



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

THURSDAY, 17 APRIL 2008
9.30 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Mr Simon Meisenberg
Ms Doreen Kiggundu

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura

For the Prosecution:

Mr Nicholas Koumjian
Mr Alain Werner
Ms Shyamala Alagendra
Ms Kirsten Keith

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Morris Anyah

For the Office of the Principal
Defender:

Mr Silas Chekera

1 Thursday, 17 April 2008

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:29:42 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. I note a change of
6 appearance, Ms Alagenda.

7 MS ALAGENDRA: Good morning, your Honours. For the
8 Prosecution this morning is Nicholas Koumjian, myself Shyamala
9 Alagenda, Alain Werner and Kirsten Keith.

09:29:59 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Ms Alagenda. Mr Anyah?

11 MR ANYAH: Good morning, your Honours. Good morning, Madam
12 President. For the Defence is myself Morris Anyah, we have Silas
13 Chekera from the Office of the Principal Defender and for the
14 first time in Court we have Mr Lansana Kamara who is called to
09:30:20 15 the Bar of Sierra Leone. He is an intern with our office.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very good. We welcome Mr Kamara to our
17 ranks. If there are no other matters I will remind the witness
18 of his oath. Mr Witness, I remind you that yesterday you took
19 the solemn declaration to tell the truth. That declaration is
09:30:45 20 binding on you. You must answer questions truthfully, you
21 understand?

22 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Please proceed, Ms Alagenda.

24 WITNESS: TF1-334 [On former affirmation]

09:30:53 25 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MS ALAGENDRA: [Cont.]

26 Q. Good morning, Mr Witness.

27 A. Good morning, my Lord.

28 Q. We stopped yesterday where you told the Court that you
29 served as an orderly corporal at the State House and that your

1 duties were to supervise the various guard posts and monitor
2 them, is that correct?

3 A. Yes, my Lord.

4 Q. Please proceed from there, Mr Witness.

09:31:39 5 A. Well, I continued to remain an orderly corporal about a
6 month, after which I was assigned to honourable Hassan Papa
7 Bangura as an MTO, military transport officer.

8 Q. What were your duties as military transport officer?

9 A. I was directly in charge of the vehicles and I was driving
09:32:22 10 the honourable.

11 Q. Apart from your ordinary duties as military transport
12 officer, did you have any other assignment during this time?

13 A. Well, I was also a security to him, military security.

14 Q. At the time you started to work with honourable Hassan Papa
09:32:55 15 Bangura, can you tell the Court what was his position?

16 A. Yes, my Lord.

17 Q. Please proceed, witness.

18 A. He was a member of the supreme - sorry, a member of the
19 AFRC council. He was a corporal in the army and they were the
09:33:24 20 ones who overthrew the SLPP government of Ahmad Tejan Kabbah.

21 Q. What do you mean by they were the ones who overthrew the
22 government?

23 A. Well, he was one of the council members, the 17 members who
24 overdrew the SLPP government.

09:33:53 25 Q. Witness, I am going to briefly take you through your ranks
26 during that period of time.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Which period of time is this, because we
28 have heard of prior and post the AFRC coup?

29 MS ALAGENDRA: I am going to start with the year 1997, your

1 Honour, and take him through:

2 Q. Witness, at the time of the coup in August - I beg your
3 pardon, in 1997, did you have a rank?

4 A. Yes, my Lord.

09:34:25 5 Q. What was your rank?

6 A. I was a corporal in the army.

7 Q. For how long did you hold this rank?

8 A. I continued to be a corporal until late September or so
9 when I was promoted to sergeant.

09:34:48 10 Q. September of what year, witness?

11 A. 1997.

12 Q. Was there a change in your rank after this?

13 A. Yes, my Lord.

14 Q. What did it change to?

09:35:11 15 A. After the intervention in Freetown I was promoted to RSM,
16 regimental sergeant major.

17 Q. Who promoted you?

18 A. This was an approval from the honourable to whom I was
19 attached, Hassan Papa Bangura.

09:35:36 20 Q. Was there a change in your rank after this?

21 A. Yes, my Lord.

22 Q. When did your rank change?

23 A. When we went into the jungle at Colonel Eddie Town, Gullit
24 promoted me again to second lieutenant together with some other
09:36:02 25 colleagues.

26 Q. Witness, can you spell Colonel Eddie Town for the Court,
27 please?

28 A. Yes, my Lord.

29 Q. Please proceed.

1 A. C-O-L - C-O-N-E-L, Eddie E-D-D-I-E, town T-O-W-N.

2 JUDGE LUSSICK: Just for future reference, Ms Alagenda,
3 you could have said the normal spelling of Colonel Eddie and town
4 to save time. We all know how to spell Colonel Eddie Town.

09:36:49 5 There is no foreign words in that.

6 MS ALAGENDRA: I stand guided, your Honour:

7 Q. Witness, you said you were promoted by Gullit?

8 A. Yes, my Lord.

9 Q. Can you spell Gullit for the Court, please?

09:37:09 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think that has been spelt,

11 Ms Alagenda. It's on record.

12 MS ALAGENDRA:

13 Q. Witness, did Gullit have another name?

14 A. Yes, my Lord.

09:37:25 15 Q. What was his name?

16 A. Tamba Alex Brima.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am pretty sure that has also been
18 spelt, Ms Alagenda, in previous witnesses.

19 MS ALAGENDRA: Thank you, your Honour:

09:37:45 20 Q. Witness, at this time when you were promoted by Gullit in
21 Colonel Eddie Town, what was his position?

22 A. At that time he was the head of the brigade administration.
23 He was a brigadier and he was head of the brigade administration
24 at Colonel Eddie Town.

09:38:18 25 Q. Was there a change in your rank after this?

26 A. Yes, my Lord.

27 Q. When was that?

28 A. It was after the arrival of SAJ Musa.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah?

1 MR ANYAH: I am sorry to interrupt. I am looking at the
2 record and also when I heard it initially. I am not sure if it
3 was Gullit who was the brigadier and the transcript reads, "At
4 this time he was head of the administration. He was head a
09:38:45 5 brigadier and he was head of the brigade administration at
6 Colonel Eddie Town."

7 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, that was what the witness
8 testified.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I think that's what I heard,
09:39:02 10 Mr Anyah, but there is clarification as to - you may wish to
11 clarify who he was.

12 MS ALAGENDRA:

13 Q. Witness, when you say he was a brigadier and he was the
14 head of the brigade administration at Colonel Eddie Town, who is
09:39:16 15 the he that you are referring to?

16 A. I was referring to Tamba Alex Brima, aka Gullit.

17 Q. Witness, you were about to tell us about a change in your
18 rank after the arrival of SAJ Musa?

19 A. Yes, my Lord.

09:39:43 20 Q. Please proceed, witness?

21 A. After SAJ Musa's arrival we left, the troop left, that was
22 including me to Mange Bureh, there was a problem where I was
23 reprimanded and SAJ said I was to be demoted to a position of
24 sergeant again until I proved myself in the battlefield.

09:40:11 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, you said a word we didn't
26 get. "Including me to" where?

27 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, what his was to manage by
28 BUR ray.

29 MS ALAGENDRA:

1 Q. Witness, can you spell Mange Bureh?

2 A. Yes, my Lord.

3 Q. Please proceed.

4 A. M-A-N-G-E Mange, B-U-R-E-H Bureh.

09:40:41 5 Q. Where is Mange Bureh?

6 A. Mange Bureh is within the Port Loko District.

7 Q. Witness, who was SAJ Musa?

8 A. SAJ Musa was a member of the AFRC council. He was the
9 acting vice-chairman of the AFRC council.

09:41:11 10 Q. Witness, was there a change in your rank after this
11 demotion?

12 A. Yes, my Lord.

13 Q. When was that?

14 A. After capturing Masiaka, SAJ recommended us to act as
09:41:37 15 captain.

16 Q. Was there any reason why he told you to act as captain?

17 A. Yes, my Lord.

18 Q. What was the reason?

19 A. Well, the bravery that I demonstrated at Masiaka where I
09:42:03 20 captured the SPG, support propelled grenade, from the Guineans,
21 that made SAJ Musa to recommend me and others to the rank of
22 captain.

23 Q. Was there a change in your rank after this?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

09:42:22 25 Q. What was the change?

26 A. Well, after SAJ Musa's death at Benguema, Gullit said I
27 should not carry that rank as captain. I should act as
28 lieutenant.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Alagendra, the spelling of the place

1 where the SPG was captured.

2 MS ALAGENDRA: It was Masiaka, your Honour. We have had
3 the spelling of that already.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, we have.

09:43:05 5 MS ALAGENDRA: Also Benguema.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, we have, thank you.

7 MS ALAGENDRA:

8 Q. Witness, do you remember the date when this change of
9 rank took place?

09:43:22 10 A. It was in December 1998. I cannot recall the exact date,
11 but it was in December 1998 towards Christmas, very close to
12 Christmas.

13 Q. Was there a change in your rank after this?

14 A. Yes, my Lord.

09:43:47 15 Q. What was the change?

16 A. Well, just before entering into Freetown, 6 January, Gullit
17 recommended us that all the officers who were lieutenants, if we
18 were able to capture Freetown then we would be promoted to the
19 rank of captain. So I received the promotion after capturing
09:44:11 20 Freetown.

21 Q. Do you remember the date you received this promotion?

22 A. Yes, my Lord.

23 Q. What was the date?

24 A. 6 January 1999.

09:44:29 25 Q. Was there a change in your rank after this?

26 A. Yes, my Lord.

27 Q. What was the change?

28 A. After the retreat from Freetown and we retreated to Magbeni
29 together with Ibrahim Bazy Kamara, he Bazy Kamara promoted me

1 to major and assigned me as ADC to Hassan Papa Bangura who was
2 the second in command in the West Side.

3 Q. Witness, can you spell Magbeni?

4 A. Yes, my Lord.

09:45:17 5 Q. Please do?

6 A. M-A-G-E-N-E. Sorry, M-A-G-E-H-N-E, Magbeni.

7 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, with the permission of the
8 Court is it possible for me to ask the witness if he would prefer
9 to have a piece of paper in front of him where he could write
10 words that he is going to spell? It may assist him, your Honour.

09:45:53

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I think that might be a practical
12 solution. Could you assist us, please.

13 JUDGE LUSSICK: I might add, Ms Alagenda, that the witness
14 has not indicated it will help him. Your question was could I
15 possibly ask the witness would he prefer to have a piece of paper
16 in front of him, but you didn't ask him that.

09:46:44

17 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, I recall that yesterday evening
18 before we finished he did make a request to the Court.

19 JUDGE LUSSICK: Well, I was going on your current question
20 where you said you were going to ask him.

09:46:59

21 MS ALAGENDRA: I could ask him the question for the record,
22 your Honour.

23 JUDGE LUSSICK: If you said he answered it yesterday then I
24 simply don't see the point of your question today, but go ahead.

09:47:10

25 Carry on.

26 MS ALAGENDRA: I apologise for that, your Honour.

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Could we have that spelling again.

28 Please, Mr Witness, now that you have a piece of paper please
29 spell Magbeni again.

1 THE WITNESS: Excuse me. It is M-A-G-E-H-N-E. This is my
2 own way of spelling it, Magbeni.

3 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: How can there not be a "B" in there?

4 THE WITNESS: Sorry, sorry. M-A-G-E-B-N-E.

09:48:12 5 JUDGE LUSSICK: That cannot be right.

6 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, can I spell it instead? Your
7 Honour, I think it is spelt M-A-G-B-E-N-I:

8 Q. Witness, for how long did you hold this rank?

9 A. I continued to hold this position until we were arrested on
09:48:50 10 6 June 2000.

11 Q. Witness, you have mentioned the name Ibrahim Bazy Kamara.
12 Who was Ibrahim Bazy Kamara?

13 A. Ibrahim Bazy Kamara was a member of the AFRC council and
14 he was the PL03 during the AFRC government.

09:49:18 15 Q. Witness, you have told us that you were assigned to Hassan
16 Papa Bangura as military transport officer and you also acted as
17 his security. How long did you hold these assignments?

18 A. I continued to remain in this position until we left Kono.

19 Q. When was that, witness?

09:49:49 20 A. It was in 1998. June/July 1998.

21 Q. When did you go to Kono?

22 A. It was after the intervention in Freetown, February 1998.

23 Q. Between February 1998 and June or July 1998, did you have
24 any other assignments while you were in Kono?

09:50:24 25 A. Well, there was another assignment, yes.

26 Q. What was the assignment?

27 A. Well, after I had received those promotions as a combatant
28 officer, but it was called field commission officer. I was
29 always on the field engaged in battles.

1 Q. After June or July 1998 where did you move to?

2 A. Well, within that time I left together with the troops to
3 Mansofinia.

4 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, if I could spell that for the
09:51:17 5 Court, it is M-A-N-S-O-F-I-N-I-A:

6 Q. Witness, where is Mansofinia?

7 A. It is in the Koinadugu District.

8 Q. Did you have any assignments in Mansofinia?

9 A. At that time I was with my commander, who is Hassan Papa
09:51:44 10 Bangura, as a personal security.

11 Q. Did you have any other assignment besides being his
12 personal security?

13 A. Well, I was also engaged at the battle front.

14 Q. When you say engaged in the battle front, what do you mean?

09:52:19 15 A. Whenever the brigade was to prepare for any attack I would
16 be one of the commanders they would appoint to go for the
17 attacks, so I was always prepared for those attacks.

18 Q. For how long did you remain in Mansofinia?

19 A. Mansofinia, I spent about three days together with the
09:52:49 20 brigade.

21 Q. Did your assignment change after this at some point?

22 A. Yes, my Lord.

23 Q. When was that?

24 A. Well, after Gullit had promoted me at Colonel Eddie Town I
09:53:14 25 was sent to the fourth battalion as an IO, intelligence officer,
26 for the battalion.

27 Q. What were your duties as intelligence officer?

28 A. Well, mostly in case there were any enemy threats, I will
29 inform the battalion and I will go out to find out if there were

1 any enemy threats around and give the report to the battalion
2 commander. I will go out on a reconnaissance mission.

3 Q. Besides being intelligence officer, did you have any other
4 duties at this time?

09:54:03 5 A. Yes, my Lord.

6 Q. What were they?

7 A. I was also a battlefield commander and a combatant officer.
8 I was engaged in any battle that the brigade was fighting.

9 Q. Did your assignment change at some point after this?

09:54:30 10 A. Yes, later I was sent to the 5th Battalion. I was still
11 with the officer as a combatant officer.

12 Q. How long were you with the 5th Battalion?

13 A. I continued to be with the 5th Battalion until I entered
14 together with the troop in Freetown.

09:55:10 15 Q. Did your assignments change at that point?

16 A. When we entered Freetown I was assigned again to Hassan
17 Papa Bangura as a personal bodyguard.

18 Q. At the time you entered Freetown, what was your assignment?

19 A. I was also a battlefield commander. I was engaged in most
09:55:45 20 of the battles in Freetown as a combatant officer.

21 Q. Just to be clear, witness, when you are talking about the
22 time you entered Freetown, what time is this?

23 A. 6 January 1991 - 1999, sorry.

24 Q. Did your assignment change after this at some point?

09:56:17 25 A. Well, yes. After the withdrawal from Freetown I was
26 assigned again to Hassan Papa Bangura as a personal security.

27 Q. When did this change take place?

28 A. Just as the troop was retreating from Freetown.

29 Q. When did this take place?

1 A. It was around the third week of January; third week, or so,
2 when we retreated from Freetown.

3 Q. How long did you continue in this assignment?

09:57:11

4 A. I continued to be in this position until I was promoted at
5 Magbeni. I was appointed as ADC to Hassan Papa Bangura. I
6 continued to be with him until we left and came to Freetown,
7 right up to the ceasefire. We went to Liberia and returned and
8 also till 6 June 2000 when I was arrested, I and the others.

9 Q. Mr Witness, when you say ADC --

09:57:37

10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Just a minute. Did the witness say
11 "right after the ceasefire", or "right up to the ceasefire"? I
12 thought I heard him say "right up to the ceasefire".

13 MS ALAGENDRA: I did too, your Honours, but I can clarify
14 that with the witness:

09:57:52

15 Q. Witness, you said you were appointed as ADC to Hassan Papa
16 Bangura. For how long did you hold this appointment?

17 A. I was in this position until 6 June 2000 when I was
18 arrested, together with Hassan Papa Bangura. We were taken to
19 the Central Prison.

09:58:17

20 Q. Witness, you said earlier, "I was appointed as ADC to
21 Hassan Papa Bangura. I continued to be with him until we left
22 and came to Freetown, right after the ceasefire." We want a
23 clarification from you as to whether you said "right after the
24 ceasefire" or "right up to the ceasefire".

09:58:40

25 A. Thank you. The ceasefire took place around July or so
26 1999. I still continued to be with him up to 2006. That is what
27 I wanted to say. During the ceasefire I was with him up to 2000
28 when I was arrested, 6 June 2000.

29 Q. Witness, when you say ADC, what do you mean?

1 A. Ai de-de-camp.

2 Q. And where was it that you were appointed as ADC to Hassan
3 Papa Bangura?

09:59:36

4 A. At Magbeni. That was the time I, together with Hassan Papa
5 Bangura and Bazzy, retreated from the West Side base.

6 Q. Witness, at this time when you served as ADC to Hassan Papa
7 Bangura, did your group have a name?

8 A. Yes, my Lord.

9 Q. What was the name of the group?

10:00:09

10 A. They were referring to us as the West Side.

11 Q. Did Bazzy have a position in the West Side at this time?

12 A. Yes, my Lord.

13 Q. What was his position?

14 A. He was the CIC, chief in command.

10:00:30

15 Q. Did Hassan Papa Bangura have a position with the West Side?

16 A. Yes, my Lord.

17 Q. What was his position?

18 A. He was the second in command and director of operations at
19 the West Side.

10:00:57

20 Q. Witness, do you remember when the coup took place in
21 Freetown?

22 A. Yes, my Lord.

23 Q. When was that?

24 A. 25 May 1997.

10:01:11

25 Q. Where were you on that day?

26 A. I was at my residence at Wellington when I heard a
27 broadcast over the national radio by a Corporal Gborie.

28 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Gborie is spelt G-B-O-R-I-E:

29 Q. What was the announcement you heard, witness?

1 A. Thank you. Gborie went over the air, the national media,
2 and said the other ranks, sometimes they called us NCO,
3 non-commissioned officer, of the Armed Forces of Sierra Leone had
4 overthrown the SLPP government which was led by President Ahmad
10:02:18 5 Tejan Kabbah. So he was calling on all military personnel to
6 report at their various military battalions and locations.

7 Q. At this time who was Corporal Gborie?

8 A. According to the announcement Corporal Gborie said he was
9 one of the men who led the coup to overthrow President Ahmad
10:02:44 10 Tejan Kabbah - former President, sorry.

11 Q. After this announcement by Corporal Gborie, did you hear
12 any further announcements?

13 A. Yes, my Lord.

14 Q. What were they, witness?

10:03:07 15 A. Captain Paul Thomas also went over the air and declared
16 that the military had taken over and had declared a dusk to dawn
17 curfew and that all officers including senior officers in the
18 Sierra Leone Army please should report immediately.

19 Q. Should report where immediately?

10:03:37 20 A. At their various barracks and battalions.

21 Q. Witness, at this time who was Captain Paul Thomas?

22 A. Well, Captain Paul Thomas, according to what he said, he
23 said he was the military spokesman for the then AFRC government
24 at that time. He was a member of the Sierra Leone armed forces.

10:04:06 25 Q. After this announcement by Captain Paul Thomas, did you
26 hear any further announcements?

27 A. Yes, my Lord.

28 Q. What were they?

29 A. Well, there was another announcement on the international

1 media, the BBC, Corporal Foday Sankoh came on the air and called
2 on the commanders and members of the RUF to go to Freetown
3 directly and join hands and take order from Major Johnny Paul
4 Koroma and he also said that they had now become a people's army
10:04:51 5 and they should take direct command from Johnny Paul Koroma.

