



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF  
THE SPECIAL COURT  
V.  
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

THURSDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2008  
9.30 A.M.  
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

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**Before the Judges:**

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

**For Chambers:**

Mr Simon Meisenberg  
Ms Sidney Thompson

**For the Registry:**

Ms Rosette Muzigo-Morrison  
Ms Rachel Irura

**For the Prosecution:**

Ms Brenda J Hollis  
Mr Christopher Santora  
Ms Julia Baly  
Ms Maja Dimitrova

**For the accused Charles Ghankay Taylor:**

Mr Terry Munyard  
Mr Morris Anyah

**For the Office of the Principal Defender:**

Mr Silas Chekera

1 Thursday, 21 February 2008

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:29:56 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. I note appearances are as  
6 before at the Prosecution bar. Mr Anyah, I note a change of  
7 personnel on your well of the Court.

8 MR ANYAH: Yes, good morning, Madam President. Appearing  
9 for the Defence today Mr Terry Munyard, myself Morris Anyah. We  
09:30:20 10 are joined by duty counsel from the Office of the Principal  
11 Defender, Mr Silas Chekera and there's a new face in court for  
12 the first time, Mr Albert Carrera who is an attorney intern in  
13 our office and for the record Carrera is C-A-R-R-E-R-A.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Anyah. We welcome  
09:30:47 15 Mr Carrera to the Court. If there are no other matters I will  
16 remind the witness of his solemn declaration.

17 Mr Witness, you recall yesterday you took the solemn  
18 declaration to tell the truth. That oath is still binding on you  
19 and you must continue to answer questions truthfully. Do you  
09:31:11 20 understand?

21 THE WITNESS: Yes.

22 WITNESS: TF1-275 [On former oath]

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Please proceed.

24 MR SANTORA: Thank you. Good morning, your Honours. Good  
09:31:18 25 morning, counsel.

26 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR SANTORA: [Continued]

27 Q. Good morning, Mr Witness. Are you hearing me in Liberian  
28 English?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Mr Witness, I want to ask you some questions about some of  
2 the things that you talked about yesterday before we continue.

3 A. Yes.

09:31:44 4 Q. Yesterday you said that the first time you were with the  
5 NPFL you took leave and left with permission. Later you said  
6 that when you were captured in Sierra Leone and taken back to  
7 Liberia you were suspected to have previously absconded. Can you  
8 clarify whether you took leave with permission from the NPFL in  
9 1990?

09:32:12 10 A. Yes. I took leave after we had had the advanced training  
11 at Gbarnga and they told us to be on stand by to go to Ganta and  
12 from there I decided to visit my grandfather in Bomaru where I  
13 stayed and when the fighting started in Sierra Leone and I was  
14 captured by the troops that were mopping around Potoru.

09:32:49 15 Q. So yesterday why did you say you were suspected to have  
16 previously absconded?

17 A. Pardon me?

18 Q. Yesterday can you explain why you said you were suspected  
19 to have previously absconded?

09:33:14 20 A. Yes. What I was trying to say was that I had left the NPFL  
21 without permission and they never knew that I was living in  
22 Sierra Leone at that particular time.

23 Q. So did you not have permission to go live in Sierra Leone?

24 A. No, at that time.

09:33:40 25 Q. Now yesterday also you talked about when you were captured  
26 near Potoru in Sierra Leone. You said others were captured as  
27 well near Potoru and other villages. What were the age groups of  
28 the people captured from your observation?

29 A. Some were children and we were all moving alongside one

1 another towards Vahun when we were captured by the troops that  
2 were moving around that terrain and after the individual  
3 interviews were conducted and because I was the only person being  
4 a Liberian that was taken to Vahun and the rest of the citizens  
09:34:35 5 remained in Bomaru.

6 Q. And from your observation what was the gender of those  
7 captured, gender composition?

8 A. Well, they were trying to know the reason why we were  
9 moving from Sierra Leone towards the borderline at that  
09:34:58 10 particular time.

