



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

WEDNESDAY, 17 MARCH 2010
3.00 P. M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Ms Doreen Kiggundu

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura
Ms Zainab Fofanah

For the Prosecution:

Mr Nicholas Koumjian
Mr Mohamed A Bangura
Ms Kathryn Howarth
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC
Mr Terry Munyard
Mr Silas Chekera

1 Wednesday, 17 March 2010

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 3.00 p.m.]

15:01:41 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good afternoon. We'll start with the
6 appearances, please.

7 MR BANGURA: Good afternoon, Madam President, your Honours
8 and counsel opposite. For the Prosecution this afternoon are
9 Nicolas Koumjian, myself Mohamed A Bangura, Ms Kathryn Howarth
10 and Maja Dimitrova. Thank you.

11 MR CHEKERA: Good afternoon, Madam President, your Honours
12 counsel opposite. For the Defence, Courtenay Griffiths QC, Terry
13 Munyard and I, Silas Chekera.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Before you continue with the
15:02:39 15 evidence of DCT-025, Mr Witness, good afternoon. I remind you
16 that you are still under the same oath to tell the truth.

17 WITNESS: DCT-025 [On former oath]

18 MR CHEKERA: When we adjourned yesterday we were in private
19 session. May I request that we revert to private session.

15:03:08 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Of course. Doubtless, this is again for
21 the protection of this witness and others who might be revealed
22 by the information --

23 MR CHEKERA: Yes, Madam President.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: We will go into a brief private session
15:03:23 25 for the protection of the witness - the protected witnesses.

26 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of
27 the transcript, pages 37379 to 37408, was
28 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as
29 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

1 [Open session]

2 MS IRURA: Your Honour, we are in open session.

3 MR BANGURA:

4 Q. Mr Witness, you told this Court that you were at Naama from
16:10:46 5 August 1990 to March 1991, correct?

6 A. Yes, I went to Naama base in 1990.

7 Q. And your description of the camp where you were is that it
8 was different from the barracks, Naama barracks; is that so?

9 A. Yes. But it's the same barracks. Just that that area was
16:11:24 10 down and the other area was up. It's just like a slope going
11 downhill.

12 Q. Now, can you give this Court an idea in terms of distance
13 how far it is between those two locations, the main barracks and
14 the point where you were based?

16:11:43 15 A. Mmm.

16 Q. Walking time, how many minutes would it take you to walk
17 between the two distances?

18 A. I can't tell, because we were restricted not to go up. So
19 I do not know the distance from the barracks to go to the other
16:12:03 20 camp. Whether it was five minutes or ten minutes, I can't tell
21 because we were restricted not to go even up the hill. So I
22 wouldn't be able to tell you whether from here to go up the hill
23 was 10 minutes or 15 minutes. I won't be able to tell you that.

24 Q. It is the case that in fact these two locations were within
16:12:27 25 the same enclosure where they were all within the same perimeter
26 area, fenced within the same area. Is that correct?

27 A. Yes, they were in the same area. They were in the same
28 area, but I do not know about that other side because I had never
29 been there.

1 Q. So in fact this location was part of the Naama barracks
2 itself, Camp Naama. Is that correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. You said Camp Naama at this time was under the control of
16:13:06 5 the NPFL; isn't that so?

6 A. Yes, Naama was under the NPFL control because that was part
7 of Bong County and the whole of Bong County was under the NPFL
8 control.

9 Q. You say you were not allowed to come to the other side of
16:13:25 10 the camp, but did people from that end of the camp - could people
11 from that end of the camp come over to where you were?

12 A. No.

13 Q. To your knowledge, were they aware of your presence in that
14 part of the camp?

16:13:49 15 A. No, I don't know.

16 Q. Now, apart from Sankoh, Pa Morlai, who would make frequent
17 movements in and out of the camp and Pa Kallon and Mammy Iye, did
18 other persons who were in the other side of the camp, did they
19 come sometimes to your part of the camp?

16:14:20 20 A. No.

21 Q. This camp was secured - protected by NPFL fighters. Is
22 that correct? I mean, it was an NPFL camp so it was protected by
23 NPFL fighters. Is that correct?

24 A. Where? Naama? I don't know. Yes, I can say. Yes,
16:14:45 25 because I did not used to go around to see and we were told not
26 to go around, but NPFL were in control of that space.

27 Q. And you've said that your - let me ask you: Who provided
28 the food that you ate at the camp? Do you know?

29 A. They used to bring food. The person that used to bring

1 food for us in the camp were Pa Kallon and Mammy Iye. Those were
2 the two people that used to bring food for us along with
3 Foday Sankoh because he will go for them and they will come to
4 the base with the food and the food would be in the same car when
16:15:39 5 they come.

6 Q. How often did they come with food for you?

7 A. They used to come on time. Sometimes when they come, one
8 week. Sometimes it will be after two weeks before they come with
9 another food.

16:15:56 10 Q. And all of this food was prepared in the camp for the
11 number of trainees there. Is that right?

12 A. Yes. We had an area where they used to store this food in
13 the camp.

14 Q. You said there were about 300 of you in that camp?

16:16:18 15 A. Yes, I think we were about 300 in the camp.

16 Q. And you had three meals a day, 300 of you?

17 A. Sometimes we would eat three times a day; sometimes twice a
18 day. It all depended on the training. Sometimes you will go on
19 the training and stay there all day and when you come late in the
16:16:43 20 day you would eat - you would just eat late once --

21 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
22 repeat this last answer.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Stop and please repeat your answer. You
24 are talking too quickly again. You are saying that sometimes you
16:16:59 25 will go on the training and stay there all day. You come late.
26 Continue from there.

27 THE WITNESS: Yes, I said sometimes we will go on the
28 training base and stay there all day and come back late and when
29 we come back we eat small food and the next morning we would go

1 for PT and we would come back and have our breakfast and go for
2 class.

3 MR BANGURA:

4 Q. And this was your regular - this was a routine, your meal
16:17:29 5 times, this was routine through the whole period you were there
6 in Gbarnga. That is from August '90 through to March of '91,
7 correct?

8 A. Yes, that was how we were living there.

9 Q. And did you know or did you find out who was paying for the
16:17:48 10 meals that you ate at Gbarnga?

11 A. It was Pa Kallon who used to bring the food so I did not
12 know who was providing the food. But they were responsible for
13 that. That was their own area of assignment.

14 Q. Now, in terms of lodging facilities, where did you stay in
16:18:09 15 Gbarnga - at Naama, I'm sorry?

16 A. In the same base where we were training. They had houses
17 there that we used to stay in. We had a whole dormitory there, a
18 flat.

19 Q. And were these like purpose-built facilities for trainees?

16:18:37 20 A. That's the barracks. There were houses there.

21 Q. You talked about the trainers and you mentioned four COs
22 who were trainers. You mentioned Foday Sankoh, CO Mohamed, CO
23 Rashid and I believe - I think Sankoh, Mohamed. Is that correct?
24 Can you help me if you recall the four that you mentioned?

16:19:22 25 A. Yes, I can help you. I told you there was CO Mohamed, CO
26 Rashid, CO Mike Lamin and then Foday Sankoh himself who was the
27 leader. Those were the four people who were there with us
28 training us.

29 Q. In your testimony you also mentioned that when you were

1 prepared to go to Sierra Leone you had a CO Kargbo who was part
2 of the - he was one of the leaders of the group that you were in.
3 Do you recall that?

16:20:02 4 A. Yes, I told you. I said CO Kargbo was the man - he was one
5 of the men who went with that group with us. He was one of the
6 men who went with us. He was a senior officer as well.

7 Q. Was he one of the trainers?

8 A. No, CO Kargbo was not a trainer.

16:20:23 9 Q. You mentioned the name of John Vincent as a trainer at
10 Koindu when you were in Sierra Leone. Was he also a trainer at
11 Naama?

12 A. No. John Vincent was also a recruit like myself at the
13 training base.

14 Q. Now, do you recall who was in charge of the camp in Naama?

16:21:08 15 A. No. All I know was that where we were based, Foday Sankoh
16 was the leader for us there. But whether somebody was specially
17 in charge of the camp to say this person was in charge of the
18 camp, it was only Foday Sankoh whom we knew that was in charge of
19 where we were. He was our leader there.

16:21:32 20 Q. And you said in your earlier testimony that the NPFL was in
21 charge of all of that area - Bong County particularly. Do you
22 know who was the NPFL commander in that area in Bong County?

23 A. No, I was not a member of the NPFL, so I didn't care to
24 know who the commander was. So I do not know the commander who
16:21:58 25 was there.

26 Q. So your evidence is that right through the period of
27 training to the end you had no knowledge of what you were
28 training for and who - and where you were going. Is that right?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. And you never once asked about what the purpose of the
2 training was?

3 A. No, I never asked. I was training. I was training to be a
4 soldier then. All I knew was that I was training to become a
16:22:34 5 soldier, so I did not ask why I was training. I had already
6 planned in my heart to train to be a soldier, so why would I ask
7 what I was training for? I did not ask that question.

8 Q. This was a time when there was fighting. There was war in
9 Liberia. The NPFL were in control of the areas where you were.
16:22:53 10 Correct?

11 A. Please repeat your question. I didn't get it.

12 Q. This was a time when there was war in Liberia and the NPFL
13 were in control of the area where you were, including the camp
14 where you were being trained, correct?

16:23:11 15 A. Yes, at that time there was war in Liberia.

16 Q. And you were being trained as a soldier, not by the NPFL,
17 you say, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you never once asked what you were being trained for?

16:23:31 20 A. I told you I did not ask any question why we were being
21 trained. We were being trained - I was training as a soldier and
22 I did not ask why we were training.

23 Q. Your testimony is that you left the camp on 20 March 1991,
24 correct?

16:23:53 25 A. Yes, I left the camp on 20 March 1991.

26 Q. You said there was a big truck which was parked at the camp
27 and a bell was rung and there was - and all of you came to the
28 formation ground and you were ordered to board the truck. Is
29 that correct?

1 A. Yes. They were calling out names of people to get on the
2 truck. When they call out your name, you will get into the
3 truck.

4 Q. Who did you say was calling out these names?

16:24:30 5 A. The man who was in charge of calling the roll. They used
6 to call him Daniel OK George.

7 Q. And this Daniel OK George, what nationality was he?

8 A. Daniel OK George was a Mende, a Sierra Leonean.

9 Q. Did you know where the truck came from?

16:24:54 10 A. No.

11 Q. And you said this truck was big, about a ten-tyred vehicle?

12 A. Yes, the truck was big. It was a big truck. Along
13 something like from here to there.

14 Q. From here to there. Can you be more specific? I notice
16:25:18 15 you were pointing, using arms, gesticulating.

16 A. I am talking about the length of the truck. It could be
17 almost from that end to this end. A long truck. It was very
18 long and big.

19 Q. When you say from that end to this end, do you mean the
16:25:36 20 full length of this courtroom?

21 A. I'm talking about the distance from this desk up to the end
22 of the court here. Something like 40 feet. I think like a
23 40-foot container truck.

24 Q. And you say there were 150 of you who boarded the truck
16:26:02 25 that day?

26 A. Yes. Yes. The name that --

27 Q. Sorry, you were going to finish up your answer.

28 A. I said the names that they called and those of us who got
29 on board were about 150 because there were some other people in

1 the front seat and some other people in the back of the truck.

2 Q. And you say that your journey went through Voi nj ama, Foya
3 and Kol ahun. Is that correct?

4 A. Yes. We passed through Voi nj ama. We passed through
16:26:48 5 Kol ahun and through Foya.

6 Q. And how long did it take you to go through all of these
7 points from the time you left Naama - your journey ended at a
8 point - where did you end this journey?

9 A. The truck dropped us off before we could get to Mendekoma
16:27:13 10 and we got into the bush.

11 Q. Between the point of departure which is in Naama to the
12 point of disembarkation, how long did the journey take?

13 A. We were on the road I think about one and a half days. We
14 spent about one and a half days on the road because it was a long
16:27:45 15 distance. It was not a short distance. From Naama to get to
16 Voi nj ama, it's not a short distance.

17 Q. Did you make stops on the way?

18 A. No, we were just going. We did not stop anywhere apart
19 from Mendekoma where we stopped and we got off to get into the
16:28:10 20 bush.

21 Q. So there were no breaks even for conveniences, for people
22 to relieve themselves if they needed to?

23 A. I did not see the truck stop and I did not see anybody or I
24 did not see anybody - I did not hear anybody say he wanted to
16:28:30 25 pass water.

26 Q. When you passed through Voi nj ama, there were people there,
27 weren't there?

28 A. Yes, there were people in Voi nj ama. But the truck was
29 sealed. Only the back was open. The only way you could see

1 people was from the back part of the truck to look inside. But
2 you who is inside won't be able to see somebody outside because
3 the truck was sealed at the top.

16:29:02 4 Q. And just before we forget. This area - all of these areas
5 that you've just talked about where you travelled through, these
6 were areas controlled by the NPFL at this time; isn't that so?