6 Q. Witness, at the time of the announcement did you know where
7 Corporal Foday Sankoh was?

8 A. Yes, my Lord.

9 Q. How do you know where he was?

10:05:13 10 A. Well, at that time the Government of Sierra Leone, which
11 was headed by President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, went over the air and
12 announced that they had arrested Corporal Foday Sankoh as he was
13 transiting to Nigeria, he was arrested with arms and so he was
14 under the custody of the Nigerian government which was then
10:05:39 15 headed by Sani Abacha.

16 Q. When was this the announcement made by President Ahmad
17 Tejan Kabbah?

18 A. Well, it was just after they had gone for the Abidjan Peace
19 Accord. That was early 1997 or so. 1997, yes. Early 1997.

10:06:05 20 Q. Witness, after this announcement by Corporal Foday Sankoh,
21 did you hear any further announcements?

22 A. Yes, my Lord.

23 Q. [Microphone not activated]?

24 A. There was also Lieutenant Eldred Collins who went on the
10:06:30 25 air and said he was the spokesman for the Revolutionary United
26 Front and that they had come to Freetown to join hands and work
27 with the AFRC, with Johnny Paul Koroma, that they wanted to
28 assure the people of Sierra Leone that they had come and they
29 were taking instructions from Johnny Paul Koroma.

1 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Eldred Collins is a name you
2 have heard before.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that's correct.

4 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagenda, I wonder if you could pull
10:07:04 5 your microphone. I am having a little trouble hearing you. More
6 directly in front of you, please.

7 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, the spelling for Sani Abacha, I
8 am not sure whether it is already on the record.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: I don't think so.

10:07:24 10 MS ALAGENDRA: It is S-A-N-I and the next word is
11 A-B-A-C-H-A:

12 Q. Witness, after this announcement by Eldred Collins, did you
13 hear any further announcement?

14 A. Yes, my Lord.

10:07:55 15 Q. Can you tell us what it was?

16 A. Major Johnny Paul Koroma also went on the air and announced
17 the members of his council at that time and made some other
18 appointments and announced some other appointments that he had
19 made already.

10:08:23 20 Q. At this time did Major Johnny Paul Koroma have a position?

21 A. Yes, my Lord.

22 Q. How did you know about his position at the time?

23 A. According to the announcement which Major Johnny Paul
24 Koroma made, he said he was now the commander in chief of the
10:08:55 25 Armed Forces of Sierra Leone and at that time he was the chairman
26 for the AFRC.

27 Q. Witness, after you heard these announcements, what did you
28 do?

29 A. Well, I reported to State House because I was trying to

1 head towards my headquarters at Cockerill, but I met some heavy
2 fighting around that State House axis, so I helped and we
3 captured State House.

10:09:39 4 Q. Witness, you have said Major Johnny Paul Koroma made
5 announcements of the members of his council and he made
6 announcements of other appointments, could you first tell us what
7 were the other appointments that he announced?

8 A. Yes, my Lord.

9 Q. Please proceed, witness.

10:10:06 10 A. Well, he named himself as the chairman and he announced his
11 vice-chairman at that time was Corporal Foday Sankoh, but he said
12 in the absence of Corporal Foday Sankoh, Lieutenant Colonel SAJ
13 Musa would act at that time in his place. And he also named the
14 PLO-1 who was Abu Sankoh who was also called Zagalo. He named
10:10:40 15 the PLO-2 was Tamba Alex Brima, Gullit. He named the PLO-3 was
16 Ibrahim Bazy Kamara. Most times we called him Machiavelli or
17 Dark Angel.

18 Then he also named other members in his council. He
19 announced the secretary general at that time was Colonel AK
10:11:23 20 Sesay. He announced Corporal Gborie as one of the council
21 members. He named Hassan Papa Bangura as one of the council
22 members. He named Foday Kallay as one of the council members.
23 He also called Samuel Kargbo whom we most times called Jungler,
24 he also named him as a council member. He also named Adams,
10:11:59 25 Corporal Adams, he too was a member of the council. He also
26 named Franklyn Conteh who we called Woyoh. He too was named as
27 one of the council members. He named Moses Kabia whom he also
28 appointed as his CSO, whom we also used to call Rambo, he too was
29 a member of the council. He named Sullay, Corporal Sullay,

1 Sulaiman, he too was a member of the council. Corporal Hector
2 Bob Lahai, he too was a member of the council. Corporal Abdul
3 Sesay, he too was a members of the council. And Corporal Momoh
4 Bangura whom we called Momoh Dorty, he too was a member of the
10:12:57 5 council. He also named Corporal Santigie Borbor Kanu, he was
6 also a member of the council.

7 And he named some other people and at that time he also
8 named the new chief of the defence staff who was SFY Koroma,
9 Colonel SFY Koroma. And he also named the chief of army staff,
10:13:35 10 was Colonel SO Williams. He also named Commander Gilbert who was
11 heading the navy wing.

12 MS ALAGENDRA: Witness, I need to stop you just there.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Ms Alagenda.

14 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I was just looking at the
10:13:56 15 time. I believe you have another engagement.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. As we mentioned yesterday the
17 Judges have been invited to attend the swearing in of the new
18 Registrar, so we will adjourn now until the time which we
19 originally set which was 11.30 and there will not be any other
10:14:15 20 break in the course of the morning.

21 Mr Witness, we are going to take an early adjournment as
22 the Judges have to attend another function and we will be
23 recommencing court at 11.30. Please adjourn court.

24 [Break taken at 10.15 a.m.]

11:22:30 25 [Upon resuming at 11.30 a.m.]

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed, Ms Alagenda.

27 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, before the break the witness
28 had gone through some names which I would like to spell for the
29 Court at this point.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, indeed. Mr Anyah, you are on your
2 feet.

3 MR ANYAH: I wonder if I am alone, but I am experiencing
4 some difficulty with the LiveNote.

11:29:59 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: So am I. Madam Court Attendant, if you
6 can assist us, please.

7 MS IRURA: Your Honour, the internet is down at the moment.
8 We are trying to find a solution to this and a technician is on
9 his way to try and rectify the problem.

11:30:14 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: I see. In the circumstances I think we
11 will continue with the evidence. Please proceed, Ms Alagenda,
12 you were going to give us some spellings. It will be recorded
13 I understand.

14 MS IRURA: Your Honour, the recording is continuing as
11:30:28 15 normal. I can see on my screen, because I am connected directly
16 to the stenographer, but everybody else is on web based LiveNote
17 which is down at the moment which is why you can't see the
18 LiveNote.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, if any of the counsel experience a
11:30:41 20 problem let us know and we will use that record. Continue
21 please, Ms Alagenda.

22 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, the witness mentioned the name
23 Abu Sankoh who was also called Zagalo, Z-A-G-A-L-0. The next name
24 I wanted to spell was Machiavelli, M-A-C-H-I-A-V-E-L-L-I. AK
11:31:22 25 Sesay, S-E-S-A-Y, Sesay. Foday Kallay, F-O-D-A-Y, the next word
26 is K-A-L-L-A-Y. Samuel Kargbo, Samuel as it's ordinarily spelt.
27 Kargbo is K-A-R-G-B-0. And the witness said he is sometimes
28 called Jungler, J-U-N-G-L-E-R. There was Franklyn Conteh, Conteh
29 is spelt C-O-N-T-E-H. He was also known as Woyoh, W-O-Y-O-H. The

1 next name he mentioned was Moses Kabia. Kabia is spelt
2 K-A-B-I-A. The next name he mentioned was Corporal Sul lay.
3 S-U-L-L-A-Y. He was also known as Sul aiman, S-U-L-A-I-M-A-N. The
4 next name was Corporal Hector Bob Lahai. Lahai is spelt
11:32:45 5 L-A-H-A-I. The other name I wanted to spell, your Honour, was
6 Momoh Bangura. Momoh spelt M-O-M-O-H.

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Momoh Dorty, is that D-O-T-T-Y?

8 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, I was going to seek permission
9 to ask the witness to spell that name, your Honour:

11:33:35 10 Q. Witness, you told the Court that Momoh Bangura was also
11 called Momoh Dorty, could you spell Dorty for the Court, please?

12 A. It's a Krio word, but it is actually Dorty, D-O-R-T-Y.

13 Q. Was that D-O-R-T-Y?

14 A. Yes, D-O-R-T-Y, Dorty. It actually means dirty, but we
11:34:15 15 spell it D-O-R-T-Y.

16 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, the witness also said Corporal
17 Santigie Borbor Kanu. Santigie is spelt S-A-N-T-I-G-I-E, Borbor
18 B-O-R-B-O-R, Kanu K-A-N-U. The witness mentioned the name SFY
19 Koroma, Koroma spelt K-O-R-O-M-A. Your Honours, that's where
11:35:00 20 I will stop with the spellings.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, please continue.

22 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I think the witness wants to
23 say something.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry, Mr Witness, you wanted to say
11:35:12 25 something, yes?

26 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. I want to bring this to the
27 notice of the Court that I am going through some stress with the
28 support officer who is here presently, because it all started
29 yesterday, whilst I was waiting I suffered in that room. I had

1 to use one of the empty cans of the soft drinks that they gave to
2 me to ease myself in it, to urinate in it. I was there again
3 almost quarter to two before right up to --

11:35:55

4 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness slow down
5 please.

11:36:09

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just pause, Mr Witness. First of all the
7 interpreter can't keep up with you and so you need to speak a
8 little slower and, secondly, are you in need of some assistance
9 now because I note what you are telling us is something that
10 happened yesterday which is on record and will be brought to the
11 attention of WVS? Are you in need of some assistance now?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes, I want to bring it to your notice,
13 my Lord, because right up to today I am still going through some
14 problems with the support officer.

11:36:32

15 PRESIDING JUDGE: When you say the support officer, do you
16 mean an officer of the court?

17 THE WITNESS: The person who brings me to the courtroom;
18 towards the courtroom.

11:37:11

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: We will have this looked into.
20 Mr Witness, do you need something now?

11:37:33

21 THE WITNESS: Well, because I came here to testify saying
22 the truth and I don't want whilst I will be going through my
23 testimony then somebody else will be distracting me. That is why
24 I want to bring it to the notice of the Court, because even today
25 while I was coming in here we had some argument between the two
26 of us.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we are a little unclear and
28 we want to be sure what action we need to take. This is some
29 personal problem between you and the officer you referred to, or

1 what is it?

2 THE WITNESS: Well it started yesterday, just as
3 I explained, and even today because I was discussing with the
4 person --

11:38:32 5 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness specify the
6 gender?

7 THE WITNESS: Because I remember the person made me to
8 think about while I was in prison and I asked myself, "Am I in
9 prison, or what?"

11:38:51 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: So you felt uncomfortable with this
11 person, or with the room you were in, or both?

12 THE WITNESS: According to the way the person responded to
13 me I was not comfortable with that answer, and yesterday I was in
14 that room, I had to use the empty can - the empty can of the soft
11:39:19 15 drink that I had - and I used that to urinate. I was there until
16 1.45 and I took my food before Mr Alex could come in, but when
17 I already started eating it and the food was cold even. Mr Alex,
18 after they took the food to warm it up, and even today I was
19 there - I was there for about five minutes coming to the court.

11:39:44 20 I told the person I wanted to go to the gents and the person
21 started telling me that I should hurry up. Even when I was
22 discussing it and I told the person, "I am not a prisoner", and
23 I was not treated well and I want to bring this to the notice of
24 the Court that I didn't like the treatment and I am still not
11:40:07 25 getting responses from that person that is favourable. The
26 person is stressing me.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Now I understand. Just a moment, please.
28 Mr Witness, we obviously take your concerns very seriously as you
29 must feel comfortable when giving evidence and that includes

1 prior to coming into the courtroom. We will bring your comments
2 and your complaint to the notice of the Registrar, who is head of
3 administration, and also to the officer in charge of WVS and ask
4 that they take urgent action. If it is to do - your comfort is
11:41:05 5 important and we will ensure that that view of the judges is made
6 known to the appropriate officers so as to avoid you being
7 stressed before coming into court.

8 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, can I request that the Court
9 ask the witness whether he is in a frame of mind to continue his
11:41:29 10 testimony?

11 JUDGE LUSSICK: Well, you can ask him. It is your witness.

12 MS ALAGENDRA: Yes, your Honour. I just wanted permission
13 from the Court:

14 Q. Mr Witness, can I check with you whether you were in the
11:41:43 15 frame of mind to continue with your testimony this morning?

16 A. No, my Lord.

17 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I am in your hands.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: What is the problem at the moment,
19 Mr Witness? Please advise us.

11:42:07 20 THE WITNESS: I am still not comfortable, because I went
21 into some deep argument with the woman and I am not comfortable.
22 I told her that I came here to testify. I am not here to be
23 distracted by anybody and during that argument I was distracted,
24 I am stressed and I am worried and I am tormented right now.

11:42:30 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just pause, please. Mr Witness, we are
26 trying to work out what would best help you overcome this
27 problem. Just a moment.

28 MS IRURA: Your Honour, on behalf of the Registry we would
29 like to express our deep regret that this has occurred, if indeed

1 it has occurred, and we will follow up with the relevant sections
2 of the Registry to ensure that it is not repeated.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: It will be referred. Thank you for that.

4 Mr Witness, we are not sure what - as I have already said, what

11:43:55 5 we can do to overcome the problem immediately. Do you require a
6 short break? We will of course ensure that someone else helps to
7 escort you to and from the courtroom until there is a deeper
8 investigation into what you have said.

9 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

11:44:28 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Do you want to keep answering questions
11 now and trust us to find some other officer, or what is it you
12 require?

13 THE WITNESS: I want another officer.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well, I have noted that. We will
11:44:49 15 continue with your evidence and in the meantime I will request
16 our Legal Officer to contact the appropriate authorities so a
17 different officer will meet you at the end of your evidence this
18 morning. Is that sufficient?

19 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord.

11:45:07 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very good. Please continue,
21 Ms Alagendra.

22 MS ALAGENDRA: Thank you, your Honour:

23 Q. Witness, when you were testifying before the break you
24 mentioned the name of three people and you referred to them as
11:45:23 25 PLO-1, PLO-2, PLO-3. Witness, what is PLO?

26 A. Principal Liaison Officer.

27 Q. Witness, you have said that Moses Kabia, who was also known
28 as Rambo, was appointed as his CSO. What does CSO mean?

29 A. He was the Chief Security Officer.

1 Q. And whose Chief Security Officer was he?

2 A. He was the Chief Security Officer to Major Johnny Paul
3 Koroma.

4 Q. Witness, you were before the break giving us names of
11:46:24 5 council members and these are members of the AFRC Council you
6 stated.

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. The names that you have already given us, Foday Kallay,
9 Samuel Kargbo, Franklyn Conteh, Moses Kabia, Sulaiman, Hector Bob
11:46:59 10 Lahai, Abdul Sesay, Momoh Dorty, Corporal Santigie Borbor Kanu,
11 were there any other members of the AFRC Council?

12 A. Yes, my Lord.

13 Q. Do you recall their names?

14 A. I think you left out Hassan Papa Bangura.

11:47:25 15 Q. I beg your pardon, I did. You did mention Hassan Papa
16 Bangura. Apart from these names, do you recall if there were any
17 other members appointed?

18 A. Yes, there was honourable Cobra.

19 Q. Anybody else?

11:47:49 20 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, did the witness call another
21 - an alias for that person? Can he repeat it?

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just pause, Mr Witness. The interpreter
23 did not hear the name of the previous honourable corporal that
24 you mentioned. Please repeat it.

11:48:05 25 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I think I heard "Honourable
26 Cobra".

27 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, the witness said "Cobra", but he
28 called another name for that same person. He called him "Cobra".
29 Your Honours, he called another name for that same Cobra.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Did you give Cobra another name?

2 THE WITNESS: Mohamed. Yes, Mohamed, but then we called
3 him Cobra. That is his popular name that we used to call him by.

4 MS ALAGENDRA:

11:48:32 5 Q. Witness, did you mention honourable Sam Bockarie?

6 A. Yes, my Lord.

7 Q. Did he go by any other name?

8 A. Well, they called him Mosquito.

9 Q. And apart from being a member of the Supreme Council, did
11:48:49 10 he have any other position?

11 A. Yes, my Lord.

12 Q. What was his position?

13 A. He was leading the RUF at that time. Commander of the RUF.

14 Q. Are there any other members of the Supreme Council you
11:49:12 15 recall?

16 A. Yes, my Lord. There was honourable Womandia. He was an
17 RUF member.

18 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, that is spelt W-O-M-A-N-D-I-A.

19 Q. Proceed, witness.

11:49:40 20 A. There was honourable Issa Sesay. He too was an RUF member.

21 Q. Please proceed.

22 A. You had - there was honourable Morris Kallon. He too was
23 an RUF member.

24 Q. Witness, did Morris Kallon go by any other name?

11:49:59 25 A. Well, we used to call him Balai Wai Karim.

26 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, that is spelt B-A-L-A-I, W-A-I
27 the next word and the third word is Karim, K-A-R-I-M:

28 Q. Are there any other names you would like to tell the Court?

29 A. Yes, my Lord.

1 Q. Please proceed, witness.

2 A. There was honourable - honourable - I think as far as I can
3 recall these are the names that I can think about now, but for
4 now these are the ones that I can recall who were the council
11:50:48 5 members.

6 Q. Witness, just to remind you you have named the following
7 persons as members of the council and also RUF members:
8 Honourable Womandia, honourable Sam Bockarie, honourable Issa
9 Sesay and honourable Morris Kallon.

11:51:07 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sam Bockarie, did you mention him?

11 MS ALAGENDRA: Yes.

12 MR ANYAH: I may have missed this, but with reference to
13 these names being associated with the RUF I recall the witness
14 doing so in respect of Sam Bockarie, but I don't know that he
11:51:28 15 said all the rest were RUF members.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: He mentioned both Sesay and Kallon as RUF
17 members.

18 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, he also said Womandia was an
19 RUF.

11:51:49 20 MR ANYAH: I see it now. I see it in reference to
21 Womandia, I see it in reference to Sesay. Yes, I see Kallon.
22 That's fine.

23 THE WITNESS: There was also honourable Mike Lamin, RUF
24 member. Honourable Eldred Collins, he too was an RUF member and
11:52:31 25 so far these are the names I can recall.

26 MS ALAGENDRA:

27 Q. Witness, were there any other RUF members that were part of
28 the Supreme Council?

29 A. Yes, my Lord, but I cannot recall their names now. They

1 are RUF members who were member of the council.

2 Q. Witness, apart from the positions you have told us that JPK
3 announced, which was himself as chairman, the position of the
4 vice-chairman and the position of the secretary general, the
11:53:16 5 chief of staff, and you also called out chief of defence staff,
6 were there any other positions?

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. What were they, witness?

9 A. He appointed the director of defence who was Brigadier
11:53:44 10 Mani.

11 Q. Any other positions?

12 A. He also appointed the council of secretaries where he
13 appointed secretaries of state in the various provinces.

14 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is that the correct spelling for Mani?

11:54:12 15 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, Mani is spelt M-A-N-I:

16 Q. Witness, apart from the council of secretaries were there
17 any other designations that were appointed?

18 A. Yes, he appointed the air wing commanders, squadron
19 commander who was Major King, Victor King.

11:54:57 20 Q. Witness, what was the responsibility of the army chief of
21 staff who you named as SO Williams?

22 A. He was responsible to direct the day to day activities of
23 the Armed Forces of Sierra Leone.

24 Q. And what was the arrangement?

11:55:19 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagendra, was that SO Williams or CO
26 Williams?

27 MS ALAGENDRA: SO Williams, your Honour:

28 Q. Was there any body that he was supervising?

29 A. Yes, he had the various brigades which he supervised which

1 were in the various districts.

