3 Mr Interpreter, what does that mean?

15:42:16

4 THE INTERPRETER: I think when they consult with one
5 another.

6 MR KOUJIAN: Your Honours, we understand that's page 87
7 line 22, for the interpreter's benefit also.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: That was the only point I wished to
9 clarify, Mr Koujian. Please proceed.

15:42:42

10 MR KOUJIAN:

11 Q. You talked about the attacks in Kono. Do you know an area
12 in Kono called Yengema?

13 A. Yes, I know Yengema.

14 Q. What was at Yengema?

15:43:03

15 A. Yengema is the same Kono District but it's another area
16 where they had an airfield.

17 Q. And, Mr Witness, perhaps you can help us. Did you use the
18 expression earlier today "hang heads"?

15:43:46

19 A. What I mean by hang heads is that we were to meet and
20 discuss matters that the chief of defence staff was thinking
21 about, for us to discuss them and arrive at a conclusion, for us
22 to have one understanding. That was what I meant.

23 Q. Thank you, that's very helpful. Mr Witness, you've told us
24 about Makeni being captured the day before Christmas. What
15:44:16 25 happened after that in this offensive? Do you recall any other
26 events?

27 A. Yes, they had captured Makeni and the men were trying to
28 search the town to ensure that it has been cleared properly and
29 Superman moved to Lunsar and attacked Lunsar and captured it and

1 the other groups that I've been telling you about, SAJ Musa's
2 group, they too had reached Masiaka and I spoke to Alfred Brown
3 and he told me that they were moving to the next target which was
4 Waterloo and he told me that when he gets there we will talk. So
15:45:16 5 that was how the movements were.

6 Q. Did you receive any information about anything that
7 occurred at Masiaka?

8 A. Masiaka, the men, they attacked Masiaka and captured it and
9 they were there. They were resting there in order to move to
15:45:48 10 their next target.

11 Q. Did anything happen while they were there?

12 A. Nothing happened per se, but they were there while waiting
13 because they had just captured the place and they were resting.
14 They were trying to ensure that SAJ Musa was ready to put them
15:46:22 15 together to move to the next target.

16 Q. What did SAJ Musa do next? What happened with SAJ Musa?

17 A. Well, they left. When they moved and went to Waterloo we
18 heard that they did not get to Waterloo, but it was not long
19 again that we heard that SAJ Musa had died, that he had died in
15:46:53 20 Benguema. They said they attacked the barracks and it was there
21 that SAJ Musa died. So Gullit, we heard that it was he who had
22 taken over the command.

23 Q. Witness, did you know the person you're calling Gullit?

24 A. Gullit is Tamba Brima.

15:47:25 25 Q. Yes, did you know Gullit personally?

26 A. Yes, I know him. I know him.

27 Q. Where did you first meet Gullit?

28 A. I met Gullit at the time that we joined the AFRC in
29 Freetown.

1 Q. Do you know what were Gullit's assignments from the time of
2 the - that you joined the AFRC in Freetown, can you tell us what
3 you know about his movements since that time?

4 A. I had told the Court that Gullit was the man - at the time
15:48:14 5 that we were in Freetown he was the one who was sent to Kono and
6 he was in charge of the mining there. I think I had said that.
7 He was the one whom JP sent to be in charge of the mining which
8 JP had organised and the man was one of the honourables, he was
9 one of those people who staged the coup.

15:48:39 10 Q. Where did he go over he was sent to Kono, do you know?

11 A. Yes, he was in Kono. When we were pulling out from
12 Freetown he too left Kono and went to Buedu. That was where he
13 went. He was in Buedu.

14 Q. And when Gullit was in Buedu where was Sam Bockarie,
15:49:05 15 Mosquito?

16 A. At that time Sam Bockarie was in Buedu.

17 Q. Did you observe the relationship between Gullit and Sam
18 Bockarie?

19 A. Well, I was not with them on the ground there in Buedu, but
15:49:25 20 what I heard from Gullit himself was that he and Sam Bockarie had
21 a cordial relationship, they hadn't any problem at all.