11 Q. Mr Witness, the people that were captured, was it men and  
12 women or only men?

13 A. We were a mixed group that was captured.

14 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, when the witness says some  
09:35:25 15 were children exactly what does he mean?

16 MR SANTORA: I will clarify. Thank you, your Honour:

17 Q. You say that some of the people captured were children. Is  
18 that correct?

19 A. Yes. There were children, men and women.

09:35:40 20 Q. When you say children what do you mean?

21 A. Below the age of 10.

22 Q. Now yesterday you talked about installing a radio station  
23 at Koindu in an area called Baidu but I want to clarify the name  
24 of that area, is Bardu or Baidu. Can you say the exact area  
09:36:16 25 within Koindu where this radio was installed?

26 A. Yes. The exact name of the place was Baidu, B-A-I-D-U.

27 Q. Now yesterday you made reference to something referred to  
28 that was on the record as a greet reference. What do you mean by  
29 that?

1 A. I said grid reference. Grid reference were secret numbers  
2 that were given to replace names, times, towns - towns, villages  
3 and strategic areas in terms of coding.

09:37:19

4 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Perhaps the witness could spell what he  
5 means.

6 MR SANTORA:

7 Q. Can you spell the word?

8 A. I am talking about G-R-I-D-E R-E-F-E-R-E-N-C-E, grid  
9 reference

09:37:43

10 Q. The first word in that is - did you say grid?

11 A. G-R-I-D-E. Grid reference.

12 MR SANTORA: The record is as it is, I will move on:

09:38:25

13 Q. Yesterday you said that when you installed the radio  
14 station at Pendembu you were assisted by gallant men. What did  
15 you mean by that?

16 A. They assisted me in order to erect the antenna because I  
17 couldn't do it alone.

18 Q. What do you mean by the word gallant?

19 A. Somebody who is strong and physically fit.

09:38:55

20 Q. Now at the point we concluded yesterday you had said that  
21 you came to a place known as Kangari Hills. Is that correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And that was at some point near the beginning of 1994?

24 A. Yes.

09:39:19

25 Q. Now yesterday when you described the location of Kangari  
26 Hills you said several villages which were in the vicinity of  
27 Kangari Hills. Can you name those villages again?

28 A. Yes. I said Kangari Hill is located in the north of Sierra  
29 Leone between Makeni and Kono. I called villages like Makali,

1 Matotoka, Masingbi, Makong.

2 MR SANTORA: Your Honours, some of these have been spelled,  
3 but just for the record I don't believe Matotoka has been  
4 spelled.

09:40:28 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: The last name I don't recall, Makong or  
6 something.

7 THE WITNESS: Makong.

8 MR SANTORA:

9 Q. Can you spell that?

09:40:49 10 A. Yes, M-A-K-O-N-G.

11 Q. I wanted to pick up now where we left off yesterday when  
12 you arrived at Kangari Hills. First of all can you again say who  
13 was the commander at Kangari Hills?

14 A. Yes, the very first commander at Kangari Hill was Mohamed  
09:41:34 15 Tarawalli.

16 Q. Can you name some other high level commanders at Kangari  
17 Hills at this time?

18 A. Yes, the overall training commander that was based at  
19 Kangari Hills was called John Vincent. The operations commander  
09:41:58 20 after Mohamed Tarawalli was called CO George Daniel.

21 Q. Any other commanders you remember present?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Who is George Daniel?

24 A. He was --

09:42:27 25 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness repeat  
26 that bit of his answer.

27 MR SANTORA:

28 Q. Can you just again say who was George Daniel?

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please pause. The

1 interpreter requires you to repeat the last part of your answer.  
2 Maybe repeat the whole lot. For point of clarification,  
3 Mr Interpreter, are you asking an answer to the question who is  
4 George Daniel?

09:42:59 5 THE INTERPRETER: Very well, your Honour.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. Please answer again the question  
7 who is George Daniel.