2 Q. Witness, you talk about brigades. Were there brigade
3 commanders appointed?

11:56:06

4 A. Yes, Major Johnny Paul Koroma at that time who was the
5 commander in chief of the armed forces appointed brigade
6 commanders for the various districts.

7 Q. How many brigade commanders were appointed?

8 A. Well, there were four brigade commanders.

9 Q. Do you recall their names?

11:56:27

10 A. Yes, my Lord.

11 Q. What were their names?

12 A. There was brigade commander for the east who was Colonel
13 Fallah Sewa.

11:56:48

14 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, that is spelt F-A-L-L-A-H
15 S-E-W-A:

16 Q. Proceed witness.

17 A. There was the brigade commander north who was Colonel
18 Momodu Koroma.

11:57:10

19 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, that is M-O-M-O-D-U, Koroma is
20 K-O-R-O-M-A.

21 Q. Proceed witness.

22 A. You had the brigade commander south who was colonel -
23 I will think about it later, but he was a colonel.

11:57:39

24 Q. Witness, who were part of the composition of these
25 brigades?

26 A. Well, the army was part of the brigade and also RUF
27 members. It was a mixed brigade, RUF and SLA members.

28 Q. What was the relationship between the SLA and the RUF in
29 terms of the brigades?

1 A. The relationship was very good.

2 Q. Witness, after the appointments that were announced by
3 Johnny Paul Koroma that you have taken us through, were these
4 appointments to your knowledge subsequently reduced to writing?

11:58:41 5 A. Yes, because whatever the AFRC did they had proclamations,
6 decrease and they used to put them into writing.

7 Q. Did you see any of these proclamations or decrees?

8 A. Yes, my Lord.

9 Q. How is it that you came to see these documents?

11:59:14 10 A. Thank you. The honourable with whom I was attached was
11 honourable Hassan Papa Bangura. Whenever he would go on an a
12 council meeting, after those meetings when they would give him
13 these documents, the Gazette, most times I would read them for
14 him because he is actually not educated so I would read the
11:59:38 15 documents to him and interpret the documents to him too.

16 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, can I ask that the witness be
17 shown the document at tab 6:

18 Q. Witness, can I ask you to have a look at the document that
19 has just been brought to you. Can I just confirm that this is
12:00:49 20 the document with ERN 00007671?

21 A. Yes, my Lord.

22 Q. Witness, are you familiar with this document in front of
23 you?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:01:07 25 Q. Have you seen this document before?

26 A. Yes, my Lord.

27 Q. When did you first see this document?

28 A. After any meeting the council members would hold, the
29 honourable member to whom I was attached would come and show this

1 document to me during the AFRC period.

2 Q. Did you see this document under those circumstances you
3 have just told us?

4 A. Yes, my Lord. After every proclamation the AFRC would make
12:01:57 5 they would show it to the honourables.

6 MR ANYAH: Yes, Madam President, I rise because I am making
7 an objection in light of possible additional documents that might
8 be put of this nature to this witness. The foundation so far has
9 been he used to read Gazettes to Papa Bangura and then this

12:02:22 10 document is shown to the witness on direct examination without
11 additional foundation being laid as to the particular Gazette
12 that he recalls, the time frame within which he saw that

13 particular Gazette and a general description of what the nature
14 of the Gazette is before he is being led with the document in
12:02:42 15 front of him. I am making an observation as to the adequacy of
16 the foundation laid and I would make an objection.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Alagendra?

18 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, the witness testified that he
19 had seen proclamations decrees and Gazettes under certain
12:03:07 20 circumstances and he explained that generally, after which

21 I asked that this document be shown to him and asked him specific
22 questions relating to his knowledge of this particular document
23 and he has told the Court that he had seen it before and he
24 attempted again to explain it generally and I asked him the
12:03:25 25 question again in relation to this particular document whether he
26 had seen it before.

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagendra, I don't see where you ask
28 this witness what is this document and he telling us what it is.
29 He is describing the genre of the document but he hasn't told us

1 what the document is.

2 MS ALAGENDRA: That was going to be my next question after
3 establishing that this witness has seen it before. I can do it
4 the other way.

12:03:59 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah, are you raising a new objection
6 because there has been a response?

7 MR ANYAH: Well, I would seek the Court's indulgence to
8 just specify in more detail what I am complaining about because
9 I don't know that perhaps I have made it clear, the specific
12:04:18 10 issue I'm raising. What I am saying is I anticipate that counsel
11 is trying to - counsel asked the witness a question about
12 appointments made by Johnny Paul Koroma. The assumption is that
13 those appointments were reduced to writing and I suspect she
14 wants to have him confirm that those appointments were reduced to
12:04:39 15 writing and go through the writing, but the foundation has to be
16 laid before the document is placed in front of him to say, "Oh,
17 this is the Gazette that those appointments refer to." That's
18 what I am complaining about.

19 He can't be shown the document and then the question is
12:04:55 20 asked, "Do you recognise this document? Have you seen it
21 before?" Of course he has just seen it and then he has seen all
22 its contents. She would have to say that those appointments were
23 reduced to writing, at some point in the past he saw that writing
24 and the writing was in the nature of a Gazette and it appeared in
12:05:12 25 this way or looked in such and such a way and then she can put
26 the document to him and say, "Is this what you are talking
27 about?"

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: I consider there has been enough
29 foundation for this question and I allow the question.

1 MS ALAGENDRA:

2 Q. Witness, can you read the title of the document in front of
3 you, please?

4 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:05:51 5 Q. Please do so, witness.

6 A. "Proclamation Administration of Sierra Leone. The Arm ..."
7 - sorry, "(Armed Forces Revolutionary Council Proclamation,
8 1997)."

9 Q. Witness, can you read the date just above the word
12:06:17 10 "Proclamation"?

11 A. "Public Notice Supplement of Sierra Leone Gazette
12 Extraordinary Volume ... dated [26th] May 1997. Public Notice No
13 3 1997. Published 28th May, 1997".

14 Q. Witness, can you turn over the page.

12:06:42 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Alagenda, I read that as 28 May, not
16 the 26th.

17 MS ALAGENDRA: I heard him say "28th".

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: There is two dates. He said "26th" for
19 one and "28th" for the other.

12:06:59 20 MS ALAGENDRA:

21 Q. Witness, can you just read the dates again, please, that
22 appear above?

23 A. "Dated 28 May, 1997".

24 Q. And the second date below, just above the word
12:07:15 25 "Proclamation"?

26 A. "28th May, 1997".

27 Q. Witness, can you turn over to the next page and could you
28 read out paragraph 1 for the Court.

29 A. "There is hereby established a Council to be known as the

1 Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (hereinafter referred to as
2 'the Council')."

3 Q. The next paragraph.

4 A. "The Council shall consist of (a) a Chairman, (b) a Deputy
12:08:15 5 Chairman; and (c) other members, not exceeding 27 in number."

6 Q. Can you read paragraph 4. 1.4.

7 A. "There shall be a Secretary-General who shall be appointed
8 by the Council and shall perform such functions as the Council
9 may determine."

10 Q. Witness, the Chairman referred to in paragraph 1 sub 2(a),
11 do you know at the time if a Chairman was appointed?

12 A. Yes, my Lord.

13 Q. Do you know who it was? The name of the person?

14 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:09:08 15 Q. Who was it, witness?

16 A. It was Major Johnny Paul Koroma.

17 Q. Sub (b), do you know if a Deputy Chairman was appointed?

18 A. Yes, my Lord.

19 Q. Who was it, witness?

12:09:30 20 A. It was Corporal Foday Sankoh whom he appointed, but in his
21 absence Lieutenant Colonel SAJ Musa acted as a Deputy Chairman.

22 Q. Witness, sub 4, do you know if a Secretary-General was
23 appointed?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:09:57 25 Q. Do you know the person's name?

26 A. Yes, my Lord.

27 Q. What was his name, witness?

28 A. Colonel AK Sesay.

29 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, may I ask that the witness be

1 shown the document at tab 4. Your Honours, I beg your pardon.
2 May I ask that this first document be marked as MFI - if I can be
3 guided on the MFI-number?

12:10:37

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think it is MFI-17, is it, Madam Court
5 Officer?

6 MS IRURA: MFI-16, your Honour.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: 16. Then a document of four pages with
8 the title in heavy print "Proclamation" and above that "Public
9 Notice" will be entered as MFI-16.

12:10:51

10 MS ALAGENDRA: Is it 17, or 16?

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: 16. Madam Court Attendant corrected me.

12 MS ALAGENDRA: Thank you, your Honour:

13 Q. Witness, the document just handed to you, I am going to ask
14 you to look particularly at the page marked 00007660.

12:11:57

15 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagendra, what is this document? The
16 witness hasn't even told us what it is?

17 MS ALAGENDRA: I was going to turn to the page, your
18 Honour.

12:12:09

19 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Before we turn to any inner pages, what
20 is this document? He has not spoken to it before.

21 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, he has given us some evidence
22 about appointments and positions and this document will relate to
23 that.

12:12:29

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: I want to be sure. Under tab 4, I have a
25 document with an ERN number that ends 7650. There appears to be
26 a different document at 5656 and so there seems to be more than
27 one document in this. Which one are you talking about?

28 MS ALAGENDRA: I am referring to page 00007660, with the
29 ERN 00007660.

1 MR ANYAH: Madam President --

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just a moment, Mr Anyah, please. I will
3 give you a chance to speak of course, but Justice Sebutinde has
4 raised a point, Ms Alagenda. Do you consider you have responded
12:13:10 5 to it?

6 MS ALAGENDRA: Yes, your Honour.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah?

8 MR ANYAH: I rise to echo the comments by both your
9 Honours. I think what Justice Sebutinde is saying echoes what
12:13:25 10 I am saying. If this document falls in the genre of documents
11 that relate to appointments made, then counsel should lay
12 foundation and ask the witness if the additional documents that
13 he came upon that pertain to specific appointments and then he
14 could give a general description of whether they are Gazettes, or
12:13:48 15 other forms of notices, and then she could put it before him; not
16 put it to him in the first instance and then he is being led
17 through the document.

18 And your Honour, the Presiding Judge, has pointed out the
19 first ERN number of the first page which ends 7650 refers to
12:14:06 20 Decree No 2, but if you stop at the page ending in 7656 it refers
21 to Decree No 3, a separate different document all in the same
22 tab. He is being shown both and we are being taken to the
23 page that falls in the category of the second document I see
24 there.

12:14:29 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Actually I think what Ms Alagenda is
26 referring to is Decree No 4, not even Decree No 3.

27 MR ANYAH: Yes, Justice Sebutinde is right.

28 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, if I may respond briefly?

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think you require more foundation

1 before you can put this document to the witness, Ms Alagenda.

12:15:04 2 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, if I can just address one
3 issue, which is that so far this witness has been testifying
4 about appointments and the question relating to documents was
5 very specific in that were these appointments reduced into
6 writing and what kind of documents were these appointments
7 reduced into and he mentioned proclamations, decrees, Gazettes.
8 So, he has included decrees when he was explaining documents in
9 which appointments were reduced into.

12:15:27 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, but this document isn't to do with
11 appointments.

12 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, it is to do with membership of
13 the council and the witness has testified that members were
14 appointed.

12:15:44 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Are you going behind my ruling,
16 Ms Alagenda?

17 MS ALAGENDRA:

18 Q. Witness, you have testified that Johnny Paul Koroma made
19 announcements of appointments of members to the council?

12:16:05 20 A. Yes, my Lord.

21 Q. Do you know if these appointments were subsequently reduced
22 into writing?

23 A. Yes, my Lord.

24 Q. What kind of writing would they be reduced into, witness?

12:16:25 25 A. Well, they made it into proclamations, decrees and
26 established it through the Sierra Leone Gazette.

27 Q. How do you know that, witness?

28 A. After every meeting held by the council, the honourable to
29 whom I was attached would bring those documents and I would read

1 them to him and we would discuss it.

2 Q. Are you able to recall any of the appointments contained in
3 decrees that you had seen?

4 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:17:08 5 Q. Can you tell us what they were?

6 A. Like for example the appointment of members to the council,
7 that was one which I saw.

8 Q. What else, witness?

9 A. As time went by, there was some other appointments like the
12:17:34 10 council of secretaries. All of those were included in the
11 Gazette. I just want to recall the name of the - now I recall
12 the name of the Brigade Commander South, Colonel Boissy Palmer.
13 Boissy Palmer.

14 MS ALAGENDRA: That is spelt B-O-I-S-S-Y, Palmer
12:18:02 15 P-A-L-M-E-R. Your Honours, at this stage can I request that the
16 witness see the document?

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, please do so.

18 MS ALAGENDRA:

19 Q. Witness, can you look at the document with the page number
12:18:24 20 00007660. Witness, before going to this document, you have told
21 the Court that members were appointed to the Supreme Council. Do
22 you know if the members were all appointed at the same time?

23 A. Well the appointment went on as time went on because Johnny
24 Paul only named the first 17, but later they had to appoint some
12:19:34 25 other members.

26 Q. Do you know the total number of members in the Supreme
27 Council?

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagenda, are you now leading the
29 witness because this document is in front of him?

1 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, I don't think he has had a
2 chance to look into the document yet.

3 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: But this is precisely the point that
4 counsel opposite was making earlier. These are questions you
12:19:55 5 should be asking before the document is placed in front of him.
6 You are now asking him questions with the answers written right
7 in front of him. What is the point?

8 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, he is not looking at the
9 document. It is not in front of him:

12:20:19 10 Q. Witness, do you know the total number of members in the
11 Supreme Council?

12 A. Yes, as far as I know it was 17, but the Chairman later
13 added on to that number.

14 Q. Do you know when the number was increased?

12:20:40 15 A. It was just after he had established the AFRC Council. He
16 increased the number of members.

17 Q. Do you know what the number was increased to?

18 A. I cannot specify the number now, but he increased the
19 number.

12:21:11 20 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, can the witness now be shown
21 the document, please? The same document ending 7660.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Show it to the witness.

23 MS ALAGENDRA:

24 Q. Witness, can you please have a look at the document in
12:21:39 25 front of you. Could you read the title of this document, please?

26 A. "AFRC Decree No. 4, 1997, Administration of Sierra Leone
27 (Armed Forces Revolutionary Council) Proclamation Amendment
28 Decree, 1997."

29 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagenda, we can all read. What we

1 would like to know though is whether this witness knows what this
2 document is. We can all read for ourselves, but we don't know if
3 he knows what this document is.

4 MS ALAGENDRA:

12:22:31 5 Q. Witness, this document you have in front of you, have you
6 seen it before?

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. When did you first see this document?

9 A. Well, I got in touch with this document just after the
12:22:48 10 meeting when the chairman established the council and after the
11 meeting the honourable to whom I was attached came and I had
12 those documents and we discussed it, I read through it.

13 Q. Why did you have to go through this document with your
14 honourable?

12:23:09 15 A. Well, this man was illiterate.

16 JUDGE LUSSICK: Ms Alagenda, just so that I can follow the
17 evidence, you mean to say the chairman appointed a council and
18 immediately after that this document was available to the
19 witness? Is that what he's saying?

12:23:33 20 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I will clarify a time period
21 when he saw this document.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Also get your witness to tell us what
23 this document is while you're at it, please.

24 MS ALAGENDRA:

12:23:43 25 Q. Witness, do you know what this document is about?

26 A. Yes, my Lord.

27 Q. What is it about, witness?

28 A. This was about the membership appointed by the chairman
29 that added to the council.

1 Q. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about what
2 this document is?

3 A. This was a decree from the AFRC government to increase the
4 appointment of memberships of the council.

12:24:30 5 Q. Witness, do you recall exactly when you first saw this
6 document under the circumstances you have described?

7 JUDGE LUSSICK: I thought he answered that. That's why
8 I asked you that question. He has already said to your question
9 - which was "When did you first see this document?" He said,

12:24:56 10 "Well, I got in touch with this document just after the meeting
11 when the chairman established the council and after the meeting
12 the honourable to whom I was attached came and I had those
13 documents and we discussed it." I took that to mean that
14 straight after the appointment of the council he was given this
12:25:14 15 document to discuss.

16 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I was first going to establish
17 a time frame of when the meeting had taken place.

18 JUDGE LUSSICK: When the meeting took place. I see. Go
19 ahead.

12:25:25 20 MS ALAGENDRA: Thank you, your Honour:

21 Q. Witness, you told the Court that you saw this document
22 after a particular meeting. Do you recall when this meeting took
23 place?

24 A. It was in 1997 at Johnny Paul's Lodge, Spur Road. That was
12:25:45 25 where the council used to meet. So after every meeting they will
26 give documents to the honourables. For me I would always have
27 access to the honourable to whom I was attached.

28 Q. First, witness, can you recall when in 1997 the meeting in
29 relation to this particular matter took place?

1 A. It happened just after the coup, some weeks after the coup
2 when the chairman was making his appointments. They used to
3 prepare documentations.

12:26:31

4 Q. And how long after this particular meeting did you see this
5 document?

6 A. Documents were coming out gradually. After every meeting
7 they will give out documents to the honourables for whatever
8 appointments the honourables make - sorry, that the chairman
9 would make, they will share the documents to the honourables, the
10 council members.

12:26:54

11 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, may I ask that this document
12 be marked as MFI-17, please.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am just looking at the transcript to
14 see if we ascertained what it is about.

12:27:21

15 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, the witness said it related to
16 the increase of the membership of the council, that it related to
17 the increase of the number of members of the council.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is a two page document headed, "AFRC
19 Decree, No. 4, 1997, Administration of Sierra Leone (Armed Forces
20 Revolutionary Council) Proclamation" and it will be MFI-17.

12:28:08

21 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, if I may?

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed.

23 MS ALAGENDRA:

12:28:57

24 Q. Witness, you have testified about the appointment of the
25 principal liaison officers. Do you know if the appointments of
26 the PLOs were subsequently reduced into writing?

27 A. Yes, my Lord.

28 Q. Do you know what kind of writing it was reduced into?

29 A. They made it through the Sierra Leone Gazette, the

1 proclamation and decrees that the AFRC established.

2 Q. Witness, did you know the functions of the PLOs?

3 A. Yes, my Lord.

4 Q. What was the functions of the PLOs?

12:29:50 5 A. Yes, they were responsible to supervise, to coordinate and
6 monitor the various ministries which the chairman appointed them
7 to monitor.

8 Q. The decrees relating to the appointments of the PLOs, do
9 you know if they included the functions of the PLOs?

12:30:25 10 A. Yes, it was clearly stated in the decrees.

11 Q. Have you ever seen any of the decrees relating to the
12 appointments or functions of PLOs?

13 A. Yes, my Lord.

14 Q. Would you be able to recall the number of the document, or
12:30:52 15 any identifying matter relating to that document?

16 A. Well, as I said, whatever appointment the chairman would
17 make, I will see it through the honourable to whom I was
18 attached. So those proclamations, the decree that they made to
19 establish the PLOs, I was able to see it through the honourable
12:31:22 20 to whom I was attached.

21 Q. When did you see the decree relating to the PLOs?

22 A. I cannot specify the date, but it was in 1997, just after
23 the appointment that the chairman had made.

24 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, can I refer the witness again
12:31:51 25 to a document in tab 4 ending with the ERN 7656.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, please show it to the witness.

27 MS ALAGENDRA:

28 Q. Witness, can you have a look at the document in front of
29 you, please. Have you seen this document before?

1 A. Yes, my Lord.

2 Q. What is this document about?

3 A. It was the time the principal liaison officers were
4 appointed.

12:32:54 5 Q. When did you first see this document?

6 A. It was in 1997, just after those appointments had been made
7 for the principal liaison officers.

8 Q. How is it that you came to see this document?

9 A. As I stated last, whenever the chairman would call a
10 council meeting, after that meeting the honourable to whom I was
11 attached would get those documents, those proclamations, the
12 decrees and I would discuss them with him and I will explain to
13 him what was in the document.

14 Q. Witness, can you just look at the title of this document in
12:33:48 15 front of you. Can you just read just the title and the decree
16 number of this document?