22 Q. How long, do you know, if you know, did Gullit stay in
23 Buedu?

24 A. I can't give you any specific time that he spent in Buedu,
15:49:57 25 but he was there - just imagine he was in Kono and he pulled out
26 from Kono before we could get to Kono and he went to Buedu and
27 joined Mosquito there. So he had been there all along when he
28 left there and came back to Koidu to us. But he had plans to go
29 to SAJ Musa, because they were trying to call SAJ Musa to leave

1 where he was and come to Buedu. Sam Bockarie was calling him to
2 come and join him in Buedu for him to be there so that they could
3 be carrying out those plans, but SAJ Musa did not agree to come
4 to Buedu.

15:50:49 5 So Gullit told him that that man is my own SLA brother, but
6 I will go there to convince him, to talk to him to come. And at
7 that time I was in Koidu, when he came, slept with us there, we
8 spoke, and the following morning he left for Koinadugu end to
9 SAJ Musa and others and it was there where that he was when they
15:51:22 10 did the advancement, when they sent to advance on Freetown.

11 Q. Thank you. Now you said that Gullit told him that SAJ Musa
12 was his SLA brother. Who did Gullit tell that SAJ Musa was his
13 brother?

14 A. He told Sam Bockarie.

15:51:45 15 Q. Mr Witness, when you heard that SAJ Musa was killed what
16 did you think? What was your reaction?

17 A. Well, I also felt relieved. Actually I was happy when it
18 happened.

19 Q. Why is that?

15:52:23 20 A. Because there was power struggle within the movement.
21 SAJ Musa wanted to be the leader and Sam Bockarie also wanted to
22 be the leader, so there was that misunderstanding. And I did not
23 have any good relationship with SAJ Musa and he was not working
24 with us the way we expected like he used to do in Freetown at the
15:53:04 25 time we were together. So when we heard that Gullit had taken
26 over command we were happy because he had had a very good
27 relationship with Sam Bockarie and they were doing things
28 together. So we ensured that things went on well.

29 Q. Now you indicated that after SAJ Musa's death the forces

1 that Gullit took over made some movement. Can you tell us again
2 what the movements were of Gullit's forces after SAJ Musa's
3 death?

4 A. The time SAJ Musa died Gullit and his men moved to go to
15:54:01 5 Freetown. They advanced on Freetown. But before they left he
6 received a message that he should wait and receive reinforcements
7 and at that time even myself, SAJ Musa had selected me to move
8 with my men to join those men before they entered Freetown and at
9 that time I was on the Joru axis. So I had received instruction
15:54:31 10 to move to Kailahun and from there I received another instruction
11 to move to Kono and from there I should collect some people to go
12 and reinforce those men for us to enter Freetown. So Sam
13 Bockarie had wanted them to wait, but later he realised that that
14 was going to be a delay. So they moved, they advanced and
15:55:02 15 entered Freetown. So at that time I heard that the men had
16 already entered Freetown. So I was unable to bring the men with
17 me. But Rambo and the others in Makeni, they advanced together
18 with Superman and the others to meet them at Waterloo. By that
19 time they met they had already advanced into Freetown, but they
15:55:34 20 met ECOMOG troops on the way. So they fought the ECOMOG and they
21 made another advancement going towards Jui, that Hastings area.
22 By that time the men who were in Freetown, they had pressure and
23 when we heard that they were in Freetown we were all happy, we
24 were jubilating.

15:56:02 25 Q. Mr Witness, thank you. I want to take it more slowly so we
26 can follow step by step.

27 MR MUNYARD: Can I just ask if we've had the correct
28 interpretation of one point. On page 141 at line 1 it reads -
29 I'll go back to the previous lines: "So they moved, they

1 advanced and entered Freetown. So at that time I heard that the
2 men had already entered Freetown. So I was unable to bring the
3 men with me." I'm not sure if that's what the witness said or if
4 that's how it's been translated because it seems to be a non
15:56:46 5 sequitur.