8 THE WITNESS: George Daniel was the head of operations at  
9 Kangari Hill.

09:43:19 10 MR SANTORA:

11 Q. Do you know where he was from?

12 A. Yes, he was a Liberian.

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

14 A. Yes, he was also a Liberian.

09:43:37 15 Q. Now you said that Mohamed Tarawalli was the overall  
16 commander at Kangari Hills. Did Mohamed Tarawalli remain at  
17 Kangari Hills while you were there the whole time?

18 A. Yes, he was there since 1994 up to 1997.

19 Q. Did there come a time when Mohamed Tarawalli left Kangari  
09:44:11 20 Hills?

21 A. Yes, Mohamed Tarawalli left Kangari Hill immediately after  
22 the operation, the operations in Kabala in 1994 December.

23 Q. Okay, when Mohamed Tarawalli left Kangari Hills in December  
24 '94 do you know what happened to him?

09:44:49 25 A. Yes, he was recalled by Mr Sankoh to report to him at  
26 Zogoda. From Zogoda he was sent over to Pujehun in order to  
27 mobilise, to move and attack Sierra Rutile.

28 Q. Do you know why Mohamed Tarawalli was called to Zogoda?

29 A. Yes. Mohamed Tarawalli was recalled from Kangari Hill to

1 Zogoda in order to give duty information with regards the  
2 captured civilians, especially the women that were captured in  
3 Kabala.

4 Q. Who was he asked to give this duty information to?

09:46:12 5 A. He was asked by Mr Sankoh and the War Council at Zogoda in  
6 order that he will give duty information with regards the  
7 civilians or the women that were captured in Kabala.

8 Q. What do you mean by duty information?

9 A. Information that was sufficient enough in respect of the  
09:46:46 10 capture of civilians, especially the women in Kabala.

11 Q. When you say the captured civilians in Kabala what are you  
12 referring to?

13 A. They took them away from Kabala to another destination.

14 Q. Who took them away?

09:47:10 15 A. Mohamed Tarawalli and the group that entered Kabala at that  
16 time.

17 Q. Did you yourself participate in that entry into Kabala?

18 A. Yes, I did.

19 MR ANYAH: Madam President, I have been hesitant to raise  
09:47:32 20 this point with the Court, but I've waited for counsel perhaps to  
21 clarify the record. The witness testified that Tarawalli was at  
22 Kangari Hills between 1994 through 1997 and subsequently he said  
23 Tarawalli did leave Kangari Hills in December 1994. Counsel is  
24 entitled to lead his witness as he chooses, but it would  
09:48:00 25 facilitate matters if questions like these were clarified at this  
26 point.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, you have heard counsel for  
28 the Defence. My notes show that he left immediately after the  
29 operation in Kabala '94. Perhaps it would assist if we could



1 clarify that and seek chronological sequence.

2 MR SANTORA: Certainly, your Honour:

3 Q. Mr Witness, just to clarify one aspect of what you've said,  
4 Mohamed Tarawalli you said left December '94 from Kangari Hills.

09:48:35 5 Is that correct?

6 A. Yes, I said after the operations in Kabala he was recalled  
7 to report at Zogoda.

8 Q. Did he ever come back to Kangari Hills?

9 A. Yes. He only passed through Kangari Hills whilst he was  
09:48:58 10 coming from the Western Jungle and on his way back to Zogoda, but  
11 he did not stay at Kangari Hills from the day that he was  
12 recalled.

13 Q. And that being December 1994, is that correct?

14 A. Yes.

09:49:18 15 Q. When Mohamed Tarawalli was recalled in December '94 who  
16 took command of Kangari Hills?

17 A. The deputy who was George Daniel remained serving as the  
18 commander at Kangari Hills and he was later replaced by Isaac  
19 Mongor.

09:49:52 20 Q. And when did Isaac Mongor replace George Daniel, do you  
21 remember approximately?

22 A. Yes, it was in 1995.

23 Q. And did Isaac Mongor remain in command of Kangari Hills  
24 until 1997 while you were there, for the duration of your time  
09:50:19 25 there?