17 A. "AFRC Decree No. 3, Armed Forces Revolutionary Council
18 (Establishment of Office of Principal Liaison Officer) Decree,
19 1997."

12:34:22 20 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, may I ask that this document
21 be marked MFI-18.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is a three page document with the
23 title, "AFRC Decree No. 3, 1997, Armed Forces Revolutionary
24 Council (Establishment of Office of Principal Liaison Officer)"
12:34:56 25 and it is MFI-18.

26 MS ALAGENDRA:

27 Q. Witness, you have told the Court that one of the
28 appointments announced by Johnny Paul Koroma was the council of
29 secretaries.

1 A. Yes, my Lord.

2 Q. And you have also told the Court that a chief secretary of
3 state was appointed?

4 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:35:40 5 Q. And it was announced that the chief secretary of state was
6 SAJ Musa. Do you recall that?

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. Were there any persons reporting to SAJ Musa in his
9 capacity as chief secretary of state?

12:36:03 10 A. Yes, my Lord.

11 Q. Who were they?

12 A. Well, the council of secretaries reported to SAJ Musa.

13 Q. What was the composition of the council of secretaries?

14 A. Well, there was the chairman who was the - sorry, the chief
12:36:30 15 secretary of state who was the vice-chairman, SAJ Musa. There
16 was another secretary of state who was appointed to various
17 ministries.

18 Q. How many secretaries of state were appointed?

19 A. I cannot recall the number now, but secretaries of state
12:36:55 20 were appointed to various ministries. Like the north, there was
21 a secretary of state for north. There was another one for east.
22 There was the secretary of state for south.

23 Q. Witness, do you recall the name of the secretary of state
24 for the north?

12:37:10 25 A. Yes, my Lord.

26 Q. Can you tell the Court the name?

27 A. It was Major Koroma. We used to call him Bush Fall.

28 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Koroma is K-O-R-O-M-A. Bush
29 Fall. As in Bush Fall, F-A-L-L:

1 Q. Witness, who was the secretary of state for the east?

2 A. It was captain Eddie Kanneh, Eddie Kanneh, retired Captain
3 Eddie Kanneh.

4 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, that is a name this Court has
12:38:05 5 heard before:

6 Q. Do you know the name of the secretary of state for the
7 south?

8 A. Yes, my Lord.

9 Q. Witness, the appointment of the council of secretaries --

12:38:23 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is he going to tell us a name?

11 MS ALAGENDRA: I beg your pardon, your Honour:

12 Q. Witness, can you tell us the name for the secretary of
13 state for the south?

14 A. I will think about it later.

12:38:37 15 Q. Witness, the announcement in relation to the appointments
16 of the council of secretaries, the chief secretary of state and
17 the secretaries of state that you've named, was this appointment
18 subsequently reduced into writing?

19 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:39:04 20 Q. How do you know that?

21 A. It was after these appointments that proclamation and
22 decrees came out for the appointment of chief secretary of state
23 and the secretaries of council of state.

24 Q. Have you completed your answer?

12:39:28 25 A. Sorry, Major AF Kamara was the secretary of state south.

26 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Kamara is K-A-M-A-R-A.

27 THE WITNESS: We used to call him Ambush Commander.

28 MS ALAGENDRA:

29 Q. Ambush Commander, is that a name he had or an assignment?

1 A. It was an aka. The whole army used to call him Ambush
2 Commander.

3 Q. Witness, can you repeat your answer as to how do you know
4 that the appointments were reduced into writings contained in
12:40:10 5 decrees or Gazettes as you stated?

6 A. As I said earlier, whenever an appointment will go out the
7 chairman will call a council meeting and after the meeting the
8 honourable to whom I was attached would bring the Gazette and we
9 will share the experience together.

12:40:39 10 Q. Are you able to recall when the meeting took place in
11 relation to the appointment of the council of secretaries?

12 A. Well, all I know is that in 1997 after the coup these
13 appointments came out gradually by the chairman.

14 Q. Do you remember exactly when you came to see the documents
12:41:09 15 relating to this appointment?

16 A. Yes, after the appointment of these people the chairman
17 would share - would give the Gazettes to the honourables.

18 Q. Do you remember a date or time when you saw the particular
19 document relating to the appointment of the council of
12:41:35 20 secretaries?

21 A. I cannot tell the date now, but I know it was in 1997 just
22 after the coup had taken place. The chairman made different
23 appointments and they came through those proclamations and
24 decrees through the Sierra Leone Gazette.

12:42:01 25 Q. Witness, you have said that after the meeting the
26 honourable you were working with, you and him shared this
27 experience. Could you explain under what circumstances you came
28 to see the document in relation to this particular appointment?

29 A. Well, after every meeting since I was very close to him

1 I would read the documents to him that he would bring. I would
2 read them to him and explain.

3 Q. Do you recall if you read and explained the document
4 relating to the appointment of council of secretaries to the
12:42:44 5 honourable you were attached to?

6 A. Yes, my Lord.

7 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, can I ask that the witness be
8 shown the document still at tab 4, but with page number 00007650:

9 Q. Witness, can you have a look at the document in front of
12:43:38 10 you? Witness, have you seen this document before?

11 A. Yes, my Lord.

12 Q. What is this document about?

13 A. This document is talking about the appointment of council
14 of secretaries.

12:44:04 15 Q. When did you first see this particular document?

16 A. It was in 1997.

17 Q. Do you remember a time?

18 A. As I said, I cannot recall the month, or the date, but it
19 was in 1997 just after the chairman made the appointments as time
12:44:32 20 went on.

21 Q. How is it that you came to see this particular document?

22 A. Well, after every council meeting when the chairman would
23 make appointments I will see the document through the honourable
24 to whom I was attached.

12:44:51 25 Q. And what would you do with the document when your
26 honourable gives it to you?

27 A. I would read it out to him and explain.

28 Q. Witness, in relation to this particular document did you
29 read it out and explain it to him?

1 A. Yes, my Lord.

2 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, can I ask that this document
3 be marked MFI-19. Before that, your Honour, if I can just ask
4 the witness to read the title:

12:45:29 5 Q. Witness, can you read the title of this document, please.

6 A. "AFRC Decree 2, Armed Forces Revolutionary Council,
7 (Establishment of Council of Secretaries), Decree, 1997."

8 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, can I request the document be
9 marked MFI-19?

12:45:55 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is a five page document headed
11 "Decree, Supplement to the Sierra Leone Gazette, AFRC Decree No.
12 2, 1997, Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (Establishment of
13 Council of Secretaries) Decree." It will be MFI-19.

14 MS ALAGENDRA:

12:46:28 15 Q. Witness, you have testified about the appointments and you
16 have named members of the Supreme Council, do you know if the
17 names of the members of the council were subsequently reduced
18 into writing?

19 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:46:54 20 Q. What was it reduced to, what kind of a document?

21 A. This was also a decree which was made by the chairman and
22 it was established.

23 Q. Was it published?

24 A. Yes, my Lord. They published it.

12:47:15 25 Q. How do you know that?

26 A. Well, as I said, when these appointments are made and after
27 every meeting these documents were distributed to the
28 honourables. But my own honourable, whenever he had his he would
29 bring it directly to me and I would read it out to him.

1 Q. Witness, just for the record you keep saying "my own
2 honourable". Who is this person you are referring to?

3 A. He is honourable Hassan Papa Bangura called otherwise as
4 Bomb Blast.

12:48:03 5 Q. Witness, the document that you saw naming the members of
6 the council, do you remember when you first saw it?

7 A. Well, as far as I can recall it was in 1997 after the
8 appointment of these members. It was then that they established
9 this decree through the Sierra Leone Gazette that was distributed
10 by the chairman.

11 Q. Are you able to recall when in 1997 you saw it?

12 A. Well, I cannot recall the exact month, but it was just
13 after the coup, like I said, when the chairman was establishing -
14 when he was appointing various people.

12:49:06 15 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, can I ask that the witness be
16 shown the document at tab 10.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please show it to the witness.

18 MS ALAGENDRA:

19 Q. Witness, can you have a look at the document in front of
12:49:40 20 you. Have you seen this document before?

21 A. Yes, my Lord.

22 Q. When was the first time you saw this document?

23 A. Well, it was in 1997 after the chairman had made his
24 appointment of these honourables.

12:50:09 25 Q. Just what were the circumstances under which you saw this
26 particular document?

27 A. As I said, after every council meeting when decrees and
28 proclamations are made the chairman distributes them to every
29 council member and I - the council member that I was with,

1 honourable Papa, would bring these proclamations or decrees to me
2 and I would read them out to him.

3 Q. Witness, I am going to ask you to tell the Court what this
4 document is about, but before that can I ask you to flick the
12:50:53 5 pages and to have a look at the document. Witness, do you know
6 what this document is about?

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. What is it about?

9 A. Well, this is about the appointment of council members who
12:51:29 10 were appointed by the chairman.

11 Q. Witness, I am going to ask you to look at specifically the
12 part which appears at the bottom half on the right-hand side of
13 the first page. The first page, witness. Can you read the title
14 of that?

12:52:02 15 A. Yes, my Lord.

16 Q. Please do so.

17 A. "Armed Forces Revolutionary Council Secretariat
18 [Government] Notice No 215, The Administration of Sierra Leone
19 (Armed Forces Revolutionary Council) Proclamation, 1997 (... No 3
12:52:27 20 of 1997).

21 Pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph 1 of the
22 Administration of Sierra Leone (Armed Forces Revolutionary
23 Council) Proclamation 1997, the following persons constitute the
24 Armed Forces Revolutionary Council with effect from the 25th day
12:52:55 25 of May, 1997."

26 Q. Witness, I am going to ask you to look at the name
27 appearing at number 6, Staff Sergeant Alex T Brima. Do you know
28 who this person is?

29 A. Yes, my Lord.

1 Q. Who is he, witness?

2 A. This is the PL0-3 - PL0-2, sorry, whom we referred to as
3 Gullit.

4 Q. And the person at number 7, Staff Sergeant Brima B Kamara?

12:53:37 5 A. Yes, my Lord.

6 Q. Who is that, witness?

7 A. He is Bazzy Kamara, whom we called Machiavelli.

8 Q. And the name at number 8, Colonel Sam Bockarie?

9 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:54:00 10 Q. Do you know who that person is?

11 A. Yes, my Lord.

12 Q. Who is he, witness?

13 A. He is Mosquito. We referred to him as Mosquito.

14 Q. And Colonel Issa H Sesay, do you know who that person is?

12:54:23 15 A. Yes, my Lord.

16 Q. Who is he, witness?

17 A. He was a member of the RUF. He was also a council member.

18 Q. Witness, I will take you to number 18, Franklyn Conteh.

19 Did he go by any other name?

12:54:50 20 A. Yes, my Lord.

21 Q. What was that?

22 A. We used to call him Woyoh.

23 Q. Now, witness, this name appearing at number 20, Sergeant K
24 Bangura, do you know who that is?

12:55:08 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. Who is that?

27 A. He is Hassan Papa Bangura.

28 Q. The name appearing at number 21, Sergeant SB Kanu, do you
29 know who that is?

1 A. Yes, my Lord.

2 Q. Who is he, witness?

3 A. We referred to him as Five-Five.

4 Q. And what does the SB stand for?

12:55:42 5 A. Santigie Borbor Kanu.

6 Q. Now, witness, the name at number 29, Staff Sergeant Moses

7 Kabia, did he go by any other name?

8 A. Yes, my Lord.

9 Q. What was that?

12:56:03 10 A. We used to call him Rambo. He was the CSO to Johnny Paul

11 Koroma.

12 MS ALAGENDRA: Thank you, witness. Your Honours, can I ask

13 that this document be marked MFI-19, am I right? 19? 20?

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think it is 20. This is an eight

12:56:43 15 page document headed "The Sierra Leone Gazette" and dated 11

16 September 1997. It is marked as MFI-20.

17 MS ALAGENDRA:

18 Q. Witness, before I move on from the area of appointments,

19 earlier you told us that you could not remember a few other names

12:57:05 20 of the RUF members that became members of the council. I just

21 want to ask you at this stage whether are you able to recall the

22 names now?

23 A. Well I can recall it later, but these were the few names

24 that I knew of the RUF that I mentioned.

12:57:32 25 Q. Witness, during the junta period do you know what kind of

26 activities were going on?

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is a very wide question,

28 Ms Alagenda. What exactly? Anyway, you have asked it and

29 continue.

1 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, perhaps I will rephrase. It
2 seems too wide even for the witness to understand:

3 Q. Witness, during this period - the junta period - were the
4 AFRC or the RUF engaged in any particular activities?

12:58:19 5 A. Well, basically in Freetown they were running the day to
6 day administration of the government in Freetown.

7 Q. And outside of Freetown?

8 A. Yes, because most of them were at the various brigades
9 outside Freetown in the provinces. They were also engaged in
10 mining activities. We also engaged in battles in Freetown.

11 Q. Where were mining activities going on?

12 A. Tongo and Koidu Town. Many activities were going on in
13 those two areas.

14 Q. Where is Koidu Town located?

12:59:08 15 A. Koidu Town is in the eastern province.

16 Q. Which district?

17 A. Kono District.

18 Q. And where is Tongo located?

19 A. It is also in the eastern province.

12:59:26 20 Q. Which district?

21 A. Kenema District.

22 Q. Witness, were there any senior commanders based in Kono
23 during the junta period?

24 A. Well, as far as I can recall, because I was also on the -
12:59:49 25 the honourable with whom I was used to visit Kono. We also had
26 Gullit, that is Tamba Alex Brima, he too was based around that
27 axis, but we used to have gradual visits of various commanders
28 from the two factions that were in Freetown.

29 Q. When you say "two factions", what do you mean?

1 A. I am referring to the RUF and the SLA/AFRC.

2 Q. From your visits to Kono during this time, are you able to
3 say what Gullit was doing in Kono?

13:00:33

4 A. Well, what I know is that he was appointed - he was sent
5 there to monitor the activities because Kono - honourables had
6 been visiting there frequently, so the chairman sent him there to
7 control the mining activities.

8 Q. Do you know who was engaged in the actual mining in Kono?

9 A. Yes, my Lord.

13:00:59

10 Q. How do you know?

11 A. Well on my visits when we went there on Operation Red
12 Beret, both the RUF and the AFRC were engaged in mining with the
13 senior commanders who were there.

14 Q. Can you repeat the name of the operation?

13:01:21

15 A. Operation Red Beret.

16 Q. Witness, do you know who was doing the mining manually?

17 A. Well, yes, my Lord.

18 Q. Who?

13:02:06

19 A. Well, it was the civilians whom we had. We had civilians
20 who were doing the mining.

21 Q. Are you able to tell the Court the circumstances under
22 which the civilians were mining in Kono?

23 A. Well it was through gun point, because it happened in my
24 presence. We had some civilians who we took to do the mining, so
25 we used force.

13:02:31

26 Q. When you say the civilians were doing mining under gun
27 point, under whose gun point were they doing the mining?

28 A. Well both forces, the RUF and the SLA.

29 Q. Witness, you spoke about mining going on in Tongo. How do

1 you know about that?

2 A. Well at one time we went on a visit with Colonel SO
3 Williams together with honourable Papa to the brigade in Kenema,
4 and a report came in that the mining activities was not being
13:03:22 5 controlled in Kono - sorry, in Tongo, and so that was brought to
6 our notice in my presence. The person who was heading the
7 secretariat, the AFRC secretariat in Tongo, brought that
8 complaint.

9 Q. Who was the person heading the AFRC secretariat in Tongo?

13:03:43 10 A. It was Staff Sergeant Junior Sherri f who brought this
11 complaint.

12 Q. What was the complaint that was brought?

13 A. Well he brought it to the notice of the COAS, that is SO
14 Williams, in our presence that the mining activities were
13:04:10 15 uncontrolled; that the two forces were just mining on the ground.

16 Q. Witness, can you describe again what you said? You brought
17 it to the notice of the something, which is SO Williams?

18 A. The notice of the COAS, Chief of Army Staff, Colonel SO
19 Williams.

13:04:39 20 Q. So, is that C-0-A-S?

21 A. Yes, my Lord.

22 Q. What happened when you went to Tongo? What did you see?

23 A. Well actually because Colonel SO Williams said we shouldn't
24 set foot in Tongo, he would make sure that he would order the
13:05:01 25 brigade commander to put situations under control in Tongo.

26 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, just for the record I am
27 noticing here it is C-0-A-S. There is no R:

28 Q. Witness, in Tongo who was doing the mining?

29 A. Just as I said, when Junior Sherri f made the report to the

1 COAS in Kenema in my presence he spoke about the two forces. He
2 said they were unable to put the situation under control. The
3 AFRC and the RUF were busy mining and so they want reinforcement
4 to go there to put the situation under control.

13:05:52 5 Q. Who was doing the manual mining in Tongo?

6 A. Well, since I was not based in Tongo and that it was only a
7 report that Junior Sheriff brought, he said it was the civilians
8 that doing the mining, but it was still the orders of the two
9 forces, the RUF and the SLA.

13:06:17 10 Q. Did you come to know the circumstances under which
11 civilians were mining in Tongo?

12 A. Well, what I knew was that they had what they called two
13 pile - two pile system. And they also used another way whereby
14 civilians would excavate the gravel and share it between the RUF
15 and the civilians. There were areas where they actually used
16 force that you never had anything.

17 Q. How did you know this, witness?

18 A. Well, I experienced that in Kono and while Junior Sheriff
19 was explaining to the commander he also explained that and that
20 was causing problems on the ground.

13:07:12 21 Q. You have spoken about diamond mining in Kono. Do you know
22 exactly in which areas diamond mining was going on in Kono?

23 A. Well, the only area which I visited, because Kono, almost
24 all over that district mining was going on, but particularly
25 around the Masingbi Road mining was going on there and Tombodu.
26 They had a place called Soldier Pit at Small Sefadu.

13:07:37 27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagenda, sorry to interrupt, but
28 these mining activities, are we to assume that they went on
29 throughout the junta period, or is there a specific time frame

1 within this evidence is put?

2 MS ALAGENDRA: I will ask, your Honour. But before that,
3 your Honour, if I can spell Masingbi, M-A-G-S-I-N-G-B-I. Small
4 Sefadu, S-E-F-A-D-U.

13:08:37 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think we have the spelling of Tombodu.

6 MS ALAGENDRA: Yes, your Honour. Your Honour, just to
7 respell Masingbi because it seems to be different on the record,
8 M-A-S-I-N-G-B-I:

9 Q. Witness, you have said mining was going on during the junta
13:09:02 10 period. Are you able to tell the Court a time within the junta
11 period that the mining was going on, would you know?

12 A. Well, yes, my Lord.

13 Q. Please do, witness.

14 A. Well, as I said, during the junta reign up to before the
13:09:30 15 intervention mining activities were going on until the
16 intervention. And also after the intervention mining was going
17 on in Kono in my presence. I don't know about Tongo, but Kono in
18 general.

19 Q. You may have said this before, but can you remind us when
13:09:49 20 you say "intervention" what time period are you talking about?

21 A. It was in February 1998 when ECOMOG forces dislodged us
22 from Freetown.

23 Q. Witness, during the junta period do you know where Sam
24 Bockarie was based?

13:10:11 25 A. Yes, my Lord.

26 Q. How do you know where he was based?

27 A. Well, I was very close to his residence at Hill Station.
28 It was just an apartment. We were at villa 54 and they were
29 villa 50 and they were on the other side.

1 Q. So where was he based?

2 A. He was based at Hill Station in one of the villas.

3 Q. Witness, where is Hill Station located?

4 A. In the western part of Freetown.

13:10:58 5 Q. For how long was he based at Hill Station?

6 A. Well, as far as I can recall he was based there until he
7 was involved in a road accident with one Major Marrah when the
8 RUF were going around saying that they wanted to assassinate
9 Mosquito, so that caused him to leave the ground and base in

13:11:24 10 Kenema.