6 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, I believe it will be explained
7 if I go step by step through the course of events.

8 MR MUNYARD: I'm happy if that's done. I just think it
9 doesn't make sense as it stands.

15:57:10 10 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you:

11 Q. Mr Witness, I want to take it step by step from the point
12 where SAJ Musa died in Benguema and you said Gullit replaced him.
13 Is that correct?

14 A. Yes, Gullit replaced him.

15:57:22 15 Q. Those forces that Gullit now commanded, where they did go
16 next?

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Do you mean after Benguema?

18 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes:

19 Q. After Benguema?

15:57:38 20 A. After Benguema they went into Freetown.

21 Q. When you say into Freetown, tell us the path, the places
22 that they went to to get towards Freetown?

23 A. They used the bypass, the bypasses, they used the bypasses.
24 When they entered Freetown they used the hillside to enter into
15:58:12 25 Freetown.

26 Q. You said at one point there was a message to wait. Can you
27 explain who sent a message to who?

28 A. It was Sam Bockarie who sent message to Gullit.

29 Q. Where was Gullit when Sam Bockarie told him to wait?

1 A. At that time they were in Waterloo.

2 Q. Okay. And what exactly did Sam Bockarie tell Gullit to
3 wait for?

4 A. He said they should wait until they received reinforcement.

15:58:53 5 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you said at one point something I'd like
6 you to explain. You said SAJ Musa selected you to move with men
7 to join him. Is that correct?

8 A. Say it again. Let me get it clear.

9 Q. What I understood from the translation is that you had said
15:59:17 10 that SAJ Musa had selected you to move with your men to join him.
11 Did SAJ Musa ever give you an instruction to join him or did we
12 misunderstand something?

13 A. Maybe you got me wrong. I didn't say SAJ Musa.

14 Q. It would perhaps help if you spoke a little bit slower
15:59:42 15 about these events. When the force got to Waterloo and this
16 message from Mosquito was given to Gullit to wait where were you
17 at that time?

18 A. I said I was around that Jorua axis. That was where I was.

19 Q. How do you know about Bockarie's message to Gullit to wait
16:00:06 20 for reinforcements?

21 A. It was something that I heard over the communication set
22 that we had.

23 Q. Now when you found out - when Gullit was in Waterloo and
24 Bockarie told him to wait for reinforcements did you receive any
16:00:33 25 orders from anyone at that time?

26 A. Yes, I got an order from Sam Bockarie that I should come to
27 Kailahun and then from there I moved to Kono and then get some
28 men to join the other men who were in Makeni for me to take the
29 men to Waterloo to join Gullit and others. That was the

1 instruction that I received.

2 Q. Did you understand from Bockarie what Gullit was to do once
3 the reinforcements arrived?

4 A. Yes, if the reinforcement was to meet them we would have
16:01:31 5 joined them so that we would all attack Freetown together.

6 Q. Thank you. When you received that order did you start to
7 move on this path that would have taken you to Waterloo?

8 A. I started moving, going towards the Kailahun area, but I
9 did not get to Kailahun again, I stopped at Jojoima because we
16:02:08 10 already heard that the brothers had entered Freetown. They were
11 in Waterloo. But the men who moved from Makeni, that is Superman
12 and others, when they got to Waterloo they met enemies there so
13 that was how we came to know that our brothers, that is Gullit
14 and others, they had already entered inside because Rambo and
16:02:38 15 others met enemies there and they fought.

16 Q. When you say Rambo and others met enemies there, what do
17 you mean by there, where was it that Rambo met the enemies?

18 A. It was Waterloo. That was where they met the enemies.

19 Q. When you said that Gullit had already entered there, where
16:03:01 20 had Gullit's forces already entered? You said had entered
21 inside?