7 A. Yes. They were NPFL-controlled areas at that time.

16:29:27 8 Q. Were you stopped at all during the journey at any of these
9 points in any of - along the whole route? Were you stopped at
10 all? Was the truck stopped for any reason, security checks or
11 anything of the sort?

12 A. No, we did not stop on the way. We kept going.

16:29:53 13 Q. Did you have a view of the outside of the vehicle? Could
14 you see outside of the vehicle where you were in your sitting -
15 in your position?

16 A. Yes, from the back part of the truck, because it was open
17 at the back. You can see outside from the back part of the
18 truck.

19 Q. And were there checkpoints on the way?

16:30:08 20 A. No, I did not see any checkpoints on the way.

21 Q. Being at the back of the truck, you would have only - if
22 there was a checkpoint, you would not be able to see one up front
23 before you crossed it, correct?

16:30:32 24 A. Yes. But when you crossed if there was a checkpoint you
25 will see them closing the checkpoint when a vehicle passes by.
26 If they had a checkpoint, like the way this door is closed you
27 are not looking behind, but when this door is open you'll be able
28 to see through the hallway.

29 Q. And your testimony is that when you got to the point of

1 Mendekoma you then camped in that bush area. Is that correct?

2 A. Yes, that was what I said.

3 Q. And this would be on which side of the border? Would it be
4 on the Sierra Leone side of the border or the Liberia side of the
16:31:15 5 border?

6 A. It was on the Sierra Leonean side of the border between
7 Sierra Leone and Guinea.

8 Q. Do you remember at which point you crossed the border from
9 Liberian territory into Sierra Leone territory?

16:31:29 10 A. When we disembarked we used the bush paths. We were only
11 moving into the bush but I did not know - after we had moved into
12 the bush I did not know whether we were still into Liberia, but
13 when we crossed that was the time Foday Sankoh himself told us
14 that let's stop here, this is the camping area for us, we are
16:31:55 15 already in Sierra Leone. This village is the first village in
16 Sierra Leone and we were in the bush looking at the town. It was
17 not too far from the town because the place where we were was on
18 an elevation. We could climb on top of that hill a little and
19 look over the town.

16:32:12 20 Q. So in fact at the point of disembarkation you had already
21 crossed the border into Sierra Leone, correct?

22 A. At the time we disembarked from the truck, we walked a
23 distance. We were walking, when we reached at a point then they
24 said we were in Sierra Leone.

16:32:34 25 Q. Where is Mendekoma?

26 A. Mendekoma is in Liberia.

27 Q. Your testimony is that within - you were camped at this
28 bush position for two days. Is that correct?

29 A. Whether we were encamped in this bush for two days?

1 Q. You left Naama on the 20th. Isn't that your testimony?

2 A. Yes. Yes.

3 Q. On what date did you arrive at your bush camp location that
4 we have just talked about?

16:33:30 5 A. We left Naama on 20 March. Then we got to the place. That
6 was on the 21st - okay, on the 22nd. Then on the 23rd we
7 attacked Koindu.

8 Q. Before you attacked Koindu, do you know whether any other
9 groups had attacked anywhere - of your group that had left Naama?

16:34:08 10 A. No, I don't know about that.

11 Q. So, to your knowledge, the attack on Koindu, was it the
12 first of the attacks that your group undertook on Sierra Leone
13 territory? Was that the first or were there other attacks before
14 that?

16:34:30 15 A. If there were other people who attacked before us, I don't
16 know. But to my knowledge, our group was the group that attacked
17 Koindu. But if they had a different group, I don't know about
18 that group. The group that I was in was the group that was being
19 led by the leader of the movement. So if they had a different
16:34:55 20 group from that group, I don't know about that.

21 Q. And you say your attack was on 23 March 1991?

22 A. 1991, not 1990.

23 Q. I am sorry if I said 1990, but I believe I said 1991.

24 A. Okay, yes, March 23, 1991.

16:35:28 25 Q. Did you discuss this date, the date of the attack on
26 Koindu, with anyone before you came to testify?

27 A. If I had discussed the date with anyone before coming to
28 this Court?

29 Q. That is correct. That's my question.

1 A. I can't tell now, except - I can't tell.

2 Q. In other words, are you very sure of the dates on which you
3 attacked Koindu as being 23 March 1991?

4 A. Yes, I think --

16:36:16 5 Q. [Microphone not activated]?

6 A. No, nobody gave me this date. Nobody, no. No.

7 Q. Do you know of a place called Bomaru?

8 A. No, I had not been in Bomaru before. I don't know Bomaru.

9 Q. Did you hear the name Bomaru when you were in Sierra Leone?

16:36:41 10 A. Yes, I heard about Bomaru. But they told me it was a
11 borderline area. I was not at the front line. I was not at that
12 place. I've never been there.

13 Q. Do you know of any attack on the town of Bomaru?

14 A. No, I was not a front line soldier, so I can't tell whether
16:37:04 15 there was an attack there. I was not at the front line. I don't
16 know.

17 Q. Even in the days that you had just - according to your
18 evidence, you had just attacked Koindu, you never heard about any
19 other attacks or an attack on the town of Bomaru?

16:37:22 20 A. No, I don't know Bomaru. I don't know whether they
21 attacked there. I don't know.

22 Q. Mr Witness, would it surprise you then to know that in fact
23 the attack on Koindu which you're referring to as having taken
24 place on 23 March 1991 did not take place on that date?

16:37:48 25 A. Then which date do you think the attack on Koindu took
26 place?

27 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, may I refer to the transcript of
28 TF1-597. This was taken on 21 May 2008, page 10414. It was an
29 open session testimony.

1 THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of that.

2 MR BANGURA:

3 Q. Mr Witness, I'll just read to you the testimony. I'll just
4 read for you the testimony of a witness who appeared in this
16:39:19 5 Court who was a former Sierra Leone army soldier and who was
6 involved in the events - or the attack on Koindu. I'll just read
7 his testimony to you, okay. I'm reading from page 10414, line
8 17. The witness answers the question:

9 "A. Yes, I underwent infantry training, basic training at
16:39:54 10 the Daru, Moa barracks.

11 Q. How long did your training last?

12 A. Well, we started in December and the training stopped
13 on 23 March when the rebel incursion started. That was
14 when the training stopped.

16:40:18 15 Q. When you speak of the rebel incursion, can you just
16 make it clear what you are speaking of?

17 A. When the rebel incursion started, that was the time the
18 RUF invaded on 23 March and we stopped the training
19 straight off and we were at Daru, Moa barracks on stand-by
16:40:39 20 and on the 25th I was sent to Koindu to go there to serve
21 as border guards. That was where we were when the was
22 training stopped and I was there up to 27 March when the
23 rebels attacked us and pushed us off the town. That is the
24 RUF.

16:41:11 25 Q. So you were in Koindu until the attack when you were
26 pushed out of town. I'm sorry, did you give us the date
27 when that attack took place?

28 A. Yes, 27 March. That was the date the attack took place
29 in Koindu and we were pushed out of the town."

1 Did you hear that, Mr Witness?

2 A. I heard that, but that looks confusing. Because he is
3 saying that we attacked in March, and he's talking about March.
4 Because I heard about March 23, and we attacked the area on March
16:42:04 5 23. How could he leave Daru barracks and then take assignment in
6 Koi ndu when we had already pushed them out of Koi ndu? So that
7 looks confusi ng.

8 Q. Mr Wi tness, I don' t thi nk there' s anythi ng confusi ng about
9 thi s testi mony. The wi tness in thi s case - if you would --

16:42:24 10 A. The time frame. The time frame. The time that he told you
11 about that we attacked there. We attacked Koi ndu on 23 March, so
12 if he' s telli ng you about a di fferent time, I don' t know about
13 that. But I know that the RUF attacked Koi ndu on 23 March 1991.
14 I know that.

16:42:43 15 Q. Mr Wi tness, it' s a si mple poi nt. The wi tness says that
16 Koi ndu was attacked on 27 March. Do you agree, or not?

17 A. No, I do not agree.

18 Q. Let' s move on. Your testi mony is that wi thi n a few days
19 after Koi ndu was attacked, your forces were now begi nni ng to move
16:43:16 20 ahead i nto other areas. Is that correct?

21 A. Yes, after we had attacked Koi ndu, our forces advanced to
22 other areas.

23 Q. Di a Juncti on is one of those places, correct?

24 A. Yes, that was the mai n poi nt whi ch we targeted and we
16:43:35 25 captured Di a Juncti on.

26 Q. [Mi crophone not acti vated] another area that you went to.
27 Is that correct?

28 A. Buedu, yes, was another area.

29 Q. My questi on was - I di d not refer to Buedu but Bai du.

1 Baidu. I hope you understand the distinction.

2 A. Oh, you are talking about Baidu, yes? Baidu was captured
3 before Buedu. Baidu is different from Buedu.

4 Q. I'm talking here of the areas that your forces attacked and
16:44:16 5 occupied within the first few days or weeks of the attack on
6 Koindu. And I said Buedu - Baidu, sorry, is one of those areas;
7 is that correct?

8 A. Yes, Baidu was an area that we went. When we went - we
9 didn't attacked the place. When we went there, it was already
16:44:37 10 deserted. When we went there, the place was clear because of the
11 sound that they were getting from Koindu, because from Baidu to
12 go to Koindu, it was not a long distance. People left the area.
13 We just entered there and there was nobody there. That is how we
14 started walking toward Koindu, the remaining forces that stayed
16:44:55 15 behind.

16 Q. [Microphone not activated] is that you were - you worked
17 closely with Foday Sankoh, correct?

18 A. Yes, {redacted}. I was --

19 Q. [Microphone not activated].

16:45:14 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: That's okay. Madam Court Officer, could
21 we redact line 11, please, where the witness refers to himself.
22 The members of the public having heard the position that the
23 witness gave, you are, please, not to repeat it outside of court.

24 MR CHEKERA: Maybe I could just caution the witness not to
16:45:56 25 disclose his identity.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think the witness is well aware. It
27 must have been a slip of the tongue. Yes, he is aware.

28 MR BANGURA:

29 Q. Yes, Mr Witness, you have - your testimony is that you had

1 to move along with Sankoh from location to location during this
2 period; isn't that so?

3 A. To move with him from location to location? I was only
4 based where he was based. Wherever he based, I will be based
16:46:41 5 there. Not to move with him wherever he was going, for instance
6 on the patrol. No. Wherever he based, that was where I was
7 based. Wherever he based, that was the headquarters and I was
8 always at the headquarters.

9 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. That probably was a little loose in
16:46:59 10 the way I framed the question. So you were based with
11 Foday Sankoh wherever he was based during this period?

12 A. Yes. Yes.

13 Q. Part of your duties included preparing ahead of his move
14 from one base to another base. Part of your duties included to
16:47:21 15 go and prepare - make arrangements for his lodging at a new base;
16 is that correct?

17 A. To go ahead and prepare an area where I would be based?
18 Where I would based my material, not for a place where he would
19 lodge. But wherever I am based, that is where he was based. So
16:47:44 20 if I was going to prepare a place, that is where exactly he will
21 come after I have prepared, but not to go and prepare a
22 particular place for him. That this place that I'm preparing is
23 for Foday Sankoh.

24 Q. Mr Witness, I don't think I need to, but is it not your
16:48:00 25 evidence that when Sankoh moved from Koindu to I believe
26 Kailahun, you moved and - ahead and were requested to prepare his
27 - make arrangements for his lodging facilities there; isn't that
28 your evidence?

29 A. Yes. He asked me to find a place where he will stay. And

1 where I'll keep my material, that is where I should find a place
2 for him to stay. And before moving to Kailahun, I went ahead,
3 and where I will find a place to put my material, that's where
4 I'll find a place for him to stay.

16:48:41 5 Q. Was this role that you performed regularly or was it only
6 for that one situation - that one occasion?

7 A. That was a normal duty that I used to perform always. The
8 commander is held responsible for that, the field commander, to
9 locate a special area for the leader to stay. But wherever I
16:49:04 10 kept my things, he felt that that was the place that was secured
11 because all my material - materials were kept in a secret place,
12 so he would always like to be in a secret place. So he will come
13 along with me there.

14 Q. Your testimony --

16:49:20 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please pause. Mr Chekera, is there
16 anything that the witness has said in that last answer that will
17 reveal his identity?

18 MR CHEKERA: There is reference to material, but if it is
19 material in broad terms --

16:49:51 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: If you don't think there is anything that
21 will reveal his identity, Mr Bangura, proceed.

22 MR BANGURA: Thank you. Thank you, your Honour:

23 Q. It was - can you just give us again an idea of the time
24 that it took to move from the locations that you did, from the
16:50:15 25 first attack on Koindu. You attacked Koindu on the 23rd. That
26 is your evidence. And after that you moved - how long were you -
27 you moved into Koindu, did you?

28 A. I was not among the fighting forces that moved to Kailahun
29 at that time. I was still residing in Koindu.

1 Q. I am talking of Koi ndu and not Kailahun, and I'm saying
2 that when you attacked Koi ndu from a bush position; isn't that
3 correct?