11 Q. Could you repeat the name again. He was involved in a road
12 accident with one major?

13 A. Marrah. Marrah.

14 Q. That is spelt M-A-R-R-A-H. You said he moved to Kenema?

13:11:46 15 A. Yes, my Lord.

16 Q. Do you know where in Kenema he was based?

17 A. Yes, he based at the headquarters. He was there with Eddie
18 Kanneh, the then minister, the resident minister in the east.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Alagenda, the previous answer was,

13:12:09 20 "Involved in a road accident when the RUF were going around
21 saying that they wanted to assassinate Mosquito", who is the
22 they?

23 MS ALAGENDRA:

24 Q. Witness, when you said earlier that he was involved in a
25 road accident when the RUF were going around saying they wanted
26 to assassinate Mosquito, when who wanted to assassinate Mosquito?

13:12:25

27 A. Well, because it was a road accident, so the major who was
28 involved, they accused indirectly that he wanted to plan the
29 assassination of Mosquito. That was what they were going around

1 saying, the other RUF members.

2 Q. Who wanted to plan the assassination of Mosquito?

13:13:10

3 A. Well, it was not a plan. They were involved in a road
4 accident close to Wilberforce Barracks. So it was this road
5 accident that they concluded that they wanted to assassinate
6 their leader.

7 Q. Witness, we are trying to discern who you are talking about
8 when you say "they" and "he". Could you be a bit more clear on
9 the subject, please?

13:13:27

10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, do you understand the
11 question?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. Well, I am referring to the
13 RUF because they were based at Hill Station, because most of them
14 were grumbling, the RUF members.

13:13:45

15 MS ALAGENDRA:

16 Q. And who were they saying was planning the assassination of
17 Mosquito?

13:14:03

18 A. Well, they called the major who was involved in the road
19 accident, that he was the one who had been sent to assassinate
20 Mosquito.

21 Q. That's Major Marrah?

22 A. Yes. Yes, my Lord.

13:14:23

23 Q. Witness, you said that Sam Bockarie was based in the
24 headquarter in Kenema together with Eddie Kanneh. Where was this
25 headquarter located?

26 A. Well, it was in Kenema close to the military base in
27 Kenema. In Kenema Town, that was where the headquarters was,
28 Kenema Town.

29 Q. Do you know how long Sam Bockarie remained based there?

1 A. Well, as far as I can recall Sam Bockarie continued to stay
2 there until the intervention when ECOMOG pushed us out of
3 Freetown.

4 Q. Do you know where he went after the intervention?

13:15:01 5 A. Well, after my arrival together with the AFRC members,
6 after the intervention, whilst we were in Kabala we learnt that
7 Sam Bockarie had gone back to Kailahun to be based at Buedu.

8 Q. How do you know that, witness?

9 A. Well, it was through communication upon our withdrawal to
13:15:36 10 Kabala. It was through communication.

11 Q. Between who?

12 A. Well, it was a radio communication between Superman and
13 Mosquito.

14 Q. Witness, we will come back to this communication later.

13:15:54 15 During the junta period are you able to recall any specific
16 incident that took place around about August of 1997?

17 A. Well, yes. I can recall an incident that happened.

18 Q. What is the incident that you recall?

19 A. Well, the students from the students' union all over the
13:16:27 20 country came together and said that the AFRC should hand over
21 power to the elected government, so they declared three days
22 strike action until the AFRC handed power over to the government.
23 So the AFRC came out - the students came out in full force from
24 the colleges, schools, to demonstrate. They came along
13:16:54 25 demonstrating and saying that the AFRC should hand back power to
26 the elected government.

27 Q. Witness, where was the demonstration taking place?

28 A. Well, the demonstration was taking place all over. The
29 schools from the western mobilised, those in the east mobilised

1 and the college students also came from Fourah Bay college.

2 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagenda, the evidence that this
3 witness is recorded as saying is that, "The students' union all
4 over the country came together and said that the AFRC" - wait a
13:17:33 5 minute. "So they declared three days strike action until the
6 AFRC handed power over to the government." Is that really what
7 happened?

8 MS ALAGENDRA:

9 Q. Witness, can you state again what this demonstration was
13:17:51 10 about?

11 A. Yes, the students' union said that the AFRC was not an
12 elected government. They overthrew the elected government headed
13 by Ahmad Tejan Kabbah. So they said the AFRC should hand back
14 power to the elected government which has been chosen by the
13:18:16 15 people.

16 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Perhaps the interpreter got it wrong, but
17 the way it looks here is the strike took place for three days and
18 then the AFRC handed power over to the government. That's what
19 it looks like. Is that what happened?

13:18:40 20 MS ALAGENDRA: I think he has just answered it to clarify
21 what exactly the situation is about.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: No, I don't think it is clarified, but
23 you can continue if that is the evidence.

24 MS ALAGENDRA:

13:18:55 25 Q. Witness, you said, "So they declared three days strike
26 until the AFRC handed power." Can you explain what you mean by
27 that?

28 A. The students said that the AFRC should hand over power, so
29 they were declaring three days strike action against the

1 government except they hand over power back to the elected
2 government.

3 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, the witness earlier mentioned
4 Fourah Bay, F-O-U-R-A-H:

13:19:54 5 Q. Witness, did anything happen as a result of this
6 demonstration?

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. What happened?

9 A. Well, the government was well prepared for any
13:20:15 10 eventualities because they warned the students that if they came
11 out they would face strong resistance from the government and
12 indeed the students came out. So I, honourable Papa and some of
13 the other soldiers moved towards the east, but rumour was making
14 the rounds that the students were well armed. So that led - for
13:20:44 15 instance in our own area where I and Hassan Papa Bangura were
16 covering, we met some stiff resistance from the students and we
17 shot at them.

18 Q. Witness, were the students armed?

19 A. Well actually they were throwing stones, but I did not see
13:21:06 20 anyone shoot. But that was the rumour that was making the rounds
21 that they were well armed. That they were well armed and they
22 were prepared to resist the AFRC.

23 Q. When you say "We shot at them", who is the "we" you are
24 talking about?

13:21:24 25 A. Well I am referring to myself and the other men, because
26 the students were throwing stones and so we opened fire at them.

27 Q. Did anything happen as a result?

28 A. Well the area which I was covering together with my
29 honourable, two students died within that area, within the east,

1 so I and the honourable and the other soldiers arrested some
2 because we took a large force along. We arrested most of the
3 students and took them to Pademba Road Prison.

13:22:05 4 Q. Witness, when you say "myself and the other men", who are
5 the other men that you are talking to - talking about?

6 A. Well, as I was with honourable Papa, we were about 12 in
7 number who were with him permanently who were going around with
8 him and some other commanders who had come, because it was not
9 easy during that demonstration.

13:22:36 10 Q. Witness, which groups did the 12 men belong to?

11 A. Well the group with which I was consisted of SLAs, because
12 it was a mixed operation. The group which I was with consisted
13 of SLAs. We were all dressed in civilian dress - black trousers.

14 Q. How many groups were involved in relation to this
13:23:21 15 demonstration?

16 A. Well, this demonstration involved the RUF and the SLAs.
17 The groups were divided. Some went to east, while the others
18 went to the west.

19 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, if I can ask for a minute just
13:23:47 20 to have a look at the record:

21 Q. Witness, apart from the students that died, did anything
22 else happen to the students who were demonstrating?

23 A. Well the only thing that - I did not see that, but when we
24 returned, when the situation had calmed down, rumour was doing
13:24:21 25 the rounds that they raped some girls at the nursing - in the
26 Sierra Leonean nursing students union or so, the nursing area,
27 that some girls were raped and killed. I did not see that. That
28 was the rumour. So, they too were dispersed.

29 Q. Where did you hear this rumour from?

1 A. Well when we reorganised at Cockerill we got this rumour,
2 because some men were laughing about it, that in fact some of
3 these children - some of these girls we troubled them at the
4 nursing home.

13:25:05 5 Q. Who were these men?

6 A. Well it was both the SLA and the RUF because it was a mixed
7 force, because the entire troop put the strike action to an end
8 so everybody was jubilating.

9 Q. And when they said some of these girls would trouble them,
13:25:32 10 what does that mean, witness?

11 A. Some men were saying that they raped some, because they
12 were saying they did not want the government and so they had
13 raped some and they did some bad things to some others. They
14 were just saying it at the headquarters.

13:25:51 15 Q. When you say "because they were saying they did not want
16 the government", which government did who not want?

17 A. They said they do not want the AFRC government, which
18 compromised the SLA and the RUF.

19 Q. Who is "they"?

13:26:15 20 A. Well, the students were saying that.

21 Q. And who were the men that told you that they raped?

22 A. Well it consisted of the two forces, the RUF and the SLA.
23 Everybody was saying his own version, that when they got there
24 that was what they did. Everybody was saying his.

13:26:36 25 Q. Did you come to know how many students were raped at the
26 nursing area?

27 A. Well actually I was not able to know the number, but there
28 was a lot of public concern over the reaction of the AFRC
29 government.

1 Q. And during the public concern did you hear a figure as to
2 how many women were raped?

3 A. No, I did not get any figure, but people were grumbling
4 that the girls were raped. There was a lot of grumbling going on
13:27:18 5 in the town.

6 Q. And the students who were killed, did you see them?

7 A. Well, like I said, in our own area I saw them in the east,
8 the two, because that caused the crowd to run away.

9 Q. Did you come to hear how old those students were?

13:27:42 10 A. No, I did not know. I did not know their ages, but they
11 were young people.

12 Q. And you said some students were taken and detained at
13 Pademba Road Prison. Who took them there and detained them?

14 A. Well the troop that I was with we arrested some students
13:28:07 15 and, whilst we were taking them along, we saw some in the west
16 end who were taking some others to the prison.

17 Q. Do you know for how long these students were detained at
18 Pademba Road Prison?

19 A. Well, as far as I can recall, some of them continued to be
13:28:29 20 there until the AFRC was removed from power during the
21 intervention to keep them quiet.

22 Q. When was that, witness? Can you give us a time?

23 A. Well, up to February 1998 when the AFRC was dislodged from
24 Freetown.

13:28:55 25 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I note the time. This would
26 be a convenient place.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, if that is convenient, Ms Alagenda,
28 we will take the lunchtime adjournment.

29 Mr Witness, we are going to take the lunchtime adjournment

1 now. We will be back in court in one hour's time. We will
2 resume in court at 2.30. We have sent a message to WVS about
3 your problem. Please adjourn court until 2.30.

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

14:25:14 5 [Upon resuming at 2.30 p.m.]

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Alagenda, please proceed.

7 MS ALAGENDRA: Thank you, your Honour:

8 Q. Witness, just before we broke for lunch we were speaking
9 about the student demonstration that took place in Freetown. I'd
10 like to clarify an issue with you which was raised by Her Honour
11 Justice Sebutinde. You gave an answer and this is the
12 translation that we got:

13 "The students from the students union all over the country
14 came together and said that the AFRC should hand over power to
14:30:14 15 the elected government, so they declared three days strike action
16 until the AFRC handed power over to the government."

17 Now, witness, as a result of this demonstration did the
18 AFRC hand over power to the government?

19 A. No, my Lord. Sorry, they did not hand over power. They
14:30:42 20 continued in power until the intervention of the ECOMOG troops.

21 Q. And what was the reaction of the government to this
22 demonstration? I beg your pardon, of the AFRC government to this
23 demonstration?

24 A. Like I have explained before, the demonstration there was
14:31:06 25 stopped after some students were arrested and taken to the
26 prison.

27 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness repeat the
28 last bit of his answer?

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter needs you to

1 repeat the last part of your answer. Please pick up where you
2 said "some students were arrested and taken to the prison".
3 Continue from there.

14:31:40 4 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord. I said the AFRC did not hand
5 over power. The strike action was stopped. Some students were
6 arrested, some died, some of them escaped.

7 MS ALAGENDRA:

8 Q. Witness, during your testimony about the various
9 announcements and formal appointments made, you made reference to
14:32:08 10 an AFRC Council and you also spoke about a Supreme Council. Can
11 you tell the Court what is the difference between the two, if
12 any?

13 A. Well, the AFRC Council is almost the same like the Supreme
14 Council.

14:32:31 15 Q. Was it a different body?

16 A. Well, at first when the coup took place there was the
17 Supreme Council. When the chairman established the council and
18 made the proclamation, it became the council. Initially, there
19 were 17 coup members. Johnny Paul and SAJ Musa were in that
14:32:58 20 council, the Supreme Council.

21 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I'm sorry, but the answer is still not
22 clear.

23 MS ALAGENDRA:

24 Q. Witness, you say that "when the coup took place there was
14:33:12 25 the Supreme Council" and then "when the chairman established the
26 council". Now, which council are you talking about?

27 A. Well, the AFRC Council. When the coup took place the
28 initial announcement that came out which was not documented was
29 the Supreme Council and Johnny Paul was the head of that council,

1 but after the establishment and the proclamation made to increase
2 the members of the council then the AFRC was - the AFRC Council
3 was established, the Armed Forces Ruling Council.

14:34:00

4 Q. When the AFRC Council was established, did the Supreme
5 Council continue to exist?

6 A. Well, actually I had no knowledge of the Supreme Council
7 any longer. They only referred to the AFRC Council.

8 Q. So earlier when you were testifying about the various
9 appointments, which council were you talking about?

14:34:25

10 A. Well I spoke about the AFRC Council, the Armed Forces
11 Revolutionary Council that was established where new members were
12 brought on board.

13 Q. Witness, did you know who the 17 coup members were?

14 A. Yes, my Lord.

14:34:45

15 Q. How do you know who they were?

16 A. Those members were members of a football team in the 1st
17 Battalion who were comrades to me and it was during the coup I
18 was able to know their numbers when their names came up.

14:35:21

19 Q. Witness, at the time of the ECOMOG intervention, which you
20 have said was February 1998, where were you?

21 A. Well I was at my house, because there was a problem in
22 which the honourable that I was attached to. He was arrested for
23 the looting that took place at the Iranian Embassy and he was
24 dismissed from the Supreme Council. So he was in Murray Town and
25 I was in Wellington, so when the coup took place I moved from
26 Wellington to Murray Town where he was.

14:35:49

27 Q. Witness, can I just request that when you are referring to
28 the honourable you were attached to that you refer to him by
29 name, please.

1 A. Yes, my Lord. Honourable Hassan Papa Bangura.

2 Q. Also can I request that as you continue in your testimony
3 to do the same.

4 A. Yes, my Lord.

14:36:25 5 Q. Witness, you were telling us where you were in February
6 1998 at the time of the intervention?

7 A. Like I have said before, I was at Wellington at my house
8 when the incident occurred when the honourable Hassan Papa
9 Bangura got involved in the looting of the Iranian Embassy
10 together with some other colleagues. He was dismissed. The
11 chairman dismissed him from the council. He was detained. He
12 was under mess arrest at the Murray Town Barracks. So, when the
13 - when ECOMOG started the intervention I left Wellington and met
14 him at Murray Town Barracks.

14:37:19 15 Q. What, if anything, happened after you met him at the
16 barracks?

17 A. Well, when I met him at the Murray Town Barracks I left
18 together with honourable Papa and went to Johnny Paul's
19 residence. We went to Johnny Paul's residence.

14:37:42 20 Q. Where was that?

21 A. Spur Road.

22 Q. What, if anything, happened when you got there?

23 A. Well, at the time all the other honourables came around,
24 Johnny Paul told them to go and attack the ECOMOG forces - to
14:38:07 25 counter-attack them.

26 Q. What happened after that?

27 A. I left together with honourable Papa and went towards Shell
28 Old Road - I mean Shell Old Road, yes, but by then the ECOMOG
29 forces were at Kissy Mess-Mess. The battle continued, the ECOMOG

1 fighters were pushing myself and Papa Bangura. We were pushed
2 towards Ferry Junction, after which ECOMOG forces also came from
3 Regent, they also came to attack Hill Station, but we reinforced
4 the troops that there were together with Hassan Papa Bangura,
14:39:23 5 because there we were based, and pushed the ECOMOG forces back,
6 but the fighting continued until later ECOMOG were able to
7 overrun the city. So from there we retreated to Johnny Paul's
8 lodge. There we met, Johnny Paul had left his lodge.

9 Q. Is his lodge in Spur Road?

14:39:56 10 A. Yes. Yes, my Lord.

11 Q. What did you do when you found out that Johnny Paul had
12 left his lodge?

13 A. Well, I left together with Hassan Papa Bangura and went
14 towards the Tombo axis, through the peninsula and we arrived in
14:40:21 15 Tombo. Later the troops together, including RUF and SLA were at
16 Tombo. Everybody there were waiting for the canoes to cross to
17 Fogbo.

18 Q. Witness, Spur Road, where is it located?

19 A. It is in the western part of Freetown.

14:40:48 20 Q. Shell Old Road, where is it located?

21 A. In the east end of Freetown.

22 Q. You were pushed towards Ferry Junction. Where is Ferry
23 Junction located?

24 A. In the east of Freetown.

14:41:12 25 Q. And you referred to Tombo, where is Tombo located?

26 A. Tombo is between the Koya rural district. It is in the
27 Koya rural district.

28 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I think the witness is saying
29 Koya rural district.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, what expression did the
2 witness use?

3 THE INTERPRETER: Rural.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: And the word before rural?

14:41:42 5 THE WITNESS: Koya.

6 MS ALAGENDRA: K-O-Y-A, your Honour, and to spell Fogbo is
7 F-O-G-B-O:

8 Q. Witness, where is Fogbo located?

9 A. Well, Fogbo is between - as I'm saying, it is also in Koya
14:42:10 10 rural district.

11 Q. Did you take the canoes and cross to Fogbo?

12 A. Yes, I joined Hassan Papa Bangura and my other colleagues
13 and crossed to Fogbo.

14 Q. When you say "colleagues" who are you referring to?

14:42:36 15 A. Well, as for me and the other men, the other soldiers that
16 were attached to Hassan Papa Bangura moved together. It was a
17 mass movement, RUF, SLA, but the canoe I joined, I was Hassan
18 Papa Bangura and some other soldiers.

19 Q. And where did you go to?

14:43:03 20 A. When we arrived in Fogbo I left together with Hassan Papa
21 Bangura for Newton.

22 Q. Where is Newton?

23 A. It is also in the Koya rural district, but along the
24 Freetown Highway, Freetown-Masiaka Highway.

14:43:29 25 Q. Did you go anywhere after that?

26 A. When we arrived in Newton, yes, I left for Masiaka, RDF,
27 from there we went to Masiaka.

28 Q. Did you go to Masiaka, or RDF?

29 A. From Newton you go through RDF, from RDF you go to Masiaka.

1 Q. Witness, what is RDF?

2 A. Well, this was a military base that was there, rapid
3 deployment force.

4 Q. Now, when you arrived at Newton did you meet anybody there?

14:44:11 5 A. Yes, my Lord.

6 Q. Who did you meet?

7 A. On arrival at Newton, together with Hassan Papa Bangura, I
8 met Issa Sesay for the RUF who came there to receive his
9 colleagues, the RUF members.

14:44:36 10 Q. Now, you said you went to Masiaka.

11 A. Yes, my Lord.

12 Q. Where is Masiaka located?

13 A. Masiaka lies between Bombali and Koya rural district.

14 Q. How long did you stay in Masiaka?

14:45:04 15 A. In Masiaka it was about three days.

16 Q. Did you meet anybody in Masiaka?

17 A. Yes, my Lord.

18 Q. Who did you meet?

19 A. When I arrived at Masiaka I met - together with my
14:45:23 20 honourable I met Major Johnny Paul Koroma, who was the chairman,
21 I met SAJ Musa, SFY Koroma, Colonel Foday, I met Mike Lamin, Issa
22 Sesay and some other senior commanders, including SO Williams.

23 Q. Now, apart from Mike Lamin and Issa Sesay did you meet any
24 other RUF commanders?

14:46:02 25 A. Yes, my Lord.