26 A. Yes. Isaac remained as the commander at Kangari Hills  
27 until the time for the AFRC coup in 1997.

28 Q. And who is Isaac Mongor?

29 A. Isaac Mongor, according to him he was one of the Vanguard

1 who was also trained at Sokoto and also served as training  
2 commandant at Sokoto. He was at one time battle group commander  
3 in Pendembu in 1992.

4 Q. And where is Isaac Mongor from originally?

09:51:18 5 A. Isaac Mongor was in Liberia, but according to him he is a  
6 Sierra Leonean.

7 Q. Now you were in the process of describing when Mohamed  
8 Tarawalli was recalled to Zogoda. Is that correct?

9 A. Yes.

09:51:44 10 Q. And you said he was recalled to give duty information  
11 regarding captured civilians from an operation in Kabala. Is  
12 that correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What was the content of that information, do you know?

09:52:03 15 A. Yes, I know the details of that information. Whilst he was  
16 leaving Kangari Hills for the Kabala operations Mohamed Tarawalli  
17 was instructed to capture Kabala and to ensure that he captured  
18 the ritual head who was living in Kabala and to ensure that he  
19 moved beyond Kabala and he was not to take back any civilian,  
09:52:56 20 except the able bodied men that were capable to be trained and at  
21 the end of the operation in Kabala Mohamed Tarawalli disobeyed  
22 the orders and he took along a huge amount of civilians,  
23 especially women.

24 Based on that information when the news reached Mr Sankoh  
09:53:34 25 over the BBC that civilians were captured in Kabala, especially  
26 the women, he decided to conduct an investigation and other  
27 security personnel who took part in that mission proved to  
28 Mr Sankoh that Mohamed Tarawalli brought with him civilians,  
29 especially women. And it was for that reason that Mr Sankoh

1 decided to recall Mohamed Tarawalli to report at Zogoda and  
2 further investigations were conducted at Kangari Hill.

3 Q. Okay, Mr Witness, first of all you used the expression that  
4 Mohamed Tarawalli was instructed to capture the ritual head.

09:54:46 5 What do you mean by the ritual head of Kabala?

6 A. In 1994 in Kabala there was a man living in Kabala who used  
7 to prepare the fighting men or the armed forces of Sierra Leone,  
8 the SLA, and he was called the Tamaboro head. He was the one who  
9 used to protect them, according to the information that reached  
10 Mr Sankoh, so that was the reason why he sent Mohamed Tarawalli  
11 to get rid of that particular person.

12 MR SANTORA: Tamaboro spelling is - it's a new word to me  
13 so I'm going to ask the witness to spell it:

14 Q. Do you know how to spell Tamaboro?

09:55:55 15 A. No.

16 MR SANTORA: This is phonetically, T-A-M-B-A-B-O-R-R-O.  
17 That's just a phonetic spelling:

18 Q. Now you said that Sankoh received information about this  
19 operation. What did Sankoh do with this information?

09:56:25 20 A. It was based on this information over the BBC that he  
21 decided to recall Mohamed Tarawalli and he sent people to conduct  
22 a further investigations at Kangari Hill.

23 Q. What happened to the civilians that were captured?

24 A. Mr Sankoh requested that the investigation team should take  
09:56:56 25 all the women captured amounting to 200 to Zogoda.

26 Q. Now after Mohamed Tarawalli was recalled what happened to  
27 him?

28 A. At the end of the investigations he was sent to Pujehun.  
29 His assignment changed from Kangari Hills to Pujehun up to Sierra

1 Rutile.

2 Q. And after the operation at Rutile, after the Rutile event,  
3 did anything happen to Mohamed Tarawalli? Do you know what  
4 happened to him?

09:57:58 5 A. Yes, Mohamed Tarawalli was recalled to take over Zogoda  
6 when Mr Sankoh was leaving to attend the Abidjan Peace Accord in  
7 Ivory Coast.