16:50:57 4 A. When we attacked Koi ndu - I'm not getting your question
5 clearly.

6 Q. After Koi ndu was attacked and taken, you moved with Sankoh
7 to base in Koi ndu; is that correct?

8 A. Yes.

16:51:16 9 Q. And how long were you in Koi ndu before you moved to another
10 location?

11 A. I told you I can't tell you the time, but we stayed in
12 Koi ndu until our men captured Kailahun and beyond before we could
13 leave Koi ndu to move ahead. But I can't tell you the exact time
14 because that's a long time story and I still continue to tell you
16:51:42 15 that. I can't recall the time. I can't tell.

16 Q. Mr Witness, you would need to help the Court. Was it a
17 matter of a few days?

18 MR CHEKERA: Sorry to interrupt my learned friend at cross.
19 There appears to be a question that was asked before the one
16:52:05 20 presently and it appears not to have been captured possibly
21 because of that cross communication.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, I did caution you and I did
23 say I wasn't going to remind you again. I did caution you not to
24 speak over the witness because of the way the technology is
16:52:26 25 working in this Court.

26 MR BANGURA: If it is a question that I asked, then I
27 believe a subsequent question would take care of it. I may be
28 able to put the same point again, because I'm still dealing with
29 the same issue:

1 Q. So, Mr Witness, I was getting you to assist the Court about
2 how long you stayed in Koindu. You do not have to be exact, but
3 if you might just try and work out in terms of days or months,
4 weeks, if you can.

16:53:01 5 A. I do not have to be exact, but I don't want to give you a
6 time or day and when it is checked out, it is wrong. I can't
7 really recall the time, the month that we spent there.

8 Q. [Microphone not activated] moved from Koindu, where did you
9 go to next? Where was your next base?

16:53:23 10 A. When we moved to Koindu, we went to Kailahun.

11 Q. And around what time was this, if you can recall, that you
12 got to Kailahun?

13 A. It was in the same 1991 when we entered. We were still
14 going.

16:53:43 15 Q. You had attacked Koindu in March - about 23 March, so was
16 it one month after that that you were in Kailahun?

17 A. I told you that I can't tell you the exact time.

18 Q. And when you moved to Kailahun, did you stay there long
19 before you moved to some other place?

16:54:09 20 A. When we moved to Kailahun, we did not move to another area.
21 We only used to patrol, because Kailahun was declared as the
22 headquarters for the RUF at that time. So Kailahun became the
23 headquarters for the RUF. That was where the leader himself was
24 based. He declared the place as the headquarters for the RUF.

16:54:31 25 That was where the RUF headquarters was based.

26 Q. And where were you when the training of new recruits
27 started? Was it in Koindu or was it in Kailahun?

28 A. We were in Koindu when they started training new recruits.
29 They first started in Baidu, as I stated in my first testimony.

1 The training started in Baidu. After we had come to Koindu, they
2 transferred the base from Baidu to Koindu. We left the training
3 base in Koindu and proceeded to Kailahun.

16:55:24 4 Q. Was it in Koindu that you were when Foday Sankoh made
5 appointments --

6 A. Which of --

7 Q. [Microphone not activated] to his subordinates - his
8 assistants?

9 A. I was not present when he was appointing those people. I
16:55:48 10 was not present. I was at my main place where I was based.
11 Because I was meant to be based in a special area, but when he
12 called a forum to appoint those people, I was not present when he
13 called a meeting to give these positions. But we were in
14 Kailahun when I heard that they have given appointments to
16:56:08 15 certain officers.

16 Q. Now, let us look at the training bases. You said there was
17 one in Baidu and there was one in Koindu. One of the --

18 A. There was one training base which we had in Baidu. That
19 was later transferred to Koindu.

16:56:32 20 Q. And when you moved to Kailahun, did the training base in
21 Koindu remain there or did it move to Kailahun?

22 A. It remained in Koindu. It remained in Koindu and it had
23 another training base at Dia Junction. There were two training
24 bases around that area. Koindu had a training base and Dia
16:57:01 25 Junction also had a training base.

26 Q. Now, yesterday in your testimony you gave us the names of
27 the training commanders at these bases, correct?

28 A. Yes. Yes, I can remember.

29 Q. And one them was - is John Vincent, correct?

1 A. Yes. John Vincent was the training commandant at Koindu.

2 Q. What nationality is John Vincent?

3 A. John Vincent was from Sierra Leone. I don't know whether
4 he was from Sierra Leone, but I knew him as John Vincent.

16:57:41 5 Q. When you say he was from Sierra Leone and you do not know -
6 are you saying this from your personal knowledge, or are you only
7 guessing?

8 A. I know John Vincent to be an RUF soldier. We didn't care
9 about tribalism or whether you from this country or that country,
16:58:05 10 but I knew John Vincent as the training commandant. Whether he
11 was Mende or Kissy or Loko, I did not know about that.

12 Q. Witness, the question is not about tribe; it's about
13 nationality. And you had a number of Liberians whom you remember
14 that were with you at Naama, correct?

16:58:24 15 A. Whether he was a Liberian or so, I don't know.

16 Q. Apart from Vincent, who else was a trainer?

17 A. He was the one who was in control of that base. I was not
18 a base man to go and inquire to know the number of trainers that
19 he had there. That was not my responsibility. But he was the
16:58:51 20 one who was heading that particular area.

21 Q. Was he with you at Naama?

22 A. Yes. Vincent was in Naama.

23 Q. Apart from Vincent - the question was who else was a
24 trainer apart from Vincent? This is not just at the base in
16:59:14 25 Koindu now. Who else was a trainer on other bases?

26 A. Like the other base that was at Dia Junction? There was a
27 lady who was controlling that base by the name of Memunatu Sesay.

28 Q. And who else did you name yesterday?

29 A. I named Memunatu Sesay. She was in control of that base.

1 She knew her members.

2 Q. Did you mention somebody Honourable or something? John
3 Honourable or something?

4 A. Richie Honourable, but not in - not at Dia Junction.

17:00:01 5 Richie Honourable was another training commander for the base
6 that we had in Kailahun.

7 Q. Do you know what nationality Richie Honourable is or was?

8 A. I don't know whether he was from Liberia, whether he's a
9 Liberian or Sierra Leonean, but I know him as Richie Honourable.

17:00:24 10 He was one of the persons who was with us at the training base.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, this is an appropriate time
12 to take a break because the tape has run out. We will reconvene
13 at 5.30.

14 [Break taken at 5.00 p.m.]

17:27:46 15 [Upon resuming at 5.30 p.m.]

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Chekera, you're on your feet.

17 MR CHEKERA: Just to note that Mr Munyard has left the
18 courtroom.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that is noted. Mr Bangura, please
17:32:23 20 continue.

21 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour:

22 Q. Mr Witness, we were at a point where I'd asked you about
23 somebody called Richie Honourable, and my question was what
24 nationality was he? Can you just repeat the answer you gave?

17:32:47 25 A. I told you I don't know where Richie Honourable - what
26 country Richie Honourable came from, but we were all trained on
27 the base and we were all taken to Sierra Leone. Maybe he could
28 be a Sierra Leonean or a Liberian. I don't know.

29 Q. What language did he speak? Did he speak [indiscernible]

1 I language?

2 A. The language that I used to hear him speak was Mende.

3 Q. What about John Vincent, what language did you hear him
4 speak?

17:33:28 5 A. I used to also hear him speak Mende as well.

6 Q. So did you understand them when they spoke Mende?

7 A. I used to hear him speaking Mende and I used to understand
8 some of the Mende, because Mende and Kpelle are almost the same.
9 Almost.

17:33:53 10 Q. This was even at the base at - at the training base at Camp
11 Naama; that's what you're talking of? That's when you started
12 hearing them speak Mende. Is that right? Is that what you're
13 saying?

14 A. No. At Naama we used to speak English. We did not speak
17:34:16 15 dialect. When we entered, people starting speaking their various
16 languages.

17 Q. Mr Witness, I'll tell you what a witness told this Court
18 about the nationality of John Vincent. Your Honours, if I may
19 refer to the transcript of TF1-275 of 21 February 2008 at page
17:34:47 20 4413. I am reading from line 16 of page 4413. Mr Witness, this
21 is what this witness who testified before this Court had to say
22 regarding John Vincent. A question was asked:

23 "Q. Can you name some other high level commanders at
24 Kangari Hills at this time?

17:35:49 25 A. Yes. The overall training commander that was based at
26 Kangari Hills was called John Vincent. The operations
27 commander after Mohamed Tarawali was called CO George
28 Daniel.

29 Q. And John Vincent, do you know where he was from?

1 A. Yes, he was also a Liberian."

2 Mr Witness, do you have --

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry, where are you reading from?

4 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I went to the next page. I

17:36:29 5 turned to the next page. I'm sorry I did not indicate. The last
6 question and answer were on page - they are on page 4414. I'm
7 sorry about that. It's not immediately following from line 20 of
8 page 4414. Now I realise. Actually, I have a page extracted
9 from the transcript. It's line 13 and 14 of the next page, which
17:37:17 10 is page 4414.

11 Q. I'll just go over that again, Mr Witness. On the next page
12 the question was:

13 "Q. And John Vincent, do you know where he was from?"

14 A. Yes, he was also a Liberian."

17:37:41 15 Do you have a reason to dispute this evidence, Mr Witness,
16 that John Vincent was Liberian?

17 A. I don't know John Vincent's tribe. I don't know whether
18 he's a Liberian. I keep telling you whether he was a Liberian, I
19 don't know. Whether he was a Sierra Leonean, I don't know. I
17:38:07 20 used to hear him speak Mende when we were in Sierra Leone.

21 Q. Talking about training commanders, apart from the three
22 that we have already mentioned, that is, John Vincent, Memunatu
23 Sesay and Richie Honourable, were there other commanders that you
24 recall?

17:38:34 25 A. Yes, they had other training bases, but that one was well
26 ahead where the men were advancing. Wherever they advanced they
27 opened a base there, but I did not know their names, but they had
28 other training bases apart from the one we had. When they
29 advanced as far as Matotoka they had a training base there. When

1 they went to Magburaka they had a training base there, but I did
2 not know the names of the training commandants.

3 Q. And when I asked about other training commanders,
4 Mr Witness, I am limiting myself to the period immediately after
17:39:08 5 Koindu was captured and surrounding areas, Dia Junction, Kailahun
6 and so on, these surrounding areas, possibly still within 1991.
7 That's the period I'm talking about.

8 A. They were the commanders there and they had their own men,
9 but the commanders who were there who were appointed to train
17:39:34 10 those people, they are the ones I know. Whether they had other
11 people - even if you had a training base, there are other
12 officers with you. I am not somebody who was supposed to be
13 there. I had my own area of assignment. They had their own area
14 of assignment. But they were the commanders.

17:39:54 15 Q. [Microphone not activated] what bases these commanders were
16 appointed to be training commanders? Do you know what
17 credentials they had or what - whether they were trained and had
18 some qualifications different from the other members?

19 A. I don't know whether they had documents. I don't know.

17:40:24 20 Q. Did you know whether they had had previous training before
21 they went to Naama?

22 A. No, I don't know.

23 Q. As a trained person yourself, militarily trained, you would
24 agree with me that to be made a training commander you need to be
17:40:48 25 quite above average - above normal standard in terms of
26 competence, yes? Do you agree?

27 A. Yes, but these people were trained. They were trained at
28 Naama base. They were trained. That was why the leader --

29 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly

1 repeat slowly.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause, Mr Witness. You are again running
3 with your evidence. Please slow down and repeat your answer from
4 the beginning, slowly.

17:41:27 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you. The leader had confidence in
6 them. That was why he posted them to those positions. If he
7 hadn't any trust in them that they were trained, I don't think he
8 would have put them in that position. But because he had trust
9 in them that he had trained them and he knew their capabilities,
17:41:46 10 that was why he gave them those positions.

11 MR BANGURA:

12 Q. Mr Witness, are you familiar with the term vanguard?

13 A. Yes, vanguard, those were the people who carried the war to
14 Sierra Leone. They were trained at Naama base. That was the
17:42:06 15 name that was given to them, vanguards.

16 Q. So yourself, would you be one of those persons referred to
17 as a vanguard?

18 A. Yes, I was one of the vanguards because I was trained at
19 the Naama base.

17:42:20 20 Q. And do you know or have you heard the term Special Forces?

21 A. I only know about the vanguards. Special Forces, no, I
22 don't know about Special Forces.

23 Q. You never heard the word, the term or the expression
24 Special Forces?

17:42:46 25 A. I only know about vanguards. I have never heard the name
26 Special Forces. To call any member of the RUF Special Forces or
27 any RUF soldier Special Forces, no.

28 Q. [Microphone not activated] witness, I'm not limiting my
29 question to just members of the RUF. Within the RUF and outside

1 of the RUF, have you heard the words or the expression Special
2 Forces?

3 A. I can't tell you about other forces because I was not a
4 member of them. I was a member of the RUF. I am talking about
17:43:19 5 the RUF. So I can't tell you whether they had other forces by
6 the name of Special Forces. I don't know about that.