26 Q. Who did you meet?

27 A. There were some other senior RUF commanders there together
28 with some RUF members, SLAs and other ranks. They were all there
29 at Masiaka.

1 Q. Do you recall their names?

2 A. Well, as far as I can recall, those were the most important
3 commanders I saw, but I could say all the troops that moved from
4 Freetown met there.

14:46:41 5 Q. Which were the most important commanders that you are
6 referring to?

7 A. Like Issa Sesay, Major Johnny Paul Koroma who was the head,
8 SO Williams, SFY Koroma, including Superman, he too was there.

9 Q. Witness, Superman, is he known by any other name?

14:47:13 10 A. Yes, my Lord.

11 Q. What was his other name?

12 A. Denis Mingo.

13 Q. And which group did he belong to?

14 A. Well, he's a member of the RUF.

14:47:34 15 Q. Did you know him during the junta period?

16 A. Yes, my Lord.

17 Q. To your knowledge did he have any position during the junta
18 period?

19 A. Yes, Superman was one of the members of the council, the
14:47:54 20 AFRC council.

21 Q. Witness, at this time did you know where Alex Tamba Brima
22 was, Gullit? Did you know where he was?

23 A. Yes, my Lord.

24 Q. How did you know where he was?

14:48:17 25 A. Well, when I arrived at Masiaka, Cobra - yes, Jungler, who
26 was Samuel Kargbo, and the other honourable that I named,
27 honourable Ibrahim Sesay, came from Kono, they came and told
28 Johnny Paul in my presence that Gullit had withdrawn from Kono
29 and had gone to the Kailahun axis. So that was the reason they

1 came when they heard that they had dislodged AFRC from the
2 Freetown, so they came to get the chairman to go.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, I notice that you're using
4 the word "axis" frequently. What do you mean by "axis"?

14:49:15 5 THE WITNESS: Well, it is the area that they covered, the
6 terrain.

7 THE INTERPRETER: Correction, interpreter, your Honour.
8 The name the witness mentioned was not Ibrahim Sesay, but Ibrahim
9 Bioh Sesay.

14:49:39 10 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Bioh is spelt B-I-O-H:

11 Q. Witness, when answering the Presiding Judge's question you
12 said "it is the area that they covered, the terrain". What do
13 you mean by that? The area that who covers, that you referred to
14 as axis?

14:50:06 15 A. Well, the area where Gullit was, because it's a military
16 term.

17 Q. What does it mean? You said it's a military term, what
18 does it mean in military language?

19 A. The terrain is the area - I mean the area where you are
14:50:35 20 familiar with, it's your area of assignment.

21 Q. At this time now in Masiaka, do you know who was in command
22 of the men in Masiaka?

23 A. Yes, my Lord.

24 Q. Who?

14:51:00 25 A. Johnny Paul Koroma was still in charge of the command.

26 Q. And he was in charge of the command of which groups?

27 A. The RUF and the SLA.

28 Q. Did anything happen in Masiaka while you were there?

29 A. Yes, my Lord.

1 Q. What happened?

2 A. Well, Johnny Paul went over the international media and
3 declared Operation Pay Yourself.

4 Q. How do you know this?

14:51:42 5 A. Well, this happened in my presence and then during the
6 broadcast everybody had a radio, because he was questioned where
7 he was, because according to Robin White he said Johnny Paul had
8 left Freetown so he had wanted to know where he was. So Johnny
9 Paul responded and said he was still based in the peninsula and
14:52:14 10 at the time he was not having money to pay the soldiers, so he
11 declared Operation Pay Yourself.

12 Q. Did Johnny Paul explain what Operation Pay Yourself was?

13 A. Like I have said, he said he was not - he was no longer in
14 power and he was not having money to pay, so the fighters should
14:52:40 15 go around and loot and take whatever they had wanted which was
16 valuable to them.

17 Q. Did he say what the fighters could loot?

18 A. Well, according to Operation Pay Yourself, at the time he
19 said he was not having money so they could loot whatever they
14:53:04 20 could see, money, or whatever they could see, from the civilians.

21 Q. What, if anything, happened after the announcement of
22 Operation Pay Yourself?

23 A. Well, after Operation Pay Yourself that was declared by
24 Johnny Paul, at the moment when myself and the others started
14:53:32 25 moving from Masiaka, to Makeni, to Lunsar, it was a continuous
26 looting spree from the civilians. Vehicles were looted and so
27 many other things happened.

28 Q. Who was looting from the civilians?

29 A. Even myself sitting here, between my God and myself I

1 participated in the looting and some other RUF members as well.
2 Everybody was looting.

3 Q. Now, you've said many other things happened. What else
4 happened?

14:54:16 5 A. Well, at the time so many soldiers hadn't the opportunity
6 to get a vehicle so they snatched vehicles from civilians, both
7 the RUF and - the SLA and the RUFs. So they captured some
8 civilians to tote loads for them to Makeni, so it was a
9 continuous withdrawal process.

14:54:49 10 Q. Witness, what if anything did Johnny Paul Koroma do after
11 making this announcement for Operation Pay Yourself?

12 A. He left Masiaka and moved towards Makeni. He said he was
13 going to his village, Magbonkinah.

14 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, if I can spell that,

14:55:20 15 M-A-G-B-O-N-K-I-N-E-H:

16 Q. Witness, where is Magbonkinah located?

17 A. Magbonkinah is in the Bombali District going towards
18 Binkolo - sorry, after Binkolo.

19 MS ALAGENDRA: Binkolo is spelt B-I-N-K-O-L-O:

14:55:46 20 Q. "He said he was going to his village". Do you know where
21 he went?

22 A. Well, I only knew finally when Hassan Papa Bangura and
23 Ibrahim Bioh left and started searching for where the chairman
24 went to.

14:56:14 25 Q. While you were in Masiaka did anything else happen, apart
26 from Operation Pay Yourself?

27 A. Yes, my Lord.

28 Q. What happened?

29 A. Well Colonel Boissy Palmer came together with AF Kamara,

1 who was the then resident minister of the south, and said most
2 AFRC and RUF members in Bo were trapped because they'd made a
3 hasty withdrawal. So, their family members were there and so
4 they wanted a team to rescue them.

14:56:58 5 Q. Witness, when you say Bo, are you referring to Bo District?

6 A. Yes, my Lord, Bo District, but it was in Bo Town itself.
7 There most of the AFRC and RUF members had their families when
8 the troops left Freetown.

9 Q. What happened after AF Kamara said that?

14:57:31 10 A. Well, we were reorganised. I joined AF Kamara, together
11 with Issa Sesay, together with Boissy Palmer, and we moved
12 towards Bo Town and rescued those people in Bo. The junta and
13 the AFRC people who were trapped there, we came with them.

14 Q. You came with them where?

14:57:58 15 A. Well, Masiaka. We brought them to Masiaka. 91 coming to
16 Masiaka.

17 Q. When you say 91, what are you referring to?

18 A. It is a town. It's about 91 miles to Freetown, so they
19 call there Mile 91.

14:58:23 20 Q. Did you go anywhere from Masiaka?

21 A. Yes. When I arrived I joined Hassan Papa Bangura, together
22 with Bazy. We left Masiaka and head towards Lunsar.

23 Q. And from Lunsar did you go anywhere?

24 A. Yes, we finally arrived in Makeni.

14:58:51 25 Q. Did anything happen on the way from Masiaka to Lunsar?

26 A. Well, yes.

27 Q. What happened?

28 A. In Lunsar I met, together with Hassan Papa Bangura and
29 Bazy, a lot of looting taking place at the hospital, the schools

1 - a very serious looting by RUF and the SLA. So, we too got a
2 fuel for the vehicle and then moved towards Makeni.

3 Q. Who was looting in Lunsar?

14:59:41

4 A. Well, what I saw with my eyes was a joint operation. It
5 was both the RUF and the SLA that were looting.

6 Q. Did anything happen on the way from Lunsar to Makeni?

7 A. What I saw, I saw a lot of civilians carrying loads for
8 some commanders. I mean the SLA and the RUFs who were
9 withdrawing, they were heading for Makeni.

15:00:09

10 Q. Why were the civilians carrying loads for the RUF and SLA?

11 A. Well, since Johnny Paul had declared Operation Pay
12 Yourself, so whatever load that the forces got, the RUF and the
13 SLA, they gave them to the civilians to carry them.

14 Q. Did the civilians have a choice?

15:00:36

15 A. No, no, no, no, no. There was no choice making because
16 they were under gunpoint, so they were not even in position to
17 talk.

18 Q. When you went to Makeni, how long did you stay there?

15:01:08

19 A. Well, in Makeni I spent - the time I spent together with
20 Hassan Papa Kamara [sic] and Bazy was about two days in Makeni.

21 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I think it's Hassan Papa
22 Bangura.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think it is.

24 THE INTERPRETER: Correction, interpreter. Bangura.

15:01:27

25 Hassan Papa Bangura.

26 MS ALAGENDRA:

27 Q. Witness, during the two days that you were in Makeni did
28 anything happen there?

29 A. Yes, my Lord.

1 Q. What happened?

2 A. Well, it was in Makeni that the Operation Pay Yourself
3 actually manifested itself. I saw with my eyes myself Ibrahim
4 Bazy Kamara and Hassan Papa, we went to a bank in Makeni, we
15:01:54 5 broke into the bank and got some money from the safe. And also
6 we saw RUF members, SLAs and captured civilians. They broke into
7 people's shops and they looted food and so many other items and
8 they moved.

9 Q. At this time were there any senior commanders present in
15:02:18 10 Makeni?

11 A. Well on my arrival in Makeni, yes, Issa Sesay was there,
12 Ibrahim Bazy Kamara was there and some other senior commanders.

13 Q. At this time where was Superman?

14 A. Well actually we met Superman in Makeni, but he left us
15:02:42 15 there and then he headed for Kabala.

16 Q. Witness, where is Kabala?

17 A. Kabala is in the Koinadugu District.

18 Q. After the two days in Makeni, did you go anywhere?

19 A. Yes, my Lord. I left together with Hassan Papa Bangura and
15:03:05 20 Ibrahim Bazy towards Binkolo, but we had a breakdown and then
21 Ibrahim Bazy Kamara moved ahead of us. We finally arrived in
22 Kabala.

23 Q. When you arrived in Kabala, did you meet anybody?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

15:03:29 25 Q. Who did you meet?

26 A. Well on my arrival in Kabala I met Superman in Kabala and
27 SAJ Musa also was in Kabala, but we did not see Johnny Paul
28 Koroma.

29 Q. What, if anything, happened when you got to Kabala?

1 A. Well after my arrival in Kabala together with Hassan Papa
2 Bangura, SAJ Musa convened an immediate meeting. He called on
3 all the senior commanders of the RUF and the SLA and also the
4 other ranks to report so that he will discuss with them the next
15:04:19 5 plans ahead.

6 Q. How do you know about this meeting?

7 A. Well I went there myself, together with Hassan Papa
8 Bangura, at the site of the meeting where SAJ Musa was talking.

9 Q. You were at the site of the meeting, but did you attend the
15:04:41 10 meeting?

11 A. Well, yes. When I said "meeting site" I meant I was in the
12 meeting, because all other commanders including the men were all
13 in the meeting.

14 Q. SAJ Musa said he would discuss with the commanders the next
15:05:01 15 plans ahead. Did he say anything else?

16 A. Well when the meeting took place, all commanders had come,
17 junior commanders and the other men, SAJ said, "Gentlemen, now
18 the ECOMOG have pushed us out of Freetown and now we've got an
19 information that Gullit had withdrawn from Kono. So it would be
15:05:35 20 good for us, the troops, together with the RUF combined forces,
21 to go back and recapture Kono so Kono will serve as a strong
22 base, since it was a diamondiferous area, and we will serve as a
23 force to reckon with by the Government of Sierra Leone and the
24 international community."

15:05:58 25 Q. Did he say anything else?

26 A. Well after that he said that the troops must be prepared,
27 because the meeting did not stay - stay for a long time because
28 the commanders were all asked to go out and prepare their men.

29 Q. How did the meeting end?

1 A. Well the meeting ended in a situation wherein Hassan Papa
2 Bangura, Superman were asked to go and reorg their men, so --

3 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness is going too
4 fast for the interpreter's pace.

15:07:01 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreters are trying
6 to keep up with you. Can you please speak a little more slowly
7 to allow them to interpret as you go along. I'll put my hand
8 down if I think you're going too quickly.

9 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord.

15:07:20 10 MS ALAGENDRA:

11 Q. Witness, can you repeat your answer as to how the meeting
12 ended?

13 A. The meeting ended in a situation wherein SAJ Musa said that
14 Superman and Hassan Papa Bangura should mobilise both forces, the
15:07:41 15 RUF and the SLA, in preparation for an advance on Kono.

16 Q. Did anything else happen while you were in Kabala?

17 A. Yes, my Lord.

18 Q. What happened?

19 A. Well myself, Hassan Papa Bangura and the other soldiers who
15:08:06 20 were with him and those who were with Superman, Denis Mingo, they
21 all mounted the radio sets and then they got in touch with
22 Mosquito. So, Mosquito told him that he should ensure that he go
23 to Binkolo and bring the chairman safely.

24 Q. How do you know about this communication?

15:08:49 25 A. Well, this communication took place in my presence and in
26 Superman's response you will know that Mosquito was asking him
27 where the chairman was and then he said, "Please, sir, he is in
28 his village close to Binkolo, but SAJ Musa has now mobilised
29 men." Myself, together with Papa, he said we should go now to

1 collect the chairman from Binkolo and to head towards Kono.

2 Q. Witness, when you say "the chairman" who are you referring
3 to?

4 A. Well, I was talking about Major Johnny Paul Koroma.

15:09:33 5 Q. When you say Papa who are you referring to?

6 A. Hassan Papa Bangura.

7 Q. Do you know where Mosquito was at the time of this
8 communication?

9 A. Yes, my Lord.

15:09:52 10 Q. How do you know where he was?

11 A. Well, like I said earlier, during the withdrawal we heard
12 information that, after Gullit had withdrawn to Kono, Mosquito
13 also withdrew from Kenema and he went to Kailahun and he was
14 based in Buedu.

15:10:28 15 Q. Witness, what, if anything, happened after this
16 communication?

17 A. Well, just after the communication the convoy got ready for
18 the advance towards Binkolo where Major Johnny Paul Koroma was
19 based.

15:10:50 20 Q. What happened after you got ready?

21 A. Well, later myself, together with Hassan Papa Bangura,
22 SAJ Musa, Superman and other commanders, including junior and
23 senior commanders of the RUF, we all left Kabala with a heavy
24 convoy and moved towards Binkolo where Johnny Paul was based.

15:11:22 25 Q. Did you arrive in Binkolo?

26 A. Yes, my Lord. We arrived in Binkolo and we went to
27 Magbonkineh, the village where Johnny Paul was resting, that is
28 his home village.

29 Q. What happened when you got there to Magbonkineh?

1 A. Well, when we arrived we met Johnny Paul Koroma and his
2 wife Makuta, we met CSO Rambo, Moses Kabia, Jungler also was with
3 him there, Akim Turay, we met him there, Captain Akim Turay. We
4 met them all there and his entire family.

15:12:14 5 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Makuta is spelt M-A-K-U-T-A.
6 Akim Turay, A-K-I-M T-U-R-A-Y, and just to spell again Moses
7 Kabia, Kabia is K-A-B-I-A:

8 Q. Witness, Akim Turay, who is he?

9 A. Akim Turay was a member of the Sierra Leone Army. He was a
15:12:50 10 captain and a member of the Sierra Leone Army.

11 Q. What happened when you met JPK and all these people there?

12 A. Well, on our arrival there Johnny Paul also reinforced what
13 SAJ Musa said and he said now the troop should prepare to move
14 towards Kono since Kono was a diamondiferous area and we should
15:13:24 15 go and establish a strong junta base in Kono.

16 Q. Did you leave Magbonkineh?

17 A. Yes, my Lord. We left Magbonkineh and we moved towards
18 Makeni.

19 Q. Who moved towards Makeni?

15:13:53 20 A. Myself together with Johnny Paul and his family, Superman
21 and all others who were among that troop. We all moved towards
22 Makeni.

23 Q. When you got to Makeni did you meet anybody there?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

15:14:16 25 Q. Who did you meet?

26 A. Well, in Makeni we met Issa Sesay, we met Morris Kallon, we
27 met Five-Five, Santigie Borbor Kanu and other senior commanders.
28 We also meant Colonel Avivo, Avivo Kamara, who was the deputy
29 defence minister for the AFRC.

1 MS ALAGENDRA: Spelt A-V-I-V-O. Kamara, K-A-M-A-R-A:

2 Q. At this time when you arrived in Makeni do you know who was
3 the overall commander in Makeni for the SLA and the RUF?

15:15:11

4 A. Well, on arrival Major Johnny Paul Koroma was the commander
5 for the troops who got there, the RUF and the SLA.

6 Q. Before he arrived do you know who was the commander in
7 Makeni?

15:15:30

8 A. Well, when we arrived there it was Issa Sesay who was the
9 commander that we met there. He was the overall commander in
10 Makeni.

11 Q. When you arrived in Makeni did anything happen there?

15:16:06

12 A. Yes, Major Johnny Paul Koroma stopped for a short time in
13 Makeni and briefed the troops. He told us, myself, including the
14 SLA and the RUF, that we should move to Kono and then recapture
15 Kono and then establish a strong junta base there against any
16 ECOMOG attacks.

17 Q. Witness, you have said that SAJ Musa and JPK said Kono was
18 a diamondiferous area. What do you mean by that?

15:16:36

19 A. Well, actually Kono is a place where diamond mining go on.
20 That is the reason why any government that comes to power, they
21 will always make sure that Kono is highly protected.

22 Q. What happened after JPK said this?

15:17:14

23 A. Well, after that the troop was reorganised and we arranged
24 a fighting force that was ahead to move with the chairman to
25 Kono. Myself, Hassan Papa Bangura, we were in charge of the SLA,
26 Superman was in charge of the RUF and the convoy left to go to
27 Kono.

28 Q. Witness, who was overall in charge of the group that
29 advanced into Kono?

1 A. Well, Major Johnny Paul Koroma was in charge.

2 Q. Did anything happen on the way?

3 A. Well, on the way we just kept on doing some defensive
4 firing and then we arrived at Matotoka, but there were no enemy
15:18:09 5 forces, but the information we got earlier was that Kamajors were
6 based there. So we left there and moved towards Makali. There
7 also we did not meet any Kamajors. We also left there and moved
8 towards Masingbi and we did not meet Kamajors there also, and
9 then we left there again and moved towards Sewafe.

15:18:38 10 Q. Witness, can you tell the Court what time period you're
11 talking about?

12 A. Well, this was in 1998 after the ECOMOG intervention in
13 Freetown.

14 Q. Where is Sewafe, witness?

15:18:57 15 A. Well, Sewafe is in the Kono District.

16 Q. Can you give us a month in 1998 that this advance into Kono
17 was taking place?

18 A. Well, as far as I can recall that was almost early March,
19 early March at that time, I think, 1998.

15:19:24 20 Q. What happened when you went to Sewafe?

21 A. Well, on our arrival in Sewafe myself, Superman, Hassan
22 Papa Bangura captured the ground, but we did not meet any enemy
23 forces there, so we were waiting for the arrival of the rest,
24 because it was a long convoy and it included even the civilians
15:19:50 25 that we captured in Makeni, they were all there. The vehicles
26 were more than 200. So we arrived in Sewafe and we waited there
27 for the arrival of Johnny Paul Koroma.

28 Q. Did Johnny Paul Koroma arrive?

29 A. Yes, my Lord. When we got there it took only few minutes

1 then he came, so the rest of the convoy came and they met us in
2 the Sewafe village.

3 Q. Witness, how far is Sewafe village from Koidu Town?

4 A. Well, actually it's about 22 miles or so to Koidu Town.

15:20:40 5 Q. Did anything happen when Johnny Paul Koroma and the rest of
6 the convoy arrived in Sewafe?