22 A. They had already entered Freetown.

23 Q. Mr Witness, do you remember when you received the news that
24 Gullit's forces had entered Freetown? Can you remember that
16:03:22 25 moment?

26 A. I heard it in January. That was January 6. That was the
27 time I heard that Gullit and the fighters had already entered
28 Freetown.

29 Q. How did you hear it? Tell us what you remember about the

1 time that you heard that?

2 A. Well, I had told you that I was supposed to go and join
3 them, but I didn't make it to join them again so I was still
4 returned to my place. So we heard it over the communication set,
16:04:11 5 when we heard that the men had entered. And the BBC also said it
6 and they said the fighters, the RUF rebels, had entered Freetown.
7 So we were happy and we were jubilating in all the areas, all the
8 areas where we were.

9 Q. When you say you were happy and jubilating because they
16:04:34 10 entered Freetown that was because of Gullit's forces entering
11 Freetown?

12 A. Yes.

13 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: The witness said because the RUF rebels
14 entered Freetown. That's what he said.

16:04:50 15 MR KOUMJIAN:

16 Q. And when you said that the RUF rebels entered Freetown what
17 did you mean?

18 A. Well, I want the Court to know that the RUF and the AFRC
19 were all considered rebels.

16:05:16 20 Q. So after you heard this news which made you happy about
21 Gullit's forces entering Freetown did you continue to try to go
22 towards Freetown or what was your order?

23 A. No, I didn't continue to go to Freetown, but I was still
24 trying to make moves towards my own target, but I didn't make it
16:05:51 25 to do that again. So I remained in my place in defensive and I
26 was always on the radio to know about the movement of others. So
27 that was all I was doing now.

28 Q. Why was it that after you heard that the forces had entered
29 Freetown that you were always on the radio?

1 A. Well, I wanted to know what was happening in Freetown where
2 the men had entered, how things were happening with them. That
3 was what I wanted to know.

4 Q. And just to be clear, when your own assignment in the
16:06:49 5 meeting in Buedu before the offensive, the November meeting you
6 talked about before this national offensive, was to attack Jui
7 and then Zimmi were you able to accomplish that mission?

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Was it not Joru and Zimmi? Jui is in a
9 completely different side of the country.

16:07:17 10 MR KOUJIAN: Joru. Thank you. Apologies.

11 THE WITNESS: I had told the Court that I made it to attack
12 Joru and I was there for three days, that is 72 hours. But the
13 enemies pushed me out of there, but I was still around the Joru
14 axis. So I didn't make it to advance to the next target which
16:07:46 15 was Zimmi.

16 MR KOUJIAN:

17 Q. Now you've told us that when you heard the troops had
18 entered Freetown you were monitoring the radio. What did you
19 hear over the next few days or weeks about the situation in
16:08:01 20 Freetown, can you tell us?

21 A. Well, what I heard was that our brothers like Gullit and
22 the other men who had entered Freetown, they were communicating
23 with Sam Bockarie and Gullit was telling Sam Bockarie that they
24 had pressure, because when they entered initially they went to
16:08:41 25 Pademba Road to get Foday Sankoh released from the place, but
26 they did not meet Foday Sankoh there, but other RUF members who
27 were there, like Gibril Massaquoi, he was also in the prisons, so
28 they released him, so they all joined hands together and they
29 were fighting, but they were getting pressure from the ECOMOG

1 troops or the forces who were considered our enemies and against
2 whom we were fighting.

3 So he started communicating with Sam Bockarie and saying
4 that he was getting pressure and he was calling for

16:09:34 5 reinforcements, but there was no easy way because the other men
6 on the Hastings side were also trying to fight to enter but they
7 didn't make it to enter. So the other men who were inside, they
8 had too much pressure so they decided to retreat.