7 Q. And your testimony is that within the RUF you did not have
8 - you did not hear the word or the name Special Forces, correct?

9 A. Yes, yes. We don't have the Special Forces in the RUF.

17:43:41 10 Q. What do you know about junior commandos? Who were they?

11 A. Junior commandos, those were people whom we recruited in
12 Sierra Leone when we entered Sierra Leone. That was how we used
13 to call them, junior commandos, because we recruited them there.

14 They were not with us in Naama. Those of us, we came - who came
17:44:05 15 from Naama were called vanguards. Those whom we met there and
16 trained them there, we called them the junior commandos.

17 Q. Now, you talked about at Naama the trainers being CO Rashid
18 and CO Mohamed. Do you know how they were trained or where they
19 got their training from?

17:44:25 20 A. No, I don't know where they got their training from. I
21 don't know where they were trained from. I saw them there and
22 they were my instructors.

23 Q. Or Mike Lamin, do you know where he got his training from?

24 A. No. He was also my instructor.

17:44:47 25 Q. Now, talking about junior commandos being persons whom you
26 trained in Sierra Leone when you came over, your testimony before
27 this Court is that the persons who were trained came voluntarily
28 for recruitment. Is that correct?

29 A. Yes. According to what the commander told us, people came

1 voluntarily to train. I was not on the training base. I was not
2 a training officer. But people came voluntarily, according to
3 the training commander. People came voluntarily to train.

4 Q. In the training bases, what numbers did you have? Let's
17:45:32 5 take first of all Koi ndu, the Koi ndu training base. How many
6 people were being trained there, to your knowledge?

7 A. I am not a training commander to give you the total number
8 of the soldiers that trained at the Koi ndu base. It is the
9 training commander who can give you that number because he has
17:45:52 10 the record. He knew about his record, but not me.

11 Q. Mr Witness, I'm not saying how many people may have trained
12 there over time, but at the initial stages that you started
13 training people at Koi ndu, how many would you say at one time -
14 one given time would be in training?

17:46:16 15 A. I continued telling you this. I don't know about that.
16 Only the commander can tell you that. I cannot tell you the time
17 because I was not a training officer. I was not a training
18 officer. I cannot - how can I tell you about the training of
19 people? I was not trained to do that.

17:46:37 20 Q. Do you have knowledge of numbers of trainees in any of the
21 other training bases?

22 A. No.

23 Q. By the end of 1991, did you have an idea how big your force
24 had become? You know, when you came to attack Koi ndu - Sierra
17:47:04 25 Leone from Koi ndu, there were 150 of you who came from that axis.
26 By about six months to a year's time, did you have an idea how
27 large your force had grown?

28 A. The force was big, but I do not know the number of forces
29 that were there because at that time our men had already trained

1 soldiers to join our number. So that increased our number. But
2 I can't tell you whether they were 10,000, 15,000, 20,000. I am
3 unable to tell you that.

17:47:44 4 Q. Mr Witness - and be careful when you give your answer to
5 this question - in the position you held and in carrying out your
6 duties, would that not have given you an indication in terms of
7 how many people needed things that you gave to them?

8 A. In what way? I do not understand the question.

17:48:15 9 Q. Now, in your position, would you not have been able to have
10 some idea, depending on how you carried out your work, would you
11 not have had some idea as to strengths of your men in the front
12 lines?

13 A. No, I don't have any idea about that.

14 Q. You yourself, did you ever take part in fighting?

17:48:51 15 A. No.

16 Q. Did you keep any records of - within the scope of your
17 duties, did you keep records?

18 A. We had records, but I left the records there when I went
19 for peace talks. I couldn't travel with the records.

17:49:12 20 Q. [Microphone not activated] records you had, would you not
21 be in a position to have an indication of the strength of your
22 forces in different locations?

23 A. I never had a record of soldiers. I never had a record of
24 soldiers that were in different areas. I had a record of things
17:49:34 25 that I was in control of and not soldiers. The person who can
26 best answer that question for you whom you can get information
27 from is the adjutant. He can tell you that he had so and so
28 number of soldiers because he had the total number of soldiers.
29 The record of the total number of soldiers that the RUF had, that

1 is the adjutant but not the person who was just somebody to store
2 things.

3 Q. [Microphone not activated] that I might very well pursue
4 much later in closed session. Mr Witness, your testimony is that
17:50:11 5 on the day of the attack on Koi ndu you attacked the police
6 station and you captured arms and ammunition from that station,
7 that post, correct?

8 A. Not me, but the fighting forces who went there captured the
9 materials. Not me.

17:50:34 10 Q. [Microphone not activated] actually referring to you in a
11 collective sense, not you personally. I mean, you may not have
12 been there, but I'm talking about the RUF and your forces. I
13 hope you understand the question in that sense.

14 A. Yes. When the RUF forces attacked Koi ndu, they captured
17:50:54 15 arms and ammunition from there and they brought a few to me for
16 the leader's protection.

17 Q. Your testimony is that ten boxes of ammunition were
18 captured - were brought to you, to the leader, and nine AK-47
19 rifles were also brought. Is that correct?

17:51:21 20 A. Yes, you are correct.

21 Q. And this did not include some of the material which the
22 forces in the front line decided to keep for themselves for
23 advancing with the effort. Is that right?

24 A. Through the materials that they captured, it was part of
17:51:42 25 those materials that they sent to us for the leader's protection,
26 because those of us who stayed behind never had arms. It was the
27 materials which they captured that they took part of and sent to
28 us for the protection of the leader and we advanced to their
29 position. They went ahead and we went to Koi ndu.

1 Q. Would it surprise you to know that the regular police in
2 Sierra Leone do not normally carry arms?

3 A. I don't know, but as a policeman, police are supposed to
4 carry arms. Policemen are supposed to carry arms. Policemen
17:52:28 5 just have to be armed, because a policeman is an officer to
6 protect life and property, so they just have to carry arms.

7 Q. Would it surprise you that the regular police would not
8 keep arms at the police station?

9 A. Well, I don't know about that.

17:52:47 10 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I have let a number of these
11 questions go unobjected to, but there is to come a point when
12 I learned counsel opposite stops giving evidence and asks
13 questions.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, what is your response?

17:53:07 15 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I am not too clear about
16 counsel's objection. I am in cross-examination. I am entitled
17 to put facts to the witness and suggestions to him. He is open
18 to agreeing to those suggestions or not. I do not quite
19 understand counsel's objection.

17:53:24 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I think the objection is overruled.
21 Counsel is entitled to put propositions. They need not be
22 evidence per se. They could be just propositions, ideas even.

23 MR BANGURA:

24 Q. Mr Witness, do you know that the Sierra Leone police in
17:53:42 25 fact have got an armed wing or armed unit which is different from
26 the regular police? Do you know that?

27 A. I don't know.

28 Q. [Microphone not activated] the name before - at the time
29 they were called SSDs. Have you heard that name before, SSDs,

1 Special Security Division?

2 A. I used to hear about SSD, but I don't know about them.

3 Q. What did you hear about them?

4 A. They were police.

17:54:17 5 Q. What kind of police did you learn that they were?

6 A. I only heard that there were policemen called SSD. Whether
7 they were in special unit or a different unit, I don't know, but
8 I heard that there were policemen called the SSD.

9 Q. And it is true that they carried arms, these SSDs that you
17:54:39 10 learnt about, correct?

11 A. I was not there to see them with arms. I did not see them
12 with arms. I was not at the front line.

13 Q. Your testimony is that when you started - or when you came
14 to the bush camp or position from where you attacked Koindu, you
17:55:02 15 had no arms with you, correct?

16 A. From which position?

17 Q. The position where you were encamped before your forces
18 moved on to attack Koindu.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, even I don't understand your
17:55:24 20 question. You're saying from the position where you attacked
21 Koindu, but --

22 MR BANGURA: Where they were encamped. That may not have
23 been captured, your Honour, but --

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: But the witness has consistently said he
17:55:35 25 was not part of the attacking forces.

26 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I've said your forces. I'm
27 referring - I'm speaking in a collective sense here but not
28 necessarily him in particular. I will rephrase the question:

29 Q. When you came from Naama and encamped at a point just after

1 Mendekoma, your forces then moved from there to attack Koiindu.
2 Your evidence is that those forces were not armed at all. Is
3 that correct?

4 A. Yes, I did not see them with arms. I did not see them with
17:56:19 5 arms, but I heard the leader telling them that they should move
6 straight on to the police barracks where they would get arms to
7 move. That was where they were to go before moving ahead. So
8 when I saw the ammunition, I knew that they had gotten it from
9 where he had told them to get their arms from.

17:56:42 10 Q. In fact, none of you, according to your evidence, had arms
11 when you arrived at this location at the place where you were
12 camped, correct?

13 A. Yes, we never had arms.

14 Q. Did you find out or did you learn how your forces were able
17:57:00 15 to attack the police station without arms and obtain arms from
16 there?

17 A. I don't know. They were instructed to go there. They went
18 by instruction. So I don't know about that.

19 Q. Now, you were - counsel - in asking you questions earlier,
17:57:27 20 your counsel, counsel on the other side, referred to evidence
21 which stated that you were in Voi nj ama at about March of 1991.
22 Do you recall that evidence?

23 A. I don't --

24 MR CHEKERA: I don't remember asking the question that the
17:57:50 25 witness was in Voi nj ama.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, what would help is if you
27 would refer to the text you're referring to.

28 MR BANGURA: I believe counsel referred to the transcript
29 of TF1-371 - or evidence which had been given in this Court by

1 TF1-371 to the effect that the witness had lodgings at Voinjama
2 and provided lodgings for some other person who was - I believe
3 that was - that's the context in which that evidence came out.
4 Unless I'm wrong. But I am happy to go to the source itself,
17:58:37 5 it's just that we have - I think the witness concerned is a
6 protected one and counsel was very careful in crafting his
7 questions. I don't want to go over all of that again. But I
8 stand corrected.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm not sure where you're going with
17:58:59 10 this, but just go ahead and ask. I mean, without reference to a
11 text, I can't say one way or the other.

12 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, I'm informed it's page 16 of
13 today's LiveNote, but this is what font size? Page 12 or so.
14 This is the large font size. I have been corrected. I am ably
17:59:42 15 assisted here that the date in fact is not March, but February of
16 1991.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: You're referring to the part where
18 counsel opposite was - rather, the witness was explaining that he
19 has never been in Voinjama, that he used to pass through
18:00:04 20 Voinjama --

21 MR BANGURA: That's right.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: -- on a number of occasions. And then
23 counsel opposite read to him the testimony of a witness who
24 claimed that this witness had given lodging to that other
18:00:19 25 witness.

26 MR BANGURA: Precisely.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: And this was during private session, I
28 suppose. So take it from there then.

29 MR BANGURA:

1 Q. Do you recall that evidence, Mr Witness? You were asked
2 about whether you had lodging in Voi nj ama and you said no, you
3 did not. Do you recall that?

4 A. Yes, I recall that, and I told you that I do not even have
18:00:44 5 a kitchen in Voi nj ama.

6 Q. And do you recall saying that all you know about Voi nj ama
7 is when you usually pass through the town or when you usually
8 pass through Voi nj ama? You do not have a house there or a
9 kitchen there, but all you know about Voi nj ama is when you
18:01:07 10 usually pass through the town?

11 A. But I don't know about Voi nj ama. I only passed through the
12 town, and there is a signpost there that this is Voi nj ama. I
13 only pass through the town, but I have not been in any corner of
14 Voi nj ama or to say that I have --

18:01:24 15 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness is speeding
16 again. Can he be requested to slow down.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Witness, you are speeding and the
18 interpreters can't keep up with you. You have to repeat your
19 answer. You said, "I only passed through that town. I've not
18:01:42 20 been in any corner or to say I have been", et cetera. Please
21 repeat from there.

22 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, actually the point was to have
23 him - I was asking him if he recalled his earlier evidence that
24 he only used to pass through the town. That was the evidence I
18:01:55 25 was asking him to recall, not really if he does recall. That was
26 the question. I think he went far beyond that.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sometimes these things get lost in
28 interpretation. I don't know what the interpreter said to him.

29 MR BANGURA:

1 Q. Mr Witness, how many times have you gone through or passed
2 through Voi nj ama?

3 A. I only passed through Voi nj ama when we were on our way to
4 Koi ndu, but I had not been to Voi nj ama before.

18:02:32 5 Q. After that time have you had cause to go through Voi nj ama
6 again?

7 A. No, I had not been in Voi nj ama. Because when I went
8 through Si erra Leone, I passed through Si erra Leone by ai r to go
9 to I a Cote d' Ivoire for the peace talks. Since we entered, I
18:02:51 10 have not returned to Voi nj ama but - since we passed through there
11 before.

12 Q. [Microphone not activated] at Voi nj ama this time that you
13 passed through from Naama as you were going towards Si erra Leone?

14 A. Yes, that was my fi rst time.

18:03:05 15 Q. Have you been to Voi nj ama since then ever?