8 Q. Do you know approximately when that was that Foday Sankoh  
9 initially left for the negotiations in the Ivory Coast?

09:58:43 10 A. Yes, it was in 1996.

11 Q. So when Sankoh left for the peace negotiations in Ivory  
12 Coast what happened to the leadership of the RUF?

13 A. Before the Mr Sankoh departed he recalled Mohamed Tarawalli  
14 who was in the far west of Sierra Leone at Rotifunk in order to  
09:59:30 15 join him at Zogoda to resume duties as acting leader whilst he  
16 will stay out on the peace accord. But because it was a far  
17 distance for Mohamed Tarawalli to walk within that time schedule  
18 for Mr Sankoh to depart, Mr Sankoh left Zogoda that he left his  
19 bodyguards in charge of Mohamed Tarawalli and when Mohamed  
10:00:06 20 Tarawalli came to Zogoda he will resume duties as leader, as  
21 acting leader. Mohamed Tarawalli travelled from Rotifunk through  
22 Kangari Hills and came to Zogoda. Whilst Mr Mohamed Tarawalli  
23 was at Zogoda --

24 Q. Mr Witness, I'm going to pause you because I just want to  
10:00:28 25 ask you a few small questions. First of all, how do you know  
26 that Foday Sankoh was recalling Mohamed Tarawalli to put him in  
27 acting leadership? How do you know this?

28 A. It was communicated. He sent communication and delegates  
29 were requested from Kangari Hills to take part in that particular

1 meeting and the information was brought back to the base at  
2 Kangari Hills. And during the time Mr Mohamed Tarawalli left  
3 Rotifunk he also made it very clear at the formation at Kangari  
4 Hills that he was leaving to take over at Zogoda whilst Mr Sankoh  
10:01:27 5 will be in Ivory Coast for peace talks.

6 Q. First of all, Mr Witness, there's a place you've mentioned  
7 twice called Rotifunk?

8 A. Yes, Rotifunk.

9 Q. What is that? Is that a location?

10:01:45 10 A. Yes, Rotifunk is a name of a town in the west, in the south  
11 place.

12 Q. Can you spell it?

13 A. I think it's R-O-T-I-F-U-N-K.

14 Q. So you said that Mohamed Tarawalli was in Rotifunk at the  
10:02:13 15 time this message was communicated, is that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. When you said he sent communication, it was communicated  
18 when I asked you how you knew this, what do you mean it was  
19 communicated, by what means?

10:02:37 20 A. Through the HF transmission.

21 Q. And when this transmission occurred where were you exactly?

22 A. I was also with Mohamed Tarawalli at Rotifunk.

23 Q. How far is Rotifunk from Kangari Hills?

24 A. It's very far. Rotifunk is almost close to Freetown and  
10:03:13 25 Kangari Hills is in the north.

26 Q. Now when you said you were based at Kangari Hills from  
27 early '94 to 1997 what do you mean now that you were at Rotifunk  
28 at this time?

29 A. Kangari Hill was where I had my official assignment, but

1 during the operation in Sierra Leone which was called Operation  
2 Stop Elections I was instructed to join Mohamed Tarawalli at  
3 Rotifunk.

4 Q. And how long were you at Rotifunk for approximately?

10:04:02 5 A. I was there for almost a month.

6 Q. Now you then said there was a formation at Kangari Hills  
7 and he said he was leaving to take over Zogoda while Mr Sankoh  
8 would be in Ivory Coast for peace talks. What formation are you  
9 talking about here?

10:04:41 10 A. A formation is a place where - where the fighting men  
11 assemble in order to take further instructions.

12 Q. Okay. This particular formation that occurred, who was  
13 present?

14 A. Present in what sense?

10:05:13 15 Q. I'll ask maybe a clearer question. You said first that  
16 Mohamed Tarawalli, there was a communication for him to go from  
17 Rotifunk to Zogoda to take over as acting leader while Sankoh was  
18 away in Ivory Coast. Is that correct?