9 Q. When you say the men on the Hastings side which men are you
16:10:01 10 referring to?

11 A. Well, I am talking about Rambo, Rambo's own group. So when
12 those men were receiving this pressure in Freetown Mosquito
13 passed instruction to them telling him that if there was no way
14 to stand the men they should start carrying out some destruction,
16:10:32 15 they should set fire on the Nigerian embassy and other areas. So
16 the men also started carrying out the orders that Mosquito passed
17 to them. So they started setting the houses on fire, but they
18 were - they didn't make it to burn the Nigerian embassy, but the
19 other areas where they set the fire, they were burnt down and
16:11:04 20 they carried out some other destructions.

21 Q. Mr Witness, could you recognise Gullit's voice?

22 A. I know Gullit's voice very well.

23 Q. When you told us about Gullit calling for reinforcements,
24 calling Bockarie for reinforcements, is that something someone
16:11:28 25 told you or is that something you heard yourself on the radio?

26 A. Well, I heard it over the radio and whilst the instructions
27 were given to the men telling him that they should do it or they
28 should do that, it was not something that they encoded. They
29 were saying it out now so that even the enemy against whom they

1 were fighting would be afraid.

2 Q. You said Sam Bockarie gave orders to burn houses and the
3 Nigerian embassy. Is that something someone told you or how did
4 you learn that?

16:12:19 5 A. I said I heard him when he was passing the order that they
6 should set the Nigerian embassy on fire.

7 Q. By the way what did Gullit call Bockarie, do you recall?

8 A. He called him Sir because he knew that the man was chief of
9 defence staff, he knew about his position.

16:12:57 10 Q. Now earlier in your testimony you talked about 448s. At
11 this time you said the troops entered Freetown on January 6 did
12 you hear any of these alerts, these 448s, over the radio while
13 you were monitoring?

14 A. Yes, that 448, they were saying it and they were sending it
16:13:33 15 to the men who were in Freetown and they were alerting them that
16 448 was around.

17 Q. Mr Witness, how often did you hear Gullit communicating
18 with Bockarie?

19 A. Well, they did it frequently. Let's say in half an hour
16:14:06 20 they would communicate, because it was not just Sam Bockarie but
21 we were all focused on the capital city at that time and all the
22 mission that we had planned to carry out was focused on the
23 capital city, because that was where we wanted, so we all had our
24 attentions focused there so Mosquito was talking to Gullit
16:14:34 25 frequently.

26 Q. Now you indicated that the 448s, they were saying it and
27 they were sending it. Who was sending the 448s to those in
28 Freetown?

29 A. I had told the Court that we had a monitoring team that was

1 based in Buedu and those were other SLA operators, they were
2 there. And I also did say that in Liberia we had some
3 communication sets and they were also there monitoring the 448
4 and the movement of enemy troops, they would always alert us. So
16:15:32 5 we were able to get the message about the 448s from the defence
6 headquarters and the monitoring team that was based there.

7 Q. Mr Witness, you indicated that some RUF were released from
8 Pademba prison during the attack on Freetown. Did you ever hear
9 any communications from those released from the prison?

16:16:02 10 A. I heard about Gibril Massaquoi whom I had made mention of.
11 He was released from the prison there and he was fighting
12 alongside with Gullit and he also did say that he has been freed
13 and that he was now with the men and they were all fighting
14 together.

16:16:31 15 Q. How did you hear him say that? Where did he say that?

16 A. Well, he said it over the communication set when he was
17 communicating with Superman and he also communicated with Sam
18 Bockarie for him to know that he has been set free and that he
19 has joined the men and they were all fighting.

16:17:02 20 Q. Thank you. Now, Mr Witness, based upon your experience as
21 a field commander in Sierra Leone at that time were the forces
22 that were commanded by Gullit, would they have been, in your
23 opinion, able to enter Freetown if the attacks were not taking
24 place in other parts of the country?