16 A. No. I do not have relatives there. I do not have any
17 family there. I do not have any friends there. What am I going
18 to look for there? Or I don't have any work - I have not worked
19 in Voi nj ama to say that I have certain things there to go and see
18:03:30 20 the place. Nothing I like that.

21 Q. You recall telling this Court that Voi nj ama and all of that
22 area in - that you passed through was under NPFL control at the
23 time that you moved towards Si erra Leone from Naama, correct?

24 A. I did not tell you that Voi nj ama was all part of
18:03:52 25 NPFL-controlled areas. I said Voi nj ama was under the control of
26 NPFL. I did not say all Voi nj ama was under NPFL control. Where
27 we passed I did not see any checkpoi nt, but Voi nj ama was under
28 NPFL control at that time. Whether it was every part of Voi nj ama
29 I wouldn't know, because I did not go to the other areas to see

1 who was - who the place was under.

2 Q. Do you know the name Anthony Mekunagbe?

3 A. No.

4 Q. You never heard that name before?

18:04:30 5 A. No, I don't know about that name.

6 Q. Do you know who was the commander of Voinjama at that time
7 that you went through Voinjama towards Sierra Leone?

8 A. I did not know the commander. I did not stop in Voinjama,
9 so I do not know the commander.

18:04:50 10 Q. Did you know of any other commanders, apart from the name
11 Anthony Mekunagbe, who were in Voinjama and surrounding areas
12 around this time?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Mr Witness, your testimony before this Court is that Foday
18:06:05 15 Sankoh never travelled out of Sierra Leone after you attacked
16 Sierra Leone, is that correct, up until the time he left for
17 peace talks. Is that correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And if I am right, you said he would go to some of the
18:06:29 20 front line positions within Sierra Leone but never travelled out.
21 Correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Now, between August 1991 and May 1992, I am being very
24 specific, did Foday Sankoh travel anywhere outside Sierra Leone?

18:07:17 25 A. No, I didn't see that.

26 Q. Between that period, August 1991 and May 1992, did Foday
27 Sankoh bring any supplies from outside of Sierra Leone? I mean
28 arms and ammunition.

29 A. No, no.

1 Q. Again between that same period, August 1991 and May 1992,
2 did you have NPFL fighters in Sierra Leone fighting along with
3 the RUF?

4 A. I don't know about that.

18:08:14 5 Q. Were there not, or you just did not know?

6 A. If they were there I don't know. But I did not see any
7 NPFL fighters or any fighter: Oh, this person was an NPFL
8 soldier. I don't know.

9 Q. During the period August 1991 to May 1992, were there any
18:08:49 10 NPFL fighters in Sierra Leone helping to train RUF fighters?

11 A. No.

12 Q. And during that same period, apart from Foday Sankoh did
13 any other person bring supplies from outside of Sierra Leone?
14 "Supplies" meaning arms and ammunition?

18:09:21 15 A. No. Apart from what we used to take to the border to sell,
16 nobody ever brought materials from outside into Sierra Leone.

17 Q. So, Mr Witness, if somebody - if a witness testified before
18 this Court that between that period, that is to say, August 1991
19 to May 1992, Foday Sankoh did travel to Gbarnga, would that
18:09:54 20 person be telling a lie?

21 A. That person would be telling a lie, because I did not see
22 that and I never heard about it. Even if he brought something
23 from there, that means it would come directly to the person who
24 was responsible for it, but nothing like that. So I would say
18:10:16 25 that that person would be lying to you. To give you --

26 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat that last
27 bit.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you said "to give you" and
29 then you said something that the interpreter didn't get. What

1 did you say after that?

2 THE WITNESS: I said - he asked me and I said no, he never
3 went out to bring anything to me. To say he brought something -
4 and even if he brought something in, he had to bring it directly
18:10:50 5 to the person who was responsible for storing those things. But
6 nothing like that. If he - nothing like that. But I am not
7 aware of that.

8 MR BANGURA:

9 Q. When you say "the person responsible for storing such
18:11:05 10 items", you - in terms of position within the structure of the
11 RUF, you are referring to the G4. Is that correct?

12 A. Yes, I'm talking about the G4.

13 Q. So if somebody testified before this Court that there were
14 in fact NPFL fighters in Sierra Leone fighting alongside the RUF
18:11:34 15 between August 1991 and May 1992, that person would be telling a
16 lie, correct?

17 A. That person would be telling you a lie, because I don't
18 know about it. I don't know about it.

19 Q. Mr Witness, the testimony of Mr Taylor before this Court is
18:12:05 20 that between August 1991 and May 1992 Foday Sankoh travelled to
21 Gbarnga at least on two occasions. Is Mr Taylor telling a lie -
22 or was he telling a lie when he said that to this Court?

23 A. I don't know about it. I don't know about it.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, you are on your feet.

18:12:33 25 MR CHEKERA: Just to ask for a reference, Madam President.

26 MR BANGURA: I will provide one shortly. Your Honours, the
27 reference I have here, and there will be others that I can
28 provide a little later, is transcript of 28 October 2009, page
29 30548, testimony of Mr Taylor. It's open session testimony.

1 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, could I just have a minute to
2 check the reference?

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, are you having it brought up
4 on the overhead? Is that necessary?

18:14:43 5 MR BANGURA: I was hoping that that would be the case.
6 Your Honour, in fact, I was looking for a more apt and
7 appropriate reference. May I ask that we --

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: There is a page on the overhead. 30548
9 is on the overhead.

18:15:28 10 MR BANGURA: Do we have it?

11 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, having looked at the
12 reference, I think my learned friend has just misstated the
13 evidence on that page. The evidence actually contradicts the
14 suggestion that Mr Taylor sent in the RUF to fight - sorry, the
18:15:50 15 NPFL fighters to fight alongside the RUF. The evidence is
16 actually that they were there to stop ULIMO incursions and he
17 specifically denies that particular allegation that they were
18 fighting alongside.

19 JUDGE LUSSICK: What lines are you relying on there,
18:16:09 20 Mr Bangura? I can only read half the page here.

21 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, I was actually going to rely on
22 an earlier transcript reference, but I can go on to this and then
23 go to another one. And the reference here is starting from line
24 12 reading through to line 26 and if I just read that. It is:

18:16:38 25 "Q. During that period when you accept that you cooperated
26 with Foday Sankoh in Sierra Leone, did you instruct,
27 condone, acquiesce in the forceful conscription of Sierra
28 Leonean citizens into the RUF?

29 A. No, but me clarify that 'no'. The operations that were

1 conducted in Sierra Leone between '91 and '92 had nothing
2 to do with training Sierra Leoneans. I sent a security
3 force to the border that operated against ULIMO. The force
4 that went into Sierra Leone was not a force of cooperation
18:17:11 5 that dealt with the training for advancement of a war in
6 Sierra Leone. I sent men that were involved in combat
7 against ULIMO in Sierra Leone and I withdrew those men. So
8 I want to draw a distinction. So I did not send a unit for
9 any - to help the RUF in their training in tactics and
18:17:32 10 weapons to fight their war, no. My involvement in Sierra
11 Leone was purely for security of Liberia."

12 Your Honour, I actually, as I said, intended to put an
13 earlier reference and I had trouble finding it. But if I can
14 refer to transcript of 20 July 2009 and this is at page 24838.
18:18:40 15 Your Honour, I am referring to - I'm reading from line 20 and I
16 think it goes on to the next page, that is 24839.

17 MR CHEKERA: Sorry, before you proceed, could I
18 double-check and confirm the reference again?

19 MR BANGURA: The reference is the transcript of 20 July
18:19:02 20 2009 and the page that I referred to is 24838 and I think I will
21 read on to the next page which is 24839. I will be reading from
22 line 20 of 24838:

23 "Q. Well, Mr Taylor, what I would like to do in
24 summarising and hopefully concluding this chapter is ask
18:19:30 25 you the following: One, do you accept that for a period
26 you did assist Foday Sankoh and the RUF?

27 A. I will be specific, because a 'yes' could go into a new
28 avenue. Between August in 1991 up until May of 1992, yes.

29 Q. Secondly, do you accept that during that period - that

1 rough period - NPFL combatants on your instructions were
2 deployed in Sierra Leone?

3 A. During that period I accept that NPFL combatants were
4 deployed in Sierra Leone - and let me not end it there -
18:20:22 5 for the protection of Liberia."

6 And if your Honours bear with me, there is a further
7 transcript reference that's helpful in this regard and that is
8 transcript of 23 November 2009, page 32298. Your Honours, page
9 32298, reading from line 20 and I will read on to the next page
18:21:25 10 which is 32299. Line 20, 32298:

11 "Q. Mr Taylor, you are aware that the perpetrators in
12 Sierra Leone of these crimes against civilians, they
13 understood that this was the way to conduct themselves with
14 civilians. Isn't that right, Mr Taylor?

18:21:46 15 A. I disagree. I mean, that type of hypothetical, no. I
16 cannot decide psychologically in somebody's head in other
17 country whether they agreed that that was the proper way of
18 dealing. I disagree - even if that was the case, I
19 disagree with that assumption.

18:22:13 20 Q. These perpetrators included your NPFL, did they not,
21 Mr Taylor?

22 A. Not one NPFL personnel of mine, an NPFL that I know of
23 was sent to Sierra Leone. Liberians went to Sierra Leone,
24 but they were not NPFL, except those that I sent there
18:22:32 25 between August and May 1991 to 1992."

26 So, your Honours, those are the references just to satisfy
27 counsel's query. But the questions that I put to the witness are
28 based on these references.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Okay, so put your question then.

1 MR BANGURA:

2 Q. Mr Witness, would Mr Taylor be telling a lie to this Court
3 when he said that between August 1991 to May 1992 he in fact had
4 forces - NPFL forces in Sierra Leone?

18:23:22 5 A. If he had forces there, I don't know. I was not a full
6 fledged fighter. If he had people there, I don't know about it.
7 I was not a front line fighting.

8 Q. Mr Witness, the question is: Would he be telling a lie?
9 And this question is flowing from previous questions that I had
18:23:45 10 asked you based on activities relating to this time period. You
11 had in previous answers said that if somebody told this Court
12 that NPFL fighters were in Sierra Leone between August 1991 and
13 May 1992, that person would be telling a lie. So my question to
14 you here is: Was Mr Taylor telling a lie to this Court when he
18:24:15 15 said that NPFL fighters - he sent NPFL fighters in Sierra Leone
16 between August 1991 and May 1992?

17 A. That was what I said. I was not a front line fighter and I
18 did not hear anything like that. So if somebody is saying that,
19 I can't believe him. I was not in the front line and I didn't
18:24:38 20 hear any information pertaining to that, that NPFL fighters were
21 in Sierra Leone, so I can't tell and I don't know about it.

22 Q. For your own purposes, forgetting Mr Taylor's evidence,
23 when you say that there were no NPFL fighters in Sierra Leone
24 between August 1991 and May 1992, are you sure of that answer as
18:25:09 25 you are of the rest of your evidence before this Court?

26 A. I'm sure of it, because I told you from the beginning that
27 I was not a front line soldier and I did not know whether they
28 had NPFL fighters in Sierra Leone.

29 Q. Mr Witness, you talked about radio sets that were captured

1 by the RUF forces from Sierra Leone government soldiers. Is that
2 correct? In the early stages of the attack on Sierra Leone, you
3 said that they captured radios. Do you recall that evidence?

4 A. Yes, I can remember it.

18:26:02 5 Q. And you went on to give a description of the kind of radios
6 that were captured, correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. If I am right, you said that those radios were - they had
9 long antennae and they could be carried on the back. Is that
10 correct?

18:26:23

11 A. Yes, you can strap it on your back and they had long
12 antennae. That was what I saw.

13 Q. You also mentioned that once Foday Sankoh was in Kailahun
14 there was a radio there which was used by - was it Zedman and
15 another operator? Am I right?

18:26:39

16 A. Yes, Zedman was an operator that CO Isaac trained - I mean,
17 CO Alfred Brown, who was controlling the radio for Foday Sankoh.

18 Q. So they both operated the radio that Sankoh had in
19 Kailahun?

18:27:02

20 A. Yes, because they used to change shifts. One person did
21 not stay there throughout.

22 Q. Now, was this a fixed radio? Was it a radio that was
23 positioned in a fixed place and not like the mobile ones that
24 you've just mentioned, which could be carried on the back?

18:27:30

25 A. Yes, they had a radio situated in one place. They had a
26 radio with a long antenna, but you can unscrew the antenna and
27 put an extension wire on it and attach it to a pole. They kept
28 it at a special place where Sankoh was based.

29 Q. My question was whether that radio was a fixed radio,

1 different from the ones which you said were captured from
2 government soldiers?

3 A. It was the same radio. It was the same radio that was
4 captured from the soldiers. That was the same type of radio that
18:28:07 5 they were using.