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. What happened?

9 A. Well, when Johnny Paul arrived he said since we have been
15:20:59 10 getting information that Sewafe was the stronghold for the
11 Kamajors, now that we have arrived there and they are not present
12 there we should burn down the Sewafe village.

13 Q. What happened after Johnny Paul said this?

14 A. Well, myself, together with Superman, Bomb Blast, who is
15:21:21 15 Hassan Papa Bangura, we started setting the houses on fire in
16 Sewafe village.

17 Q. Whose houses were you setting on fire in Sewafe village?

18 A. Well, they were civilian houses in the Sewafe village.
19 Those were the ones we set fire on. So as that went on, as the
15:21:43 20 houses started burning the convoy went ahead and we left Sewafe
21 village.

22 Q. Where did the convoy go to after Sewafe village?

23 A. We left - I left together with Superman, Johnny Paul Koroma
24 and the entire convoy to Bumpe Town.

15:22:10 25 Q. Did anything happen when you arrived in Bumpe Town?

26 A. Well, when I arrived in Bumpe Town, together with Superman
27 and Hassan Papa Bangura, Bumpe never had any military target, so
28 we moved directly towards Koidu Town.

29 Q. Did you arrive at Koidu Town?

1 A. Well, close to Koidu Town, around Five-Five Spot, we
2 encountered a heavy attack and those were the Kamajors that
3 attacked. It was the Kamajors who attacked the troops, the troop
4 that we brought.

15:23:01 5 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honour, I think the place he's
6 referring to is Five-Five Spot, not Five-Five's Spot.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I think it is Five-Five Spot. The
8 record will be adjusted in due course.

9 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Of course, Ms Alagenda, is the
15:23:26 10 assumption that we know who Kamajors are?

11 MS ALAGENDRA:

12 Q. Witness, when you say Kamajors who are you talking about?

13 A. Well, this was a militia force that the SLPP put together
14 to fight against the AFRC and the RUF troops in Freetown and the
15:23:47 15 other districts.

16 Q. Now, what happened after the Kamajors attacked you at
17 Five-Five Spot?

18 A. Well, we hastily withdrew back to Bumpe.

19 Q. When you got back to Bumpe who was there amongst the
15:24:09 20 commanders?

21 A. Well, when I arrived in Bumpe, because the vehicle I was
22 riding on, Issa Sesay was there, SAJ Musa was there, Johnny Paul
23 himself was in Bumpe.

24 Q. Was there a point when Johnny Paul Koroma left Bumpe?

15:24:32 25 A. Well immediately they saw us who was in the advance team,
26 they saw us come to Bumpe, Johnny Paul withdrew, and that was the
27 time Issa Sesay took out his pistol and shot one of the soldiers
28 and he said they should go back to recapture Koidu Town. That
29 was when myself, Kumba Gbundema, who was an RUF commander, Rambo,

1 who was Rambo for the RUF and he was also an RUF commander - I am
2 not talking about the SLA Rambo - Hassan Papa Bangura and
3 Superman, we moved back and we recaptured Koidu Town.

4 Q. Witness, where did Johnny Paul go to when he left Bumpe?

15:25:26

5 A. Well, in my presence they moved towards Masingbi. They
6 said they will move a little to go towards Masingbi and then
7 after the troops recapture Koidu Town then they will come.

8 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Komba Gbundema is spelt
9 K-O-M-B-A and Gbundema is spelt correctly on the record:

15:25:54

10 Q. Witness, after Johnny Paul Koroma left Bumpe, who was the
11 overall commander in Bumpe?

12 A. Well after Johnny Paul left it was Issa Sesay, and it was
13 Issa Sesay who said we should advance and then Superman will
14 serve as our own head; those of us who were going to recapture

15:26:19

15 Koidu.

16 Q. Now, you have referred to RUF Rambo. Did you know if he
17 had any other name?

18 A. This guy was a Liberian. Actually I don't know his name,
19 but that was the name by which we all called him, Rambo. He was
20 actually one of the senior commanders in the RUF.

15:26:41

21 Q. Now, you have said that the group that moved forward
22 captured Koidu Town. Who was in command in Koidu Town after it
23 was captured?

24 A. Well, it was Superman who led us. Even though Hassan Papa
25 Bangura was present, but it was Superman who was the commander
26 when we captured Koidu Town.

15:27:13

27 Q. What, if anything, did Superman do after Koidu Town was
28 captured?

29 A. Well, after that Superman did say that he was now going

1 back to check in Masingbi and Bumpe to see whether we could now
2 get Johnny Paul to follow us.

3 Q. What did he do after he said that?

4 A. Well Superman left Koidu Town and went, whilst we were
15:27:55 5 based in the town there and we took defensive positions.

6 Q. When you say you took defensive positions, what do you
7 mean?

8 A. Well at that time myself and the other men with whom we
9 captured Koidu Town, we erected strategic guard posts in various
15:28:25 10 areas so that we could repel any further enemy attacks.

11 Q. What happened when Superman left to go in search of Johnny
12 Paul?

13 A. Well, later Superman returned after some hours. He came
14 back and said that he went as far as Masingbi but he could not
15:28:54 15 get Johnny Paul Koroma, so he came back and informed us, myself,
16 Hassan Papa Bangura and others. He informed us that it would be
17 good for us to reorganise and form a team to go back to Makeni to
18 see whether we could get Johnny Paul Koroma to bring him over.

19 Q. What happened after he said that?

15:29:19 20 A. Well, we reorganised. We got a team, including Hassan Papa
21 Bangura, myself and Superman, and then we moved back from Koidu
22 Town and went towards Makeni.

23 Q. Did you meet anybody when you arrived in Makeni?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

15:29:41 25 Q. Who did you meet?

26 A. Well, Issa Sesay was there. We also met Colonel Avivavo.
27 He was also present together with some other commanders.

28 Q. From Makeni did you go anywhere else?

29 A. Yes, my Lord.

1 Q. Where did you go?

2 A. Well from Makeni we left, we went towards Kabala and when
3 we got to Kabala we met SAJ Musa.

4 Q. Who did you go to Kabala with?

15:30:24 5 A. Myself, Hassan Papa Bangura, Superman and, like I said,
6 with the other colleagues. We had two vehicles.

7 Q. Did you meet anybody in Kabala?

8 A. Yes, we went there and we met SAJ Musa in Kabala. We
9 informed him about the recapture of Koidu Town by us, but
10 SAJ Musa's response was now that we had recaptured Koidu Town he
11 is advising that we go back to Magbonkineh and get Johnny Paul
12 Koroma and then he will stay in Kabala and he would defend Kabala
13 and the Koinadugu District. He said we should go to Kono and he
14 would stay in the Koinadugu District. So myself, Superman and
15:31:24 15 Hassan Papa Bangura, we left and we went to Magbonkineh and we
16 met Johnny Paul and others in Magbonkineh.

17 Q. What, if anything, happened after you met Johnny Paul?

18 A. Well, we did not delay there at all. We collected Johnny
19 Paul and others and then we came to Makeni, we got Issa Sesay and
15:31:48 20 others including Morris Kallon and Mike Lamin and then we moved
21 to Koidu Town.

22 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, just to correct the record,
23 when it says "he will defend" it's Kabala and the Koinadugu
24 District:

15:32:25 25 Q. When you returned to Koidu Town, who did you return with?

26 A. Well I was together with Hassan Papa Bangura, Denis Mingo,
27 Johnny Paul Koroma, Issa Sesay, Mike Lamin, Morris Kallon and
28 some other senior commanders whom we met there. Then we left and
29 we went back to Koidu Town.

1 Q. From Koidu Town did the group go anywhere?

2 A. Well when we arrived in Koidu Town we took Johnny Paul
3 towards a village close to Gandorhun, a village located between
4 Woama and Tankoro, but it is a village that leads towards
5 Gandorhun.

15:33:25

6 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Woama is spelt W-O-A-M-A and
7 Tankoro is spelt T-A-N-K-O-R-O:

8 Q. What, if anything, happened when you got to this village?

9 A. Well when we arrived in that village, Johnny Paul also
10 called for an immediate meeting. All of us, the commanders,
11 myself, including Hassan Papa Bangura, Denis Mingo, Issa Sessay,
12 Mike Lamin and all others, were present in that meeting together
13 with some other junior commanders.

15:33:58

14 Q. Did you attend this meeting?

15:34:22

15 A. Yes, my Lord.

16 Q. What happened during this meeting?

17 A. Well, in that meeting Johnny Paul said now that we have
18 seen that the people in Koidu Town, that is Kono, they don't like
19 the junta and that they will go to places and bring the Kamajors
20 to base in Koidu and launch attacks on the junta, he said now he
21 declares that Kono should serve as a strong base for the junta
22 forces and it should be a no go area for civilians. And that as
23 he was leaving we shouldn't encourage civilians and that, if we
24 encouraged them, the civilians will find a way to get them again
25 to come back to town and start fighting against us. So he said
26 we should declare Kono a no go zone for civilians, and then he
27 said we should get some able bodied civilians who will assist us
28 and they will serve as recruits and that we should make sure that
29 we burn down houses in Kono so that people will not be able to

15:34:49

15:35:22

1 base there. He said that now he was leaving and he was now going
2 to Liberia to meet former President Taylor and to see how they
3 could arrange to get logistics to serve as support for us and
4 then he will send them to Kono, because he said since Kono was a
15:36:05 5 diamond infested area --

6 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness go back
7 to the last bit of his testimony?

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: I don't think the witness said "diamond
9 infested", Mr Interpreter.

15:36:20 10 Mr Witness, the interpreter needs you to go over some of
11 your reply. Please pick up where you say that "he ...", and I'm
12 not sure who the "he" is, "... will send them to Kono because he
13 said since Kono was a diamond ...", I think, "... area".
14 Continue from there, please.

15:36:46 15 THE WITNESS: He said Kono was a diamondiferous area and he
16 said we should defend there so that we will let the international
17 community and the government recognise us.

18 MS ALAGENDRA:

19 Q. Witness, when Johnny Paul said you should make Kono a no go
15:37:14 20 area for civilians, did he explain what that meant?

21 A. Well just like I said earlier, he said (1) we shouldn't
22 allow houses to still be erected in Kono, because he said if we
23 allow the civilians to come and base in those houses again they
24 will find ways to fight against us. So, he said we should not
15:37:43 25 allow that to happen.

26 Q. Did he say how --

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Alagenda, there's been a lot of
28 evidence of moving back and forth into different areas and so far
29 I've got no time frame.

1 MS ALAGENDRA:

2 Q. Witness, at this time now, when you were in this village,
3 do you remember when this was?

4 A. Well, as far as I can recall it was around March.

15:38:19 5 Mid-March. It was around that time that this thing happened,
6 1998. Mid-March 1998.

7 Q. Witness, when Johnny Paul said that you should not
8 encourage civilians, what did he mean by that? Do you know?

9 A. Well, like I said, he said that Kono should be a no go zone
15:38:53 10 for civilians. He said it was only able bodied civilians whom we
11 should accept. He said the rest must be executed.

12 Q. Now when he said that he was going to go to Liberia to meet
13 former President Taylor and to see how they would arrange to get
14 logistics to serve as support for us, did he explain what

15:39:25 15 logistics he was referring to?

16 A. Well what he said was that he going to get arms and
17 ammunition and also food and other things, which were all part of
18 the logistics, and all other things that we would need he would
19 try and get them so that we would continue to hold the ground.

15:39:50 20 Q. Did he say anything else in relation to the civilians in
21 Kono?

22 A. Well, just like I said, he said we should allow the able
23 bodied ones in and those ones who were not able bodied ones we
24 should eliminate them.

15:40:13 25 Q. At this meeting in this village, did anybody else say
26 anything?

27 A. Yes, my Lord.

28 Q. Who?

29 A. Well, after Johnny Paul said these things Issa Sesay said

1 that what the chairman has said is something good and that even
2 when they were fighting against us, that was one thing that they
3 used to take to discourage civilians in their positions.

15:40:51 4 Q. When who was fighting against you? When you said "they
5 were fighting against us", who is they?

6 A. When the RUF at that time was fighting against the
7 Government of Sierra Leone.

8 Q. Please proceed, witness.

15:41:18 9 A. He said this was the only way they used to ensure that
10 civilians will not be able to come and base in the town. They
11 will burn down houses, they will make the place - he said
12 civilians were very dangerous, so he was saying that he was
13 supporting the chairman to enforce that operation.

14 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, the testimony I heard the
15:41:37 15 witness saying was that "they will make the place very
16 dangerous".

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, what did the witness say?

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness go over
19 that area for clarification's sake.

15:41:49 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, we've had this
21 conversation, you and I, before. Mr Witness, could you please
22 repeat the last part of your answer? Issa Sesay said certain
23 things, they will make the place - he said for civilians very
24 dangerous. Continue from there, please.

15:42:13 25 THE WITNESS: He said that would discourage them not to
26 come at all, to relocate themselves in the position of the
27 forces. So he said he was in support of what the chairman said.

28 MS ALAGENDRA:

29 Q. Apart from burning down houses did he say anything else in

1 relation to civilians?

2 A. Well, just like I said, to reinforce what the chairman
3 said, he said we should discourage anyone that we knew was not
4 fit for the operations. He said we should execute the person,
15:42:52 5 just as the chairman said. So that was one of the things that
6 reinforced.

7 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, before I proceed further there
8 is a portion in the transcript, for me it's page 106, line 14,
9 the question was, "What, if anything, happened when you arrived
15:43:19 10 in that", it's not complete. The answer was, "Well, we arrived
11 in village", and then there's a dot dot dot. I'm a bit reluctant
12 to proceed until that part is cleared up, your Honour.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I understand that this record is checked
14 and the tape listened to and these matters are picked up
15:43:42 15 overnight.

16 MS ALAGENDRA: Thank you, your Honour, I will proceed:

17 Q. Witness, what, if anything, happened after this meeting?

18 A. Well, after this meeting we moved and we started executing
19 the orders and then Johnny Paul left together with Issa Sesay to
15:44:10 20 go to Gandorhun.

21 Q. When you say you left and started executing the orders,
22 what do you mean?

23 A. Well, like myself, Hassan Papa Bangura and the other
24 members of the squad, together with the RUF, we moved towards the
15:44:31 25 Yardo Road and we met a group of civilians who were coming and
26 then we shot them to death. We executed all of them and we
27 displayed their bodies at the various junctions.

28 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Yardo Road is spelt Y-A-R-D-O:

29 Q. Witness, how many civilians were killed and their bodies

1 displayed?

2 A. Well, actually I'm unable to state the number now, but we
3 opened sporadic firing on them and then we called them - when we
4 stopped we called them, we called them to come closer to us.

15:45:17 5 When they came closer to us we shot at them all and then we
6 displayed their bodies at the various routes around Yardo Road.

7 Q. Was there a reason why their bodies were displayed?

8 A. Yes, my Lord. Like the chairman had said, he said we
9 should create fear so that the others will not come to Koidu

15:45:49 10 Town.

11 Q. Who are the others that you're referring to?

12 A. The other civilians who would want to come and base in
13 Kono.

14 Q. Where did you go to after Yardo Road?

15:46:03 15 A. Well, after Yardo Road the other RUF moved towards Hill
16 Station and then we moved towards Masingbi Road.

17 Q. Witness, Yardo Road --

18 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagendra, is Yardo Road in Kono, in
19 Koidu?

15:46:31 20 MS ALAGENDRA: I was just going to ask that, your Honour.

21 Q. Witness, Yardo Road, where is it?

22 A. In Koidu Town. Just around Opera. The junction is in
23 Koidu Town.

24 Q. What is Opera?

15:46:44 25 A. Well, it's a cinema that is very popular in Koidu. There
26 is a junction with four directions, that is where the cinema is
27 and they call the place Opera. They call it Opera Junction.

28 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Opera is O-P-E-R-A:

29 Q. Masingbi Road, where is it?

1 A. Masingbi Road is also in Koidu Town close to Five-Five
2 Spot. It's just between Masingbi Road and Five-Five Spot.

3 Q. Mr Witness, you said that after Yardo Road the other RUF
4 moved towards his station, or Hill Station?

15:47:33 5 A. Yes, Hill Station. That is in Koidu Town. They moved
6 together. It was a mixed troop that moved towards Hill Station.

7 Q. Is there a particular road in Hill Station that they moved
8 to?

9 A. Well, they went towards the Jagbwema Fiama axis. It was
15:47:58 10 called the Guinea Highway.

11 Q. What happened when you moved to Masingbi Road?

12 A. Well, at Masingbi Road we went there and occupied the
13 houses that were there. So while that was going on I moved
14 towards the Gandorhun axis where there erupted a clash between

15:48:27 15 myself and one RUF. He snatched --

16 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness slow
17 down, please.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: A bit slower, Mr Witness.

19 Mr Interpreter, we don't have all the answer. "He snatched", I
15:48:46 20 didn't hear the rest after that.

21 THE INTERPRETER: Could he kindly repeat that area? He was
22 going too fast.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please pick up where you said
24 "he snatched" and continue.

15:48:56 25 THE WITNESS: Well, the vehicle I was using, a group of RUF
26 came and snatched it from me, so they took it away. So from
27 there I returned to Masingbi Road and informed Hassan Papa
28 Bangura. Immediately we regrouped on board two vehicles and we
29 moved towards Gandorhun.

1 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, just for the Court's

2 information we're looking up the spelling of Jagbwema Fiama:

3 Q. What happened when you moved towards Gandorhun?

4 A. Well, myself, Hassan Papa Bangura and my other colleagues

15:49:45 5 that went, we arrived in Gandorhun and we met Johnny Paul Koroma,

6 Issa Sesay, Morris Kallon, Mike Lamin and Johnny Paul's entire

7 family. They were all waiting. So Hassan Papa Bangura met

8 Johnny Paul, together with myself, and then we talked to Issa and

9 then they told us that the route they wanted to use, that is the

15:50:09 10 motorway, it had a blockage, he said because the Kamajors had

11 occupied Koidu Geiya.

12 Q. What, if anything, happened after that?

13 A. Well, after that Johnny Paul asked us to join the other

14 brothers, the RUF, to go and clear the Koidu Geiya Highway, so

15:50:40 15 that they will use the vehicle to go direct to Kailahun, but we

16 went there, but we lost our support - our support firer, P-Man.

17 He was giving the support behind us, so we couldn't make it. So

18 we retreated back to Gandorhun, so after which we informed Johnny

19 Paul. Issa came and met Johnny Paul and he said, "Please sir,

15:51:01 20 let them use the footway, the bush path, so that they will walk.

21 Since the highway was blocked, they should leave the vehicles

22 behind and then walk to Kailahun."

23 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, the spelling of Jagbwema Fiama

24 is J-A-G-B-W-E-M-A F-I-A-M-A. The spelling for Koidu Geiya,

15:51:31 25 K-O-I-D-U G-E-I-Y-A.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think Jagbwema starts with a "J", not a

27 "G".

28 MS ALAGENDRA: I said "J", your Honour, J-A-G:

29 Q. Witness, can you repeat the name of the support firer?

1 A. P-Man. That was how we used to call him, P-Man.

2 Q. Is it the alphabet "P"?

3 A. Yes, that was his popular name.

4 Q. What happened after Issa suggested that they should use the
15:52:26 5 route and walk to Kailahun?

6 A. Well, at that point in time they made a formation and they
7 started going towards the bush path. I was there myself, Hassan
8 Papa Bangura, Superman, until the whole squad left: The RUF,
9 SLA, together with Johnny Paul Koroma and Issa, they all moved.