16:17:38 25 MR MUNYARD: Well, I object to that. That's an
26 extraordinary question to ask somebody who never reached a rank
27 other than the rank that he reached and how can he possibly as a
28 soldier in the position that he held speak so grandiosely about
29 military strategy and tactics. And we haven't yet heard that he

1 has a complete overview of everything that was going on both in
2 Freetown and elsewhere in the country for that to be justified on
3 its own facts, let alone generally.

4 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, the testimony before the Court
16:18:18 5 from this witness and from other witnesses is that Mr Mongor was
6 one of the top commanders in the RUF and in the AFRC/RUF. He was
7 an area commander. At one point he was the battle group
8 commander acting the number 2 position in the RUF. He's told us
9 about his constant monitoring of the radio, of his presence at
16:18:43 10 the meeting where these attacks were planned, about battling the
11 enemies of the RUF and the AFRC for years basically from 1991
12 until at this time 1999.

13 I would submit that Mr Mongor is one of the people most
14 qualified we could possibly have to give us an opinion about what
16:19:07 15 the military situation was in Freetown at that time. He was an
16 absolute insider, a front line commander with intimate knowledge
17 of the enemy and of the AFRC/RUF forces.

18 MR MUNYARD: And a member of an organisation that after
19 fighting all those years signally failed to achieve any of its
16:19:27 20 objectives. It's hardly an example of a good military
21 organisation.

22 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, do we have to ask permission to
23 reply?

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard didn't have a right of reply,
16:19:41 25 but he chipped in there.

26 MR MUNYARD: I do retrospectively, but I've said my piece.

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Except, Mr Koumjian, I'm just wondering,
28 you've referred to attacks not taking place in other parts of the
29 country. Maybe I'm wrong, but I'm not aware of this kind of

1 evidence where you have shown that simultaneously there were
2 other attacks happening in other parts of the country. That is
3 not in evidence. What is in evidence is the plan, various
4 commanders were given different assignments, but we've not heard
16:20:14 5 any evidence as to what was going on in these other places. So
6 this question that you're asking in my opinion doesn't have a
7 foundation or a sufficient foundation anyway.

8 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, I can lay further foundation but
9 I would submit that the evidence that has been admitted so far is
16:20:31 10 that there were attacks going on throughout the country. The
11 witness has testified to attacks on Koindu, that Koindu Town was
12 taken. He testified that Makeni was taken on 24 December. He
13 testified that he himself was involved in an attack in the south
14 in Zimmi and Joru against the enemy forces and he testified that
16:20:56 15 Rambo and Superman were fighting in the Hastings area, I believe
16 he testified to. So I believe there is evidence that the enemy,
17 the ECOMOG, the Kamajors, the enemies of these RUF and AFRC
18 forces, were being engaged simultaneously in several parts of the
19 country - nearly simultaneously.

16:22:21 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: The majority opinion is that this
21 objection will be upheld. It's speculative and it does not have
22 sufficient knowledge on the part of the witness.

23 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you, your Honours:

24 Q. Mr Witness, the forces that were facing Gullit in Freetown,
16:22:41 25 were they all of ECOMOG's forces that were directed against him
26 in the fighting in Freetown?

27 A. They were mixed.

28 Q. My question was all of ECOMOG concentrating all of its
29 forces in fighting Gullit when Gullit entered Freetown?

1 MR MUNYARD: How can this witness say that? I thought we
2 were being told a moment ago he was such a superior figure in the
3 RUF, now he appears, on the basis of this question, to have
4 overarching knowledge of the workings of ECOMOG.

16:23:32 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Factually I have a problem with that
6 question because first of all he wasn't in the area, I know he's
7 been in radio communication, I'm not quibbling about that, so he
8 has some knowledge, but surely it was said that there was ECOMOG
9 fighting in the Kono area. You're saying the entire ECOMOG
16:23:51 10 forces were directed at Freetown.