6 Q. You were asked about radio codes. What do you know about
7 RUF radio codes?

8 MR CHEKERA: I'm not sure I asked about radio codes. Maybe
9 counsel may want to rephrase.

18:28:26 10 MR BANGURA:

11 Q. I may have been loose in the question, I asked but you were
12 asked about the call sign or code sign - I believe the question
13 was call but it came up in the transcript as "code" sign. You
14 were asked about the call sign of Foday Sankoh. Do you recall
18:28:41 15 that?

16 A. The radio that he was using --

17 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
18 repeat this very slowly.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat your answer
18:28:59 20 slowly, all of it. The interpreter didn't get it. You were too
21 fast.

22 THE WITNESS: I said the code sign of the radio that Foday
23 Sankoh was using, the one that they were using for Foday Sankoh
24 at his base where he was residing.

18:29:20 25 MR BANGURA:

26 Q. Did you give the Court a code - a call sign for Sankoh's
27 radio? Did you?

28 A. Yes, I think - I think I gave two code signs here. One was
29 in Koindu when we were in Koindu, and the other one was in

1 Kailahun when we were in Kailahun.

2 Q. And those call signs again? If you can help the Court?

3 MR CHEKERA: Sorry, may I just clarify where it's "code"
4 signs or "call" signs? Because I'm hearing two different things.

18:29:55 5 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, I believe the confusion is coming
6 perhaps from the witness's answers. I recall yesterday that the
7 questions which counsel was asking were "call" signs, and I am
8 not sure whether it was the witness giving "code" signs, but the
9 transcript - the records bore that word "code" signs and for
18:30:17 10 today I've been asking "call" signs. Again I think I've heard
11 the witness answering back "code" signs.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: You can clarify from the witness, because
13 we have both words on the transcript. You, Mr Bangura, keep
14 referring to - no, actually you said, "Did you give the Court a
18:30:36 15 code - a call sign for Sankoh's radio?" That was the question
16 you put at line 23 of page 91. So you used both words as well.
17 But the witness is talking of "code" signs. So clarify from the
18 witness which it is.

19 MR BANGURA: I will, your Honour:

18:31:02 20 Q. Mr Witness, do you understand what a call sign is?

21 A. That is the station which the man used. The name of that
22 station is the code sign.

23 Q. Let me understand you. Are you saying "code" sign or
24 "call" sign? Because my question is call sign. What is your - I
18:31:27 25 don't seem to get it clearly.

26 A. I'm talking about the code sign. The code sign of the
27 radio.

28 Q. Mr Witness, are you --

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Perhaps you can ask if he knows the

1 difference between the two things you're talking about. It may
2 be a question of pronunciation.

3 MR BANGURA: I suspect, but let me clarify in the way you
4 have suggested, Madam President:

18:31:55 5 Q. Mr Witness, do you know whether there is a difference
6 between code sign and a call sign?

7 A. The code of the radio, that's what I'm talking about.
8 Whether you have a call sign, I don't know about that. But the
9 code sign of the radio is what I'm talking about.

18:32:18 10 Q. And sticking with what you know, what was the code sign
11 that you gave for Sankoh's radio? You said you gave two
12 different code signs for two locations. What were they?

13 A. I told you. In Koindu the code sign was Zulu, and when we
14 were in Kailahun they used to call him Indian Charlie.

18:32:55 15 Q. Now, the radio operator for Sankoh's radio, the main
16 operator - who was the main operator? You've mentioned Brown and
17 you've mentioned Zedman?

18 A. Alfred Brown was the main operator. Zedman was his
19 assistant.

18:33:19 20 Q. And your evidence is that Alfred Brown is Liberian,
21 correct?

22 A. I don't know Alfred Brown's nationality, but I know him as
23 Alfred Brown.

24 Q. Is not Alfred Brown one of the persons who trained with you
18:33:42 25 at Camp Naama?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Is not Alfred Brown one of the persons who you found in the
28 vehicle of Pa Morlai, Foday Sankoh, at Gbarnga?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Is not Alfred Brown the person who you said you knew from
2 before in Gbarnga, even before you saw him in that vehicle on
3 that day?

4 A. Yes.

18:34:12 5 Q. And you had known him for quite a while before that day,
6 correct?

7 A. Yes, I knew him before that time. He was a good basketball
8 player in Bong Mines. That was where I knew him from.

9 Q. And about what age did you first know Alfred Brown roughly,
18:34:35 10 if you can try and help the Court with an age?

11 A. I can't remember.

12 Q. And you want the Court to believe that in all truthfulness,
13 you cannot tell Alfred Brown's nationality?

14 A. We were all trained in Naama. We were all trained in
18:34:58 15 Naama. Whether Alfred came from Liberia or whether he came from
16 Sierra Leone, we were all on the base. So we didn't care to ask
17 where you were from, but we were all at the base. We were all
18 trained in the same area, and all of us used to speak English.

19 So I was unable to ask, "My man, what country are you from?" Or
18:35:19 20 "What country are you from?" Or, "What country are you from?"
21 You were unable to do that. Nobody did that to me; why would I
22 have done it to any other person?

23 Q. How many years had you known Alfred Brown before you both
24 joined the RUF base at Naama?

18:35:34 25 A. I had known Alfred Brown for a long time, as I have said.
26 I had known him for more than two, three, four years. I knew him
27 as a basketball player. Gbarnga had the best basketball team in
28 Gbarnga. So other schools used to come to Gbarnga to play. That
29 was where I knew him from.

1 Q. Now, apart from Zedman there were other operators who were
2 trained by Alfred Brown, correct?

3 A. There were other radio operators who were trained, but I
4 didn't know them because I was not where they were based. They
18:36:18 5 had other radio operators that were trained, but I don't know
6 them.

7 Q. [Microphone not activated]?

8 A. It was only where I was based. The two men who were there
9 were the ones I knew. The other radio operators that were
18:36:32 10 trained outside where they were, I didn't know about them.

11 Q. And you said to this Court that you never knew anyone
12 called CO Nya, correct?

13 A. Yes, I don't know CO Nya. Anybody by the name of CO Nya, I
14 don't know.

18:36:53 15 Q. Did you know anybody within the RUF who was a radio
16 operator called Foday Lansana?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Did you know anybody within the RUF who was an operator who
19 was called Nya Korto?

18:37:20 20 A. No.

21 Q. Mr Witness, how familiar were you with the radio codes of
22 the RUF apart from Foday Sankoh's radio code that you have just
23 mentioned? Were you familiar with the radio codes?

24 A. No, I only knew the one we were using at the base where we
18:37:57 25 were.

26 Q. Did you - for instance, you were there when Sankoh's
27 operators communicated on the radio, weren't you? You would be
28 around when they communicated sometimes on the radio?

29 A. I don't go - I did not go to the radio room, but when I'm

1 passing by sometimes I hear the communication. I did not go into
2 the radio room. I was not a radio man. What I was going to --

3 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat
4 slowly.

18:38:31 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, pause, please. You are still
6 running too fast. Start where you said, "I did not go into the
7 radio room. I was not a radio man", and then you said a whole
8 lot after that. Please repeat what you said, slowly.

9 THE WITNESS: I said I did not go into the radio room. I
18:38:55 10 was not a radio operator to go into the radio room. To do what?

11 MR BANGURA:

12 Q. You said Sankoh's radio codes were Zulu at one point - that
13 was when he was in Koindu - and India Charlie when he was in
14 Kailahun. You did not know about radios, but how did you know
18:39:15 15 these radio codes?

16 A. That's the code that they used to call the base where we
17 were. Each time they called that code, we knew that they were
18 calling our base, and the operator told us that was the name of
19 our own radio of the base where we were.

18:39:39 20 Q. Did you then know who the operator would be getting a
21 message from? If the operator told you about your base name -
22 your code name at your base, did you know who the operator was
23 getting messages from, which other code name?

24 A. No, he didn't tell me. But he got messages from the front
18:40:01 25 line from people like CO Mohamed and the other commanders.

26 Q. Did you ever hear of the code name Butterfly?

27 A. I don't know about Butterfly. I know butterfly to be an
28 insect that flies.

29 Q. Did you ever hear or know about the code name Toyota?

1 A. No. I know Toyota to be a car, a vehicle. I don't know
2 Toyota to be somebody's code name.

3 Q. Are you saying that you did not know this at all, or it
4 never existed - these names never existed within the RUF as code
18:40:58 5 names?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Which is the "no"? You don't know?

8 A. I don't know. I don't know.

9 Q. Thank you. Mr Witness, you mentioned that you moved on to
18:41:28 10 Zogoda in 1994. Is that correct?

11 A. Yes, we went to Zogoda in 1994.

12 Q. And this was after you had been in the jungle for some
13 while. Is that correct?

14 A. Yes, yes.

18:41:56 15 Q. Can you be a little helpful about when in 1994 that you
16 went to Zogoda; early, middle of the year, late?

17 A. It was almost in the middle of the year. The middle of the
18 year.

19 Q. And at Zogoda, did you work closely with Foday Sankoh as
18:42:28 20 before?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Are you aware of the communications that Sankoh made from
23 Zogoda to front line commanders?

24 A. I don't know about any communications.

18:42:57 25 Q. Did Sankoh communicate with his front line commanders
26 normally from Zogoda?

27 A. Yes, he had a radio, but I don't know about that because I
28 am not a radio man. I continue to tell you that I'm not a radio
29 man. To say I will be there whilst he was communicating with his

1 soldiers at the front lines, that was not my assignment area.
2 Why should I be just behind him to know what he was doing? That
3 was not my assignment area. I was manning my own assignment
4 area. That was his own assignment area. So I cannot tell
18:43:39 5 whether he was communicating with the people at the front line,
6 but I'm sure he used to communicate with the people at the front
7 line, but that was not my assignment area. I kept manning my own
8 assignment area. That was my own operational area.

9 Q. Do you know who was the radio operator for Foday Sankoh at
18:43:58 10 Zogoda?

11 A. The man I saw there was the same Zedman.

12 Q. And do you know whether he was assisted by anyone? Was he
13 the only operator with Sankoh?

14 A. I did not care to know about their own office. I keep
18:44:18 15 telling you this.

16 Q. Mr Witness, do you know or have you heard of the word
17 Top 20?

18 A. I don't know about Top 20. I was not a front line soldier.
19 Whether they had Top 20, I did not know. Where I was based,
18:44:54 20 there was nothing that they referred to as Top 20.

21 Q. So you have never heard the word or expression Top 20 in
22 all your years in the RUF?

23 A. No, I don't know about Top 20.

24 Q. What about Top 40, Mr Witness? Have you heard the
18:45:15 25 expression Top 40?

26 A. No. I'm only hearing those names here now, Top 20, Top 40.
27 I don't even know the meaning of Top 20, Top 40. I don't know.

28 Q. What about Top Final? Did you hear that before, Top Final?

29 A. I don't know about Top Final. I don't know what you mean

1 about Top Final. I don't know what really you are talking about,
2 except if you can help to tell me the meaning of those things.

3 But I don't know about a Top Final, nor Top 20 or Top 40.

18:46:06 4 Q. Was there a time when you were within Kailahun District,
5 this is within the first year after you had entered Sierra Leone,
6 was there a time when there was some infighting within the RUF?

7 A. Yes. I heard that they had some soldiers at the front line
8 who were disgruntled and that the leader ordered Isaac Mongor to
9 go there and put the situation under control, and that is all I
18:46:38 10 know about that.

11 Q. And when did you hear about this?

12 A. At that time we were in the Kailahun area. That is a long
13 time ago. By then we were in the Kailahun area.

14 Q. [Microphone not activated] about what year this was?

18:46:59 15 A. I can't remember the year, but by then we were in the
16 Kailahun area, but I don't recall the year.

17 Q. Now, you said there was a report about some incident in the
18 front line and the leader - I believe you were referring to Foday
19 Sankoh - sent Isaac Mongor to go and settle the problem. Was
18:47:23 20 this a one-off situation that you heard of or were there other
21 problems of a similar kind?

22 A. That was the only problem I heard about.

23 Q. And where was this front line that this problem occurred?

24 A. The front line was far off. They had people beyond Mobai,
18:47:51 25 Kuiva and other areas. Some areas I don't know the names in fact
26 because the names are very difficult. But the front line name -
27 the front lines were far off from where we were, from the area
28 where we were.

29 Q. And did you get to know about the details of this fighting

1 or the situation that had occurred on the front line?

2 A. No. I was not a front line soldier, so I can't tell you
3 what was going on there.

4 Q. Did you ever hear that Sierra Leoneans - Liberians within
18:48:34 5 the RUF were fighting Sierra Leoneans? Did you hear that?

6 A. They did not tell me that Sierra Leoneans and Liberians
7 were fighting. They told me that - in fact, I heard that there
8 was an infighting and that some soldiers were misbehaving at the
9 front line, that they were harassing their fellow soldiers, and
18:48:59 10 that was how they sent CO Isaac to go and put the situation under
11 control. And CO Isaac left to go and put the situation under
12 control. That was all I heard and that is what I know about
13 that. But besides that, I don't know about any other thing to
14 say that there were different things going on there and that
18:49:25 15 people were fighting against each other, I did not know. I did
16 not know anything about that and I never heard about it.