19 A. Yes.

10:05:33 20 Q. You then also said there was a formation where it was  
21 communicated or understood that Mohamed Tarawalli was going to  
22 take over at Zogoda. Is that correct?

23 A. Yes, I said upon his arrival at Kangari Hills he informed  
24 the general populace in a formation that he was going to take  
10:06:10 25 over.

26 Q. After that formation did he proceed at that point to go to  
27 Zogoda?

28 A. Yes, he went to Zogoda.

29 Q. And did you accompany him?

1 A. No. This time around I stopped at Kangari Hills.

2 Q. After Sankoh left for Ivory Coast and Mohamed Tarawalli was  
3 appointed as acting leader in Sankoh's absence did anything  
4 happen to Mohamed Tarawalli?

10:06:46 5 MR ANYAH: Madam President, I would object to the form of  
6 the question. Perhaps it would be better if the witness were the  
7 one to say that Sankoh did in fact leave and I could scroll back  
8 the transcript and that came into the record through a question  
9 of counsel. There was an assumption that Sankoh did leave after  
10:07:06 10 he made this communication through the radio requesting that  
11 Tarawalli go over to Zogoda. The witness did not himself say  
12 Sankoh left. We are now at a point where the question in my view  
13 is a compound question including Sankoh's departure, assuming  
14 Tarawalli did indeed take over as commander in his absence and  
10:07:29 15 then asking a third question about what occurred thereafter. So  
16 I'm objecting to the form of the question.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: My recollection is that the witness said  
18 Foday Sankoh left before Tarawalli arrived, but the other parts -  
19 I think you've got a valid comment on the other two sections of  
10:07:49 20 that question. Mr Santora, if you would please reword that  
21 question to avoid leading the witness on some of these points.

22 MR SANTORA: I will, your Honour. If I understand it  
23 correctly I believe that - because it was my understanding there  
24 was foundation that he had he said that he had left, but --

10:08:08 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: I do recall that part, but the next part  
26 did Tarawalli actually take over is not definite.

27 MR SANTORA: I understand. Thank you, your Honour:

28 Q. After Sankoh left for Ivory Coast did Mohamed Tarawalli  
29 take over as acting leader?

1 A. Yes, indeed.

2 Q. And did anything happen to him after he took over as acting  
3 leader?

4 A. Yes. After Mohamed Tarawalli had taken over as the acting  
10:08:49 5 leader at Zogoda and whilst the peace talks were going on in  
6 Ivory Coast there were a series of attacks on Kailahun, Kangari  
7 Hills, Rotifunk and Zogoda itself. Mohamed Tarawalli used to  
8 send reports about the attacks to Mr Sankoh in Ivory Coast. Late  
9 September 1996 Zogoda was infiltrated and captured and Mohamed  
10:09:53 10 Tarawalli was on his way to Kailahun and suddenly he disappeared  
11 without any further information concerning Mohamed Tarawalli.

12 And it was based on that information and others who were  
13 successful in surfacing at Kailahun gave information to Sam  
14 Bockarie and such information concerned how Mohamed Tarawalli was  
10:10:42 15 missing in action and that was reported to Mr Sankoh by Sam  
16 Bockarie.

17 Q. Now how was this reported to Mr Sankoh by Sam Bockarie?

18 A. I said those who moved together with Mohamed Tarawalli in  
19 the same convoy, some of them surfaced in Kailahun and they gave  
10:11:22 20 their own views with regards how Mohamed Tarawalli got missing in  
21 action.

22 Q. When you had said that Foday Sankoh had left for Ivory  
23 Coast how was this information regarding Mohamed Tarawalli  
24 conveyed to Foday Sankoh?

10:11:43 25 A. There were frequent communications taking place between  
26 Mohamed Tarawalli and Foday Sankoh and Foday Sankoh had with him  
27 a communications set in Ivory Coast through which he used to  
28 communicate too with the various stations in Sierra Leone,  
29 especially with Mohamed Tarawalli.