11 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, I don't expect him to answer in
12 the affirmative. My question as far as the witness's knowledge
13 of where the enemy was, that's fundamental for any commander, I
14 don't think it requires further comment that you know where your
16:24:08 15 enemies are. So my question for him was whether or not all of
16 the forces were in Freetown or if ECOMOG was dispersing its
17 defences at the time that Gullit entered Freetown.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: So you're asking a factual situation
19 rather than, what would you say, an opinion.

16:24:26 20 MR KOUMJIAN: Yes.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. Well, in that case I overrule the
22 objection.

23 MR KOUMJIAN:

24 Q. Sir, I don't know if you understood the question and let me
16:24:35 25 try to ask it again. At the time that Gullit was able to enter
26 Freetown did ECOMOG have all of its forces concentrated on
27 stopping Gullit or were the ECOMOG forces divided and engaged in
28 other areas of the country?

29 A. Well, I want the Court to know that ECOMOG was also present

1 in other parts of the country, that is Sierra Leone. They were
2 in Kenema and they were in Joru where I also went to attack.
3 They were also in Kono when Issa Sesay and others attacked them
4 and pushed them out of there. They were in Makeni when Superman
16:25:42 5 and Rambo and others attacked them and they pushed them out of
6 there. And they were at Njaiama Nimi koro when Akim Turay
7 attacked them and pushed them out of there. So the ECOMOG forces
8 were in all of those areas and we engaged them.

9 So the men who were advancing towards Freetown, they were
16:26:12 10 also able to make their move easily and enter Freetown. So that
11 was how the fighting went. So when the men entered Freetown the
12 ECOMOG troops were now concentrating on the troops who had
13 entered Freetown, because the other areas were too far away.
14 And that was the capital city, that was the headquarters, so they
16:26:38 15 were trying to defend that headquarters, so they were focusing on
16 the men who had entered Freetown at that time.

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Koumjian, in line 25 I think the
18 witness said the ECOMOG troops were now concentrated, but the
19 record says were not concentrated which is the opposite.

16:27:00 20 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you, your Honour.

21 Q. Mr Witness, did you say that the ECOMOG forces were now
22 concentrated or not concentrated on the men who entered Freetown?

23 A. They concentrated on the men who had entered Freetown
24 because that was the capital city and they were trying to defend
16:27:19 25 there.

26 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you indicated at one point, if I
27 understood your testimony, that while Gullit's forces were
28 fighting in Freetown there was another battle going on in the
29 Hastings area. Is that correct?

1 A. Yes, another fighting was taking place in the Hastings area
2 against Rambo's own group and they were the ones who entered
3 Hastings and ECOMOG was present in Hastings and they were also
4 present in Jui.

16:27:54 5 Q. Was Rambo's group - first of all, who was Rambo's group
6 fighting against?

7 A. He was fighting against the ECOMOG troops and the Kamajors.
8 And the Guinean troops, they were also there.

9 Q. Now are you familiar with the geography of the peninsula on
16:28:28 10 which Freetown is located?

11 A. Yes, I understand it very well.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm just watching the time, Mr Koumjian.
13 Sorry to have to interrupt you. Is the last question and answer
14 likely to be a lengthy one? We have only about 30 seconds left.

16:28:48 15 MR KOUMJIAN: I have many, many questions on the same topic
16 so I think it's time to stop.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Perhaps it would be appropriate then to
18 adjourn at this point. I will remind the witness of his
19 obligation not to discuss evidence. I will release him and then
16:29:01 20 we will have an update from Mr Munyard.

21 Mr Witness, we are now going to adjourn until tomorrow
22 morning at 9.30. I again remind you that you should not discuss
23 your evidence until all your evidence is finished. Madam Court
24 Attendant will assist you to leave the Court. We have one
16:29:23 25 administrative matter to deal with. Do you understand?

26 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.

27 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, just before I deal with
28 Mr Griffiths's arrival as it will be can I mention that when
29 Justice Sebutinde referred to that error on line 25 again on our

1 screens here it said on a different line. On my screen it's on
2 line 3. I'm only raising it because it's now happened twice so
3 it seems we might be looking at different positions on a page.
4 It might be something to do with the size of the font, but I'm
16:30:25 5 just raising it. I'm not asking anyone to deal with that now,
6 but it is obviously a distinction between what's on your screens
7 and what's on at least some of the other screens.