17 Q. And the Liberians that I referred to who were fighting
18 against the Sierra Leoneans within the RUF, these were fighters
19 from the NPFL. Do you know that?

18:49:43 20 A. I don't know.

21 Q. You said Isaac Mongor was sent to go and quell the
22 situation, as it were. How long did it take Mongor to settle
23 this problem?

24 A. I don't know how long it took him to settle the problem,
18:50:07 25 but they told me that the problem was now under control, but I
26 don't know how long it took him.

27 Q. Mr Witness, you were there close to Foday Sankoh most of
28 the time. You were assisting him in many ways and you would have
29 known about these matters, would you not?

1 A. I was not helping him in many ways. I had my own
2 assignment area where I was assigned to be there. I was not
3 there for him to be sending me around to go and do this, say, "Go
4 and do that." I had my own assignment and that was where I was
18:50:43 5 assigned. There was nothing about the front line that was
6 discussed with me, except if I had heard it by rumours or
7 information, that is all. But I was not with Foday Sankoh to
8 say, if something happened here or there, I would be his errand
9 boy for him to send me there to go and inquire. That was - I was
18:51:03 10 not doing any other thing to go to the front line, so I cannot
11 tell whether the problem that went on there, I could be able to
12 explain it because I did not know about it. If I did that, then
13 I would be lying to myself.

14 Q. Mr Witness, given your position, and I'm not asking you to
18:51:24 15 go into any details about your position - but given your position
16 within the RUF, is it not right that you would have been in a
17 position or, in fact, you should have known about any problems on
18 the front lines in quite some detail?

19 A. Based on my position, it was not my duty to go and ask for
18:51:53 20 what was happening at the front line. I was only there to take
21 instruction from him. If he says, "Send this this way," then I
22 send it there. But not for me to go and inquire, "What is this,"
23 or "What is that?" He would only tell me, "Go and do so and so
24 thing," then I would do that. I was only there to keep. But I
18:52:14 25 was not a military adviser to say I was military adviser to give
26 him advice.

27 Q. So in sum, Mr Witness, you knew nothing and never heard
28 anything about Top 20, correct?

29 A. I don't know about that name. I don't know anything. I

1 don't know about it.

2 Q. You knew nothing and never heard anything about Top 40,
3 correct?

4 A. No.

18:52:43 5 Q. You knew nothing and never heard anything about Top Final.
6 Is that so?

7 A. I don't know about that.

8 Q. Do you know somebody called Dopoe Menkarzon?

9 A. No, no.

18:53:05 10 Q. [Microphone not activated] heard that name before?

11 A. I never heard that name before. I only heard it from you
12 now.

13 Q. Did you hear or ever know of somebody called Charles
14 Timber?

18:53:26 15 A. No.

16 Q. You never heard that name before?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Are you only hearing it now as I am mentioning it?

19 A. Yes, I only heard it now from you.

18:53:46 20 Q. Joe Tuah, did you hear or ever knew of somebody called Joe
21 Tuah?

22 A. I never heard that name and I don't know who was called Joe
23 Tuah.

24 Q. Oliver Varney?

18:54:10 25 A. No. I don't know Oliver Varney. No, no.

26 Q. Isaac Musa?

27 A. I don't know Isaac Musa. I have never heard Isaac Musa's
28 name before. I don't know Isaac Musa.

29 Q. Francis Menwon?

1 A. Those are all strange names to me. I don't know about
2 them. I never heard them.

3 Q. Did you hear of somebody called Karway? I think Moses
4 Karway.

18:54:54 5 A. No, I don't know.

6 Q. [Microphone not activated] RUF fighters. Did you hear that
7 name?

8 A. The RUF - no, I never heard that. The RUF had many
9 fighters. I did not know even all of them, so I don't know that
10 name.

18:55:09

11 Q. Did you know any commander who was an NPFL commander while
12 you were within the RUF, the name of any commander?

13 A. No. I was not an NPFL soldier to know about every NPFL
14 commander who was from Liberia and was in Sierra Leone. No, I
15 don't know about that.

18:55:44

16 Q. So, Mr Witness, you knew very little when you were with the
17 RUF and had not any time to inquire into any matters that had to
18 do - that did not have to do with your office, is that what
19 you're telling this Court?

18:56:08

20 A. I did not get your question clearly.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, you asked a question that the
22 witness did not answer. You asked him, "Do you know any
23 commander who was an NPFL commander while you were within the
24 RUF, the name of any commander?" His answer was, "I was not an
25 NPFL soldier to know every NPFL commander." But you didn't ask
26 him to name every NPFL commander. You asked him to name any
27 commander. So, Mr Witness, can you answer the question that
28 counsel asked?

18:56:30

29 MR BANGURA:

1 Q. If you need assistance, Mr Witness, the question was do you
2 know any one. You need not know many, but one, was the question.
3 At least one. Do you know any - the name of any NPFL commander
4 while you were in the RUF?

18:57:10 5 A. I said no, I was not an NPFL soldier to know about any NPFL
6 commander. I did not know the name of any NPFL commander.

7 Q. So your testimony is that you knew very little about what
8 went on within the RUF itself, correct?

9 A. I knew very little like what? To what extent?

18:57:44 10 Q. There's quite a lot that you have told this Court you knew
11 nothing about within the RUF. So you did not know about Top 20,
12 you did not know about Top 40, you did not know about Top Final,
13 you did not know much about radio communications. There was very
14 little you knew outside the scope of your duties, correct?

18:58:12 15 A. Yes. And the ones I knew about are the ones I have
16 explained to you.

17 Q. And you did not make it your business to inquire about
18 matters which had nothing to do with your office?

19 A. No.

18:58:31 20 Q. Thank you. Now, coming back to Zogoda, you said that your
21 forces were in Zogoda until a point when Foday Sankoh left to go
22 to Liberia - I'm sorry, the Ivory Coast. Correct?

23 A. Yes, Ivory Coast, but not Liberia.

24 Q. I believe I corrected myself. Can you remind the Court
18:59:03 25 again when Sankoh left Zogoda to go to the Ivory Coast on peace
26 talks?

27 A. We left Zogoda in '96.

28 Q. About what time in '96? Middle of the year, early, late
29 that might be helpful?

1 A. It was almost - I can only recall '96. Whether it was in
2 May or another month, I can't actually recall that.

3 Q. And let me just ask: Was there any group that moved to
4 Ivory Coast before you went there, or were you the first group or
18:59:52 5 the only group that went to Ivory Coast? Can you help with that?

6 A. Yes, they had other people there before we went there, and
7 that was the spokesman Fayia Musa, Mr Jalloh, Deen-Jalloh and
8 Mrs Deen-Jalloh and Mr Barrie, he was a doctor, Dr Barrie, Philip
9 Palmer. A group was there before we went there.

19:00:31 10 Q. Do you know how long that group had been there before you
11 left to join them?

12 A. I don't know. When we went, they came to receive us.

13 Q. Would they have been there for, like, two months or three
14 months or four months? Can you help the Court?

19:00:52 15 A. I did not know whether they had been there for two or three
16 months. But once we went, we met them there. But I cannot tell
17 you whether they had been there for three, four or five months,
18 but we met them there.

19 Q. And do you know what they had gone there for before you
19:01:12 20 left to go?

21 A. I only knew that we went there on the peace talks, so I
22 think they were there to arrange for us before we could go, and
23 the arrangement was with the Ivorian government before we went.

24 Q. How did they travel to the Ivory Coast, that first group?

19:01:35 25 A. That one, I don't know. I only know about our group, the
26 way we left Zogoda to go there. But in case of their own group,
27 I don't know how they did.

28 Q. While they were in the Ivory Coast, was there
29 communications between them and yourselves back in Zogoda?

1 A. I did not see them communicating. I did not see Foday
2 Sankoh communicating with them.

3 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
4 to repeat that bit.

19:02:12 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, could you repeat your answer.
6 Where you say, "I did not see Foday Sankoh communicating with
7 them," you then said something else. Can you repeat that loudly.

8 THE WITNESS: Yes, I did not see them communicating.
9 Whether they were communicating, I am not aware of that. I don't
19:02:36 10 know about that.

11 MR BANGURA:

12 Q. And your testimony is that the peace talks were facilitated
13 by the Ivorian authorities, correct?

14 A. Yes.

19:03:00 15 Q. You told this Court that your delegation, that is, with
16 Foday Sankoh, was in the region of about 20 members. Is that
17 correct?

18 A. Yes, we were about 20.

19 Q. And your testimony to this Court is that there was no radio
19:03:26 20 operator among that group. Is that right?

21 A. Yes, there was no radio operator amongst us in that group.

22 Q. And that Foday Sankoh was not able to communicate with the
23 RUF forces back in Sierra Leone while at the Ivory Coast. Is
24 that right?

19:03:55 25 A. Whether he was communicating with them I don't know, but I
26 did not see a radio. That was what I said. I told you, I said
27 we never left the base with a radio operator.

28 Q. Mr Witness, I may come up with the transcript reference,
29 but was it the case that - the question also was did Foday Sankoh

1 have a radio in Ivory Coast?

2 A. I told you no. I said it here. I said we never travelled
3 with a radio when we went to Ivory Coast. There we never had a
4 radio.

19:04:45 5 Q. You mentioned that somebody called Zedman eventually joined
6 you as an operator. When was this?

7 A. No, I did not say someone else called Zedman joined us as
8 operator. I told you, I said amongst our number one of our
9 colleague was sick. They sent that person back and replaced him
10 with Zedman. All of us who went there, those of us who were
11 combatants, the soldiers, we all went there as securities. I did
12 not tell you that Zedman went there as a radio operator. Maybe
13 you did not understand that.

14 Q. Sorry for my misunderstanding of the evidence. So Zedman,
19:05:32 15 when he came to replace somebody who was sick, did not go there
16 as an operator. Is that what you're saying?

17 A. Yes, he did not go there as an operator. Because I did not
18 see him with a radio, nor did I see him operating a radio, and at
19 that time we were all moving together as securities.

19:05:55 20 Q. Can you tell this Court how you were able to communicate to
21 Sierra Leone to get a replacement for the person who was sick?
22 How were you able to make that communication?

23 A. That was negotiated between the leader and the spokesman
24 along with the Ivorian government, but I was not present whilst
19:06:23 25 they were doing that negotiation.

26 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked
27 to slow down his pace.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please slow down again. You
29 are still running very fast in your answers. Make an effort to

1 talk slowly, please. I don't know if you want him to repeat
2 anything, Mr Interpreter?

3 THE INTERPRETER: Everything, your Honours.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, perhaps ask your question
19:06:56 5 again.

6 MR BANGURA:

7 Q. The question was how did your - how were you able to
8 communicate with your forces in Sierra Leone such that you were
9 able to get somebody, which is Zedman, to come from Sierra Leone
19:07:15 10 to replace the person who was sick in Ivory Coast?

11 A. I said the Ivorian government was the one that facilitated
12 the peace talks. So for him to call Zedman to come, I was not
13 present but that negotiation was made between the spokesman, the
14 leadership along said the Ivorian government because they were
19:07:44 15 facilitating the peace talks. So they had every right to make
16 ways possible for other people.

17 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could he be asked to repeat
18 that last bit.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you said, "So they had every
19:08:09 20 right to make ways possible for other people", and then you said
21 something else that the interpreter didn't get. Can you repeat
22 that last bit.

23 THE WITNESS: They said they had rights to assist the
24 movement to do whatsoever to take care of them there and that if
19:08:32 25 they had any problem they should inform them, they would be able
26 to handle it. So when the person was leaving there, they were
27 the people who were able to handle the situation for the other
28 person to come and replace him.

29 MR BANGURA:

1 Q. Mr Witness, are you suggesting that the communication to
2 get Zedman to come and replace the person sick was made by the
3 Ivorian government or through the Ivorian government to the RUF
4 in Sierra Leone? Is that what you're suggesting?

19:09:06 5 A. Yes, that is what I'm trying to say. Because they went to
6 Sierra Leone to bring the RUF soldiers - I mean, the command -
7 the leadership of the RUF to bring them out. They went there to
8 bring them out.

9 Q. So was it in every case, every situation, where, if the RUF
19:09:30 10 leadership, Foday Sankoh, wanted to talk to his troops, his
11 commanders, back in Sierra Leone, he had to go through the
12 Ivorian authorities to do that? Was that the case?

13 A. That would have been the case. But at times when he went
14 there I wouldn't be with him, but he would go there and talk to
19:09:56 15 them. If there were some things to discuss with them he made
16 sure he went and there and they explained to them and if there
17 was room they could make --

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could he be ask to repeat
19 that last bit.

19:10:12 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: You went and ate your words again,
21 Mr Witness. Start again from where you say, "And they explained
22 to them that if there was room they could make", continue from
23 there.

24 THE WITNESS: For him to be able to talk to his soldiers or
19:10:32 25 to his people behind where he left them, because they took him
26 from there to go.