10 Q. Are you able to recall some of the names of the people who
11 left together with Johnny Paul and went to Kailahun?

12 A. Yes, my Lord.

13 Q. Can you tell us the names?

14 A. You have Major Johnny Paul Koroma, his wife Makuta, you
15:53:15 15 have Captain Akim Turay, you have Moses Kabia. He was CSO to
16 Johnny Paul. He was also called Rambo. You had Mike Lamin, he
17 also went. You had Issa Sesay, he too went. Morris Kallon too
18 went, he went with them. And also his children, and you had
19 Jungler, that was Samuel Kargbo, honourable Samuel Kargbo, he too
15:53:48 20 went and together with some troops, including the SLA and the
21 RUF. They all escorted the chairman to Kailahun.

22 Q. The group that remained in Gandorhun after this, what did
23 you do?

24 A. Well, myself, Superman, Hassan Papa Bangura, we left
15:54:15 25 Gandorhun together with the other men and then we went back to
26 Koidu Town.

27 Q. Where in Koidu Town did you go to?

28 A. Well we drove directly to Masingbi Road, whilst Superman
29 went to Dabundeh Street where he was based.

1 MS ALAGENDRA: Dabundeh is spelt D-A-B-U-N-D-E-H:

2 Q. When you got back to Masingbi Road, did you meet anybody?

3 A. Yes, my Lord.

4 Q. Who did you meet?

15:55:03 5 A. Well, when I arrived together with Hassan Papa Bangura we
6 met Ibrahim Bazy Kamara. He also came together with his own
7 men, together with Junior Lion and others.

8 Q. Witness, Junior Lion, does he have any other name?

9 A. Yes, my Lord, he was called George Johnson.

15:55:26 10 Q. Who is he, witness?

11 A. Well, Junior Lion was the chief security at that time to
12 Ibrahim Bazy Kamara.

13 Q. At this time do you know where Santigie Borbor Kanu, who
14 you referred to as Five-Five, was?

15:55:49 15 A. Well, we left him in Makeni. When we came with the
16 chairman, he stayed in Makeni.

17 Q. Now when you got back to Masingbi Road, did anything
18 happen?

19 A. Well at Masingbi Road when Bazy came he restructured the
15:56:20 20 troops, because at that time we were not well organised, and then
21 he did some appointments.

22 Q. What were the appointments that Bazy made?

23 A. Well Bazy, who was the commander for those of us who were
24 now at Masingbi Road, and we also had Hassan Papa Bangura who was
15:56:52 25 the second in command and at the same time operation commander.

26 MS ALAGENDRA: Witness, I am going to stop you there. Your
27 Honour, I heard the witness saying something about SLAs after he
28 described Bazy's position. Can I just ask the witness to
29 repeat:

1 Q. Witness, can you repeat again what were the appointments
2 that Bazzy made and please go slowly?

3 A. Bazzy, he was the commander for the troops who were there
4 that comprised the SLA and the RUF.

15:57:28 5 Q. Who were where?

6 A. Well around the Masingbi Road axis, going towards Njaiama
7 Sewafe, Bumpe, Yengema, Tombodu and some other strategic areas in
8 that area.

9 Q. And you are talking about an appointment that was given to
15:57:58 10 Hassan Papa Bangura. What was that?

11 A. He was the deputy commander and the operations commander.

12 Q. Did he make any other appointments.

13 A. Yes, Foday Kallay became the deputy operations commander.

14 Q. Did he make any other appointments?

15:58:28 15 A. Yes, my Lord.

16 Q. What were they?

17 A. Well, some other appointments were made like military
18 supervisors and battalion commanders.

19 Q. When you say military supervisors, what is the
15:58:46 20 responsibility of military supervisors?

21 A. Well mostly they, together with the operations commander,
22 will move to the various battalions and supervise and see how
23 things were fairing on.

24 Q. Do you recall the names of some of the military supervisors
15:59:13 25 that were appointed by Bazzy?

26 A. Yes, my Lord.

27 Q. Can you tell the Court some of the names?

28 A. You had supervisor Franklyn Conteh, who was called Woyoh.
29 He was one of the supervisors. You had Idriisa Kamara. He was

1 also one of the supervisors.

2 Q. Did he have any other name? Idrissa Kamara, did he have
3 any other name?

4 A. I want to remain with that name.

15:59:59 5 Q. Witness, to get that clear, did he have another name that
6 you don't want to mention?

7 A. Yes, my Lord. He has another name, my Lord.

8 Q. Do you know that name?

9 A. Yes, my Lord.

16:00:16 10 Q. Can you tell the Court that name?

11 A. My Lord, that man has a responsible position now in the
12 government. For security reasons I don't want to.

13 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, can I ask that the witness
14 perhaps be permitted to write down the name?

16:02:16 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Alagenda, we're not clear what the
16 security issue is here. We've been given the name of the person
17 and we understand the witness to have said that the person is
18 with the government, but it doesn't follow what security issue is
19 involved.

16:02:39 20 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, if I can ask the witness to
21 explain that better:

22 Q. Witness, can you explain to the Court what is the reason
23 that you do not want to mention this person's other name? You've
24 said for security reasons and the Court is not clear what you are
16:02:56 25 talking about. Can you be any clearer?

26 A. Well, like I said, this person, we all fought together, but
27 now he's been sent out he has gone to train and he is serving in
28 the close protection to the President, so I have some fear
29 because of security concern.

1 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: But, Mr Witness, you've already told us
2 the real name of this person, which is Idrissa Kamara, correct?
3 Or is Idrissa Kamara a pseudonym?

4 THE WITNESS: No, it is because the nickname is more
16:03:40 5 popular than this name. If I call the nickname now it is - that
6 nickname is more common.

7 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, with the permission of the
8 Court if I can ask the witness to write the name?

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah?

16:03:59 10 MR ANYAH: Of course we remain in the Court's hands, but of
11 course I will oppose that he write the name. I don't think the
12 witness is saying that revealing the name compromises this
13 particular witness's security. We are in open session and the
14 presumption is that the evidence will be public. If he's saying
16:04:13 15 that it compromises the other fellow's security, that does not
16 provide a basis upon which to conceal the name.

17 Perhaps the witness is confused in one sense. It could be
18 he thinks he's being asked to give the person's current nickname.
19 If the person is a close protection officer, for example, and he
16:04:34 20 has a current nickname which if revealed would blow his cover
21 then that's one issue, but if it's a nickname that this person
22 had during the conflict seven or eight years ago, or however long
23 it was, I don't see why he should not say it in open court.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: We are not prepared to accede to this
16:06:48 25 request. The person was known by a name for a period of time and
26 we have no grounds other than something said by the witness that
27 shows that there is an issue of security. Therefore, the name is
28 to be announced in open court - to be given in open court.

29 MS ALAGENDRA:

1 Q. Witness, did you hear the order from the Presiding Judge?

2 A. I did not get that clearly.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: You have to answer the question now in
4 the Court; the question you have been asked.

16:07:31 5 MS ALAGENDRA:

6 Q. Witness, do you want me to repeat the question?

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Please do. Please do.

8 MS ALAGENDRA:

9 Q. Witness, you have mentioned the name Idrissa Kamara as one
16:07:44 10 of the military supervisors appointed and you've told the Court
11 that he goes by another name, or he went by another name. Can
12 you tell the Court what that name was?

13 A. Leather Boot.

14 Q. Can you give us the names of the other military
16:08:05 15 supervisors?

16 A. You had supervisor Ibrahim Bi oh Sesay.

17 Q. Any more?

18 A. Supervisor Abdul Sesay.

19 Q. Any more?

16:08:29 20 A. And supervisor Momoh Bangura, aka Momoh Derty.

21 Q. Do you recall any more names of military supervisors?

22 A. Adams. Supervisor Adams.

23 Q. What was his rank?

24 A. They were all colonels. All of these ones I have called
16:09:01 25 were colonels.

26 Q. And what was the function of the military supervisors?

27 A. Well, mostly they went to supervise the various battalions
28 that were in the Kono District.

29 Q. How many battalions were there in the Kono District?

1 A. Well, we had different battalions located in strategic
2 positions.

3 Q. Can you name some of the locations?

16:09:53

4 A. We had Lieutenant Tito who was in Yengema. We had
5 Lieutenant Amara Kallay. He was in Bumpe.

6 Q. Witness, Lieutenant Tito, that is spelt T-I-T-O, did he
7 have any other name?

8 A. No, we used to call him Tito.

9 Q. Which group did he belong to?

16:10:24

10 A. He was an SLA.

11 Q. You said he was a battalion commander in Yengema?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Did he have a deputy battalion commander?

14 A. Yes, my Lord, he had an SLA deputy battalion commander.

16:10:38

15 Q. And the men under his command, which groups did they belong
16 to?

17 A. He had SLAs and RUF.

18 Q. You mentioned Lieutenant Amara Kallay who was a battalion
19 commander in Bumpe?

16:11:00

20 A. Yes, my Lord. Yes, my Lord.

21 Q. Which group did he belong to?

22 A. He was a member of the SLA.

23 Q. Did he have a deputy battalion commander?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

16:11:15

25 Q. Which group did he belong to?

26 A. He had an RUF who served as deputy to him.

27 Q. Do you remember the person's name?

28 A. No, no, no, I can't recall.

29 Q. The men under his command, which groups did they belong to?

1 A. He had both SLA and the RUF.

2 Q. Witness, do you know any other battalion commanders and
3 where they were located?

4 A. Yes. He had a battalion commander who was living around
16:11:56 5 the Sewafe bridge in Sewafe. He was called Lieutenant Mosquito.

6 Q. Which group did he belong to?

7 A. He was an SLA.

8 Q. Now, previously you've spoken about Sam Bockarie having
9 another name: Mosquito. Is this the same person?

16:12:18 10 A. No, my Lord.

11 Q. You said Lieutenant Mosquito was an SLA?

12 A. Yes, my Lord.

13 Q. Did he have a deputy battalion commander?

14 A. Yes, my Lord, he had an RUF who served as deputy to him.

16:12:37 15 Q. Do you remember the person's name?

16 A. No, no, no, I can't recall.

17 Q. The men under his command, do you know which groups they
18 belonged to?

19 A. Yes, he had SLAs and RUF under his command.

16:12:55 20 Q. Were there any other battalion commanders that were
21 appointed?

22 A. Yes, my Lord.

23 Q. Can you tell the Court, please?

24 A. We also had a commander in Tombodu.

16:13:13 25 Q. What was his name?

26 A. Lieutenant Savage, Mohamed Savage.

27 Q. Which group did he belong to?

28 A. He was an SLA.

29 Q. Did he have any other name, witness?

1 A. Well, yes, my Lord.

2 Q. What was it?

3 A. He was called Changa Bulanga and later he was called
4 Mr Die.

16:13:47 5 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Changa Bulanga is spelt
6 C-H-A-N-G-A B-U-L-A-N-G-A:

7 Q. Witness, why was Lieutenant Mohamed Savage called Changa
8 Bulanga?

9 A. Well, he was a man very good at using machete. He was very
16:14:11 10 good at amputating people.

11 Q. What does Changa Bulanga mean?

12 A. Well, that was the interpretation given to us, that it was
13 somebody who was good at using machete, at amputating people.

14 Q. When did he get that name?

16:14:38 15 A. When we got to Kono and as he was serving as commander in
16 Tombodu, that was the time he had the name Changa Bulanga.

17 Q. Did he have a deputy?

18 A. Yes, my Lord.

19 Q. Do you know who the person was?

16:15:00 20 A. We had - he had Staff Alhaji who served as deputy to him in
21 Tombodu.

22 Q. Which group was Staff Alhaji from?

23 A. He was an SLA.

24 Q. The men who were under the command of Lieutenant Mohamed
16:15:21 25 Savage, which group did they belong to?

26 A. They were SLA and RUF.

27 Q. Were there any other battalion commanders appointed by
28 Bazy?

29 A. Yes. You had another one, Junior, Captain Junior - sorry,

1 Lieutenant Junior.

2 Q. Where was he based?

3 A. Jagbwema Fiama village.

4 Q. Which group did he belong to?

16:15:57 5 A. He was an SLA.

6 Q. Did he have a deputy?

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. Do you know who the person was?

9 A. He was an RUF.

16:16:10 10 Q. Do you remember --

11 A. I don't know his name, but he was an RUF. He was there as
12 deputy.

13 Q. The men who were under his command, do you know which group
14 they belonged to?

16:16:21 15 A. Yes, my Lord.

16 Q. Which group?

17 A. He was a member - they were members of the RUF and the SLA.

18 Q. Were there any other battalion commanders that were
19 appointed that you recall?

16:16:37 20 A. Well, the areas I am talking about, those are our own
21 areas, so those were the battalion commanders. There were some
22 other battalion commanders in the other various points where
23 Superman was serving.

24 Q. We'll come to that, witness. Witness, what you've told us
16:17:00 25 about the appointments made by Bazzy, how do you know this?

26 A. Well, I was a member of the brigade and I was with the
27 operations commander and I knew about the appointments that he
28 made, and they did it in my presence.

29 Q. Witness, you've just told the Court about battalion

1 commanders in the other various points where Superman was
2 serving. Who appointed those battalion commanders?

3 A. Well, this was also an appointment that came from Superman
4 for the other various areas that they were to occupy.

16:17:53 5 Q. How do you know that?

6 A. Well, after Bazzy had made the appointments, myself, Hassan
7 Papa Bangura, moved to Superman and then we presented his and
8 then Superman also showed his own appointment that he made in his
9 own battalion in the various points.

16:18:15 10 Q. Who did he show it to?

11 A. Well, in my presence he showed it to Bazzy - Ibrahim Bazzy
12 Kamara and also Hassan Papa Bangura and I was also present when
13 he disclosed it.

14 Q. What were the appointments that Superman made?

16:18:36 15 A. Well, he was the chief in command for the whole Kono
16 District. He had RUF Rambo, he was the deputy operations
17 commander and he also acted as battalion commander in Gandorhun.

18 Q. Witness, you've said that Rambo was deputy operations
19 commander, for which area?

16:19:14 20 A. Well, he was the deputy operations commander for the RUF
21 around that axis.

22 Q. Which axis?

23 A. The entire Gandorhun Highway and going towards the Koindu
24 Geiya axis.

16:19:37 25 Q. And who was he deputy to --

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just a moment, Ms Alagendra, you referred
27 to Rambo and I think the witness referred to RUF Rambo and, if I
28 recall, there is a difference.

29 MS ALAGENDRA: There is, your Honour:

1 Q. Witness, I am talking about RUF Rambo.

2 A. Yes, my Lord.

3 Q. You said he was the deputy operations commander?

4 A. Yes, my Lord.

16:20:05 5 Q. For which area?

6 A. Well, he was within the RUF operational areas, areas that
7 were mostly covered by the RUF, the Gandorhun axis up to the
8 Koindu Geiya axis.

9 Q. And who was he deputising?

16:20:28 10 A. Well, it was Superman who was the boss.

11 Q. Was there an operations commander?

12 A. Well, Superman was also the chief in command and director
13 of operations.

14 Q. Do you know what other appointments Superman made?

16:21:01 15 A. Yes. Isaac Mongor, he made him battlefield and artillery
16 commander.

17 Q. Witness, who is Isaac Mongor?

18 A. Isaac Mongor was an RUF.

19 Q. Now, during the junta period did you know Isaac Mongor?

16:21:29 20 A. Yes, he was also member of the AFRC council.

21 Q. Now, in this structure that Superman has appointed, who was
22 Isaac Mongor reporting to?

23 A. Well, he was reporting to Superman.

24 Q. Did he make any other appointments?

16:21:56 25 A. Yes, my Lord.

26 Q. What were they?

27 A. Emmanuel Williams, aka Rocky, was also on the Jagbwema
28 Fima Highway, that's the Guinea Highway.

29 Q. What was his position?

1 A. Well, he was a battalion commander in that area.

2 Q. Did he have a deputy?

3 A. Yes, he had an RUF that deputised him.

4 Q. Do you remember his name?

16:22:34 5 A. No, no, no, my Lord.

6 Q. Were there any other battalion commanders that Superman
7 appointed?

8 A. Yes. He also had Komba Gbundema. He was between Yomandu
9 and Kayima.

16:23:02 10 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, Yomandu is spelt

11 Y-O-M-A-N-D-U. Kayima, K-A-Y-I-M-A:

12 Q. Witness, Komba Gbundema, did he have a deputy battalion
13 commander?

14 A. Yes, my Lord.

16:23:20 15 Q. Do you know who the person was?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Before that, witness, Komba Gbundema, which group did he
18 belong to?

19 A. He was a member of the RUF.

16:23:34 20 Q. And Emmanuel Williams, Rocky, which group did he belong to?

21 A. He was a member of the RUF.

22 Q. Who was the deputy for Komba Gbundema?

23 A. It was Hector Bob Lahai.

24 Q. Did he have a rank?

16:23:55 25 A. Well, he was also a colonel.

26 Q. Did he belong to any group?

27 A. Yes, he was an honourable and he was an SLA.

28 Q. Witness, Emmanuel Williams, also known as Rocky, the men
29 who were under his command, do you know which groups they

1 belonged to?

2 A. Yes, my Lord.

3 Q. Which groups?

4 A. Well, he had the SLA and he also had the RUF.

16:24:26 5 Q. And Komba Gbundema, the men that were under his command,
6 which groups did they belong to?

7 A. Well, he also had SLA and RUF under his command.

8 Q. Were there any other battalion commanders appointed?

9 A. Well, as far as I can recall these are the commanders that
16:24:56 10 I can recall for now.

11 Q. Witness, RUF Rambo, you said he was deputy operations
12 commander, was that correct?

13 A. Yes, yes, my Lord.

14 Q. Did he have any other assignment?

16:25:19 15 A. Yes, he was acting as battalion commander in Gandorhun.

16 Q. Did he have a deputy?

17 A. Yes, he had Lieutenant Bakarr.

18 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I am going to ask the witness
19 to assist us with the spelling:

16:25:46 20 Q. Witness, can you spell Bakarr?

21 A. B-A-K-A-R-R.

22 Q. And which group did Lieutenant Bakarr belong to?

23 A. He was a member of the SLA.

24 Q. And the men that were under his command, RUF Rambo, which
16:26:14 25 groups did they belong to?

26 A. They had an SLA and RUF.

27 Q. Witness, apart from these appointments, do you recall any
28 other appointments made by Superman?

29 A. I can only recall these appointments.

1 Q. Ibrahim Bazy Kamara, who was he reporting to in Kono?

2 A. He reported directly to Superman. Whatever operations we
3 were undertaking we go to Superman.

16:27:05

4 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, I'm noting that we have about
5 three minutes left and I'm moving to a whole new area and so this
6 might be --

16:27:23

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Ms Alagenda, you did ask the witness the
8 men under the command of RUF Rambo and I thought I heard him say
9 "they had SLA and RUF". The answer, however, shows they had "an
10 SLA and RUF". I just want to make sure, did he say "an SLA"?

11 MS ALAGENDRA: Your Honours, with your permission can I
12 repeat the question to the witness, please:

13 Q. Witness, the men under the command of RUF Rambo, which
14 groups did they belong to?

16:27:42

15 A. He had members of the SLA and the RUF.

16 Q. What was the size of a battalion?

17 A. Well, a battalion has four company that makes a battalion.
18 A company in the - according to the American system is about 27,
19 so it's about 120 that forms a battalion, but in the American
20 system it's about a hundred that makes a battalion.

16:28:17

21 Q. In Kono how many made a battalion?

22 A. Well, in some areas you have over 80 men, some had 70, some
23 had more than that.

16:28:42

24 MS ALAGENDRA: Thank you witness. Your Honours, if I may
25 stop here for today.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Ms Alagenda, that would be
27 appropriate. Mr Witness, we are now adjourning until tomorrow
28 morning. I again remind you that you have made a solemn
29 declaration to tell the truth and you should not discuss your

1 evidence with anyone else until all your evidence is finished.

2 Do you understand?

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please adjourn until 9.30 tomorrow.

16:29:08 5 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.30 p.m.
6 to be reconvened on Friday, 18 April 2008 at
7 9.30 a.m.]

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WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:

TF1-334	7859
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MS ALAGENDRA	7859