8 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Munyard, for your information what's on
9 one judge's screen is not the same as what's on another judge's
16:30:41 10 screen. In all of these lines that have been mentioned so far I
11 have had different lines on my particular notes, so you're not
12 the only one in that boat.

13 MR MUNYARD: I wonder if your Honour's font is large.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I have different lines as well.

16:30:58 15 MR MUNYARD: Very well. It might be to do with the size of
16 the font. I've got rather large font because it is easier to
17 read.

18 Can I just then turn to Mr Griffiths. I've spoken to him
19 this afternoon and he had just finished his cross-examination and
16:31:13 20 he has booked a flight for tonight and will be in court first
21 thing tomorrow morning.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Munyard.

23 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, we would then - I don't know if
24 we can take this up now or tomorrow morning but we would still
16:31:31 25 want to pursue our request to have limitations put on the parties
26 for the examination because it may not make sense to start the
27 witness without such limitations if the witness is - I'm not sure
28 where we'd be if we end in the middle of a cross-examination.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: My understanding is that this is

1 Mr Griffiths's witness but allow me to consult with my
2 colleagues.

3 Mr Munyard, you'd been alerted yesterday to the likelihood
4 of an application being made and the nature of the application.

16:32:20 5 Are you prepared to deal with that now?

6 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, I'm not. I haven't prepared the
7 cross-examination in this case in relation to this witness. I'm
8 not in a position to say one way or the other how long the
9 cross-examination is bound to take. And I have to say I had
10 anticipated in the light of your own comments when this was
11 raised earlier that there was going to be a formal written
12 application. I haven't seen anything. And you yourself raised
13 the question of rules and regulations.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I certainly raised the rules and
15 precedents. I have a clear recollection of that. But I don't
16 recall saying it had to be in writing and I was prepared, given
17 the exigencies of the situation, to entertain it orally and I
18 think I speak for my colleagues on that also.

19 MR MUNYARD: Well, I don't have a problem with it being
16:33:16 20 dealt with orally, but I'm not the person to deal with it, with
21 great respect.

22 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, if I can just make one comment.
23 A course a motion, a formal application or response and reply
24 would not be practical. However, this issue has been dealt with
16:33:32 25 with a motion somewhat and response and that was in the
26 Prosecution's motion for an order establishing guidelines for the
27 conduct of trial proceedings of 22 May 2007 and in paragraphs 25
28 through 27, 28 there is some discussion of the Court's inherent
29 power to limit the examination of the parties and some citations

1 to other cases.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm grateful for that reminder,
3 Mr Koumjian. 22 May, I do recall the motion quite well. Thank
4 you. That will give us an opportunity to look at it tonight.

16:34:16 5 MR ANYAH: Madam President, just if it please the Court, to
6 the extent the Court does revisit that motion the Court will
7 recall it did render a decision.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah, I think I did say I remembered
9 it quite well. I'm only grateful for counsel for giving me a
16:34:38 10 reminder of the dates to allow me to reread it. But, yes, my
11 memory of it is quite clear.

12 MR ANYAH: Thank you, your Honour.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: The application, if any, will be made in
14 the presence of Mr Griffiths who is the counsel who is prepared
16:35:20 15 and better able to respond properly to the application. For
16 purposes of clarification the application, if any, will be
17 entertained orally.

18 MR KOUMJIAN: Thank you. We will have both witnesses
19 available tomorrow.

16:35:34 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you for that, Mr Koumjian. If
21 there are no other matters we will adjourn court.

22 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.36 p.m.
23 to be reconvened Wednesday, 12 March 2008 at
24 9.30 a.m.]

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WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:

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| EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR KOUMJIAN | 5710 |