1 Q. So in this particular instance with regard to the incident  
2 involving Mohamed Tarawalli who communicated this information to  
3 Sankoh?

4 A. At that time it was Sam Bockarie from Kailahun.

10:12:39 5 Q. And how do you know that?

6 A. I knew that because I used to monitor the net and at the  
7 same time I was at Kangari Hills and my position was still firm.

8 Q. So just to clarify one thing, after Mohamed Tarawalli left  
9 you continued on your duties as radio operator in Kangari Hills?

10:13:15 10 A. Yes, I was radio operator at Kangari Hills until the time  
11 that Mohamed Tarawalli got missing in action in September 1996.

12 Q. Now you said that this was communicated and Foday Sankoh  
13 had with him a communication set in Ivory Coast. What do you  
14 mean? What exactly did he - I'm sorry, what did he have with him

10:13:56 15 exactly?

16 A. You mean in Ivory Coast?

17 Q. Yes.

18 A. When Mr Sankoh left for the peace accord he requested that  
19 an operator goes so that there will be a flow of communication  
20 between Mr Sankoh and his commanders in Sierra Leone.

10:14:22 21 Q. Who did he take with him to Ivory Coast?

22 A. Mr Sankoh had about three operators with him in Ivory  
23 Coast. One was Martin Moinama, Eddie Murphy and another operator  
24 who was Dauda Fornie, otherwise called Daff.

10:15:14 25 MR SANTORA: The spelling of Fornie and F-O-R-N-I-E.

26 Martin Moinama should be M-O-N-E-M-A and the LiveNote did not  
27 pick up Murphy, but it's common spelling M-U-R-P-H-Y.

28 Q. So what happened now as a result of this communication from  
29 Sam Bockarie to Foday Sankoh in Ivory Coast with regards to

1 Mohamed Tarawalli?

2 A. After Mohamed Tarawalli got missing in action and over a  
3 period of one month Mr Sankoh's position was also under threat in  
4 Ivory Coast. So he decided to leave Ivory Coast and whilst he  
10:16:46 5 was in transit he was trapped in Nigeria.

6 Q. Before you proceed with that I just want - if you can  
7 answer one question. You said that Sam Bockarie communicated  
8 this incident with regards to Mohamed Tarawalli to Foday Sankoh.  
9 Was there any response from Foday Sankoh after this communication  
10:17:13 10 was relayed to him?

11 A. Yes. Mr Sankoh asked for permission from the committee  
12 that was conducting the peace accord in Ivory Coast and he  
13 visited Kailahun, Kangari Hills and Rotifunk where Superman was  
14 the overall commander and upon his return back to Kailahun he  
10:17:53 15 then vested powers into Sam Bockarie to serve as the overall  
16 commander and acting leader in Sierra Leone.

17 Q. Okay. How do you know that when he returned back to  
18 Kailahun on this trip he vested powers into Sam Bockarie to serve  
19 as overall commander and acting leader? How do you know?

10:18:23 20 A. After the ceremony was conducted they sent communications  
21 to the various areas like Rotifunk where Superman was serving as  
22 commander, in Kangari Hills where Isaac Mongor was and the  
23 information was passed on to the fighting men on the formation  
24 ground.

10:18:50 25 Q. How was this information passed on?

26 A. The information was passed on through the HF radio  
27 transmission.

28 Q. Did you yourself hear this transmission?

29 A. Yes, indeed.

1 Q. So when Sankoh came back through Kailahun and vested powers  
2 in Sam Bockarie were you present in Kailahun when this happened?

3 A. No, I was at Kangari Hills.

10:19:46

4 Q. And did you hear whether or not - you heard the  
5 communications that were passed on to other stations, did you?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Now did anything happen to you as a result of Sam Bockarie  
8 taking over as acting leader of the RUF?

10:20:25

9 A. Yes. When Sam Bockarie resumed, or even before Sam  
10 Bockarie started acting as acting leader for the RUF the RUF was  
11 somewhat split into two. The Special Forces never