27 MR BANGURA:

28 Q. Mr Witness, while you were in Ivory Coast, Zogoda was
29 attacked, correct?

1 A. Yes, I heard of it, but at that time I was in the hospital.
2 I heard that Zogoda was attacked.

3 Q. Now let's have a sense of how much time you took in the
4 Ivory Coast before you took ill and were hospitalised. How long
19:11:18 5 were you in the Ivory Coast before that happened?

6 A. I think I stayed there for I think a month. I think I
7 spent two weeks in the - I mean, in Yamoussoukro. From
8 Yamoussoukro, when we came to Abidjan, that was where I fell ill.

9 Q. So that would be within what year?

19:11:50 10 A. That was the same '96. It was in the same '96.

11 Q. Was there any - apart from Zedman who came to join you, did
12 any other group come to join you while you were in Ivory Coast -
13 I mean, from Sierra Leone?

14 A. No, I am not aware of that.

19:12:44 15 Q. Was there any - did anybody leave from Ivory Coast to go
16 back to Sierra Leone at any point in time while you were in the
17 Ivory Coast?

18 A. Apart from the person who was sick and whom they sent, I
19 did not see anybody leaving to go back to Sierra Leone.

19:13:06 20 Q. Were you in Ivory Coast when Faya Musa and Deen-Jalloh and
21 the others left to go to Sierra Leone? Were you with the group?

22 A. I don't know about Faya Musa and others leaving to go to
23 Sierra Leone. I don't know about that. I don't know about that.

24 Q. Do you know that Foday Sankoh had to make a quick visit to
19:13:47 25 Sierra Leone while he was in the Ivory Coast at one point? Did
26 you know that?

27 A. No.

28 Q. Do you know of the operation called Operation Stop
29 Elections?

1 A. No.

2 Q. So your testimony is that when you went over to Ivory Coast
3 in 1996, you did not come back to Sierra Leone at any given time.
4 Is that correct?

19:14:32 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And your testimony is that you fell ill and was
7 hospitalised for how long was it?

8 A. I said I spent about six months in the hospital.

9 Q. So you were in hospital for six months. And in what year
19:14:54 10 did you get out of hospital?

11 A. I think it was in '97, the ending part of '97, going to
12 '98. '97. In between that.

13 Q. Which hospital were you in?

14 A. They had an area called Polyclinic. That is where I was
19:15:32 15 sent.

16 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I'm not sure what the spelling
17 might be, but it's sounding from the way he has pronounced it
18 will probably be P-O-L-Y, clinic.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think it's correctly spelled on the
19:15:49 20 record, possibly, unless it's in French.

21 MR BANGURA:

22 Q. When you fell ill, did you - who recommended you to this
23 hospital, this clinic, polyclinic?

24 A. Foday Sankoh asked the Ivorian government. The person who
19:16:11 25 took me there was the Foreign Minister. He took me to that
26 clinic.

27 Q. And who was paying the bills for you for that period that
28 you were hospitalised there?

29 A. I can't tell who was paying, but it was the Foreign

1 Minister who took me into the clinic, so I believe that they were
2 paying the bills for peace sake.

3 Q. Did your other colleagues with whom you had gone to the
4 Ivory Coast know that you were hospitalised?

19:16:50 5 A. Yes, some of them knew that I was in the hospital. They
6 knew.

7 Q. And your testimony is that you then - after you got
8 discharged from hospital, you went to Danane, correct?

9 A. Yes. I went to Danane after I had been discharged from the
19:17:10 10 hospital, but at that time Foday Sankoh had left for Nigeria
11 where he was arrested. They discharged me from the hospital,
12 then I went to Danane.

13 Q. Before you were discharged from hospital, you've just
14 mentioned that Foday Sankoh went to Nigeria where he was
19:17:30 15 arrested, but before that also mentioned Zogoda had been
16 attacked. Is that correct?

17 A. Yes, that was the time that I heard that Zogoda had been
18 overrun by the government soldiers and the Kamajors.

19 Q. Did you continue to have contact with your colleagues that
19:17:52 20 were in the Ivory Coast that you had come with?

21 A. I couldn't see anybody at that time. The whole thing -
22 after they had arrested the leader, I did not know the
23 whereabouts of the other people who were there.

24 Q. So why did you decide to go to Danane after you were
19:18:10 25 discharged from hospital?

26 A. After I had been discharged from hospital - because I
27 felt that Danane was one of the areas that would be suitable for
28 me to live because they had given me enough drugs to take, so I
29 felt that that area was going to be a better place for me to

1 reside because there was a refugee camp around that area and
2 people there spoke English. Because all that time that we were
3 in Ivory Coast, I was unable to speak French, so I had no other
4 way but to go there and spend my time there to take my drugs.

19:18:48 5 Q. Mr Witness, this was 1996. Why did you not decide to go to
6 Liberia?

7 A. I was sick. How could I be sick and having been just
8 discharged from the hospital and just get up and go to Liberia?
9 I was sick.

19:19:09 10 Q. Where did you stand a chance of getting better attention,
11 at home or in a refugee camp away from home in another country?

12 A. They had Liberians in the camp and Liberians are people who
13 feel sorry for one another. There were other people there. I
14 was a member of a church, a Baptist church and the Baptist church
19:19:42 15 had a branch there. I went to the Baptist church, I explained my
16 problem and the Baptist church was assisting me.

17 Q. Where did you stay when you were in Danane?

18 A. The church rented a small room for me. I was in that room
19 taking my treatment and attending the church at the same time.

19:20:02 20 Q. So it didn't occur to you that you might be better off
21 being home with family at this time? You had a very serious
22 condition. You'd been in hospital six months. You'd been cut
23 off from family for so long. It didn't occur to you that you
24 might be better off getting closer to family at this time?

19:20:24 25 A. I was in good hands, my church members, and they were
26 taking care of me, so I was believed - I believed that I was with
27 my family. They were my church members; they were my family.

28 Q. Mr Witness, your testimony is that your mother - your
29 family went to the Ivory Coast.

1 Your Honour, I am not sure whether I've gone far enough to
2 cause any --

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Personally, I don't think there's a
4 problem with that. There's no way that can identify the witness.

19:21:08 5 MR CHEKERA: I was just going to rise - I rose to just
6 question my learned friend that the more he presses into these
7 details, the more it might be easier to identify the witness and
8 that if he could exercise caution.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm sure he's aware.

19:21:26 10 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour. I will try to tread
11 very carefully:

12 Q. You had family that had gone to the Ivory Coast, according
13 to your testimony, correct?

14 A. Yes, I told you that my mother - my sister took my mother
19:21:43 15 there.

16 Q. Mr Witness, you just be careful of what you say. Your
17 testimony is that your family had been - they were in Ivory Coast
18 and they had been there - they were there. You never had any
19 further contact with them - with your sister particularly,
19:22:10 20 correct?

21 A. Yes, I didn't have any contact with them.

22 Q. So now you're sick and need care and attention. You are in
23 Danane, where there is a refugee camp. Did you go to find them?

24 A. No, I did not go to find them.

19:22:39 25 Q. Why not?

26 A. I never had - I didn't go to find them. I was already in
27 good hands, so I didn't have chance to go and find them.

28 Q. [Microphone not activated] did not consider it important to
29 be close to those members of your family?

1 A. Yes, I didn't see it important. Because when I was going
2 to the base I did not inform them. And I went there and I stayed
3 there and I got sick. Why would I take my sick self to go to
4 them? I didn't see it necessary to go to them, but to stay with
19:23:27 5 my church members who'd help me, and that was how I was assisted
6 by them.

7 Q. Mr Witness, the fact is that you never had any of those
8 members of your family in Danane in Ivory Coast. That's the
9 truth, isn't that so?

19:23:40 10 A. Whether they were there at that time I don't know, because
11 I never went to look out for them. I don't know whether they
12 were there at that time.

13 Q. The fact is they were not there at that time and they never
14 had been there at all, correct?

19:24:00 15 A. I don't know.

16 Q. Are you agreeing with me or disagreeing? When you say you
17 don't know, it doesn't seem to give me a proper answer.

18 A. Well, I can't tell you whether they were there, and I can't
19 tell you whether they were not there. This is why I told you
19:24:21 20 that I don't know. Suppose I tell you now that they were not
21 there and you and go and find out that they were there, would I
22 not be lying to you? I would be lying to you. That was why I
23 told you that I don't know, because I didn't go to find them.

24 Q. You had not seen any of those members of your family for
19:24:40 25 possibly - for five, six years, correct? At that time - at that
26 moment in time you had not seen any of those members of your
27 family for up to six years, perhaps even longer, correct?

28 A. Longer than that. More than that even.

29 Q. And you were not even curious at all to go find out whether

1 in fact they were there, as you had known that that was the last
2 location that they had gone to. You were not that curious?

3 A. I was not that concerned to find them because I didn't tell
4 them that I was going. Now I went there sick, how could I take
19:25:26 5 my sick burden and take that to them? My mother was an old, sick
6 lady.

7 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly
8 repeat slowly.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please pause. You said, "My
19:25:41 10 mother was a sick old lady." Now, continue from there and repeat
11 your answer.

12 THE WITNESS: I said my mother was a sick, old lady. When
13 I was leaving to go from where I came from where I got sick, I
14 did not inform them. Why should I go and find them to put the
19:26:02 15 burden on them? It was better for me to be with my family
16 member, that is my church people, to assist me until I rediscover
17 myself, and they did it for me and I rediscovered myself.

18 MR BANGURA:

19 Q. Mr Witness, did the RUF have a base or a place of residence
19:26:29 20 in Danane?

21 A. If they had a base or a place where they were staying in
22 Danane? I don't know about that, because I did not go out there
23 to find their base or to find a base or place. I was sick at
24 that time. I was in the hands of the church people. I was not
19:26:50 25 curious to know about that, whether they had a base or a place in
26 Danane.

27 Q. Were there other RUF members in Danane while you were
28 there?

29 A. I did not see any RUF member in Danane when I was there.

1 When I went there with my - I'm staying with my church people.

2 If they had RUF members there then I am not aware of that, but I
3 did not see them to say these were RUF members.

4 Q. How big is Danane? Is it a town, is it a city?

19:27:32 5 A. I don't know but Danane is a big town, a very big town.
6 It's not a small town.

7 Q. And how long were you in Danane?

8 A. I stayed in Danane up to 2000. I left Danane in 2000. At
9 that time there was election in Liberia. That was the time that
19:27:53 10 I came to Liberia. And I came along with the church and it's the
11 same church that I'm in right now.

12 Q. And just to go back, in '96 when you came from hospital and
13 went to Danane, back home in Liberia there was not any fighting
14 going on between the factions, correct?

19:28:21 15 A. Yes, there was no fighting there. They had an elected
16 government in Liberia when I went there.

17 Q. I'm not talking about when you went there. I'm talking
18 about at the time you left hospital when you decided to go stay
19 in Danane. You left hospital in - which part of Ivory Coast were
19:28:41 20 you in hospital?

21 A. When I went to Danane I was not in a hospital. It was when
22 I was in Abidjan that I was in a hospital.

23 Q. I'm talking about the time you left Abidjan to come to
24 Danane, this was about '96, sometime in '96, correct?

19:29:01 25 A. I told you '96, '97.

26 Q. And in Liberia at that time it was quite peaceful and safe
27 for travel, isn't that so?

28 A. I don't know because I was not there. I only went there
29 during the time they had an elected government. But in between

1 '97, '96 I don't know whether there was fighting there because I
2 was not there.

3 Q. So did you meet any RUF member from your delegation in
4 Danane while you were there?

19:29:53 5 A. I told you that I was in the hands of my church people. I
6 didn't go to Danane to look for any RUF member. When I got sick
7 at the time and was discharged from the hospital I went straight
8 to my church people. I didn't go to find any other RUF, whether
9 they had RUF base there.

19:30:14 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: You were asked a simple question, did you
11 meet any RUF member. It's not suggested that you went looking
12 for anybody. The question is simply did you meet any RUF member
13 in Danane? The answer is yes or no.

14 THE WITNESS: No, I did not see RUF member in Danane when I
19:30:36 15 went there.

16 MR BANGURA:

17 Q. Do you know somebody called Action Man?

18 A. No, I don't know any name Action Man.

19 Q. Do you know someone called Augustine Mallah?

19:30:57 20 A. No.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, I think that would be an
22 appropriate time to end today's proceedings. We continue
23 tomorrow with this same witness. Mr Witness, as usual you are
24 not to discuss your testimony with anyone, please.

19:31:22 25 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.

26 MR CHEKERA: Just a quick one, again if I could get an
27 indication from learned counsel opposite as to how long he thinks
28 he will be in cross.

29 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I may take about two hours, half

1 of tomorrow's session.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, because we are again convening
3 tomorrow at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, as you know. So that is
4 until 5 p.m. tomorrow.

19:31:54 5 MR CHEKERA: Thank you.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Proceedings are adjourned to tomorrow at
7 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

8 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 7.31 p.m.
9 to be reconvened on Thursday, 18 March 2010 at
10 3.00 p.m.]

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WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENCE:

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EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR CHEKERA	37409
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR BANGURA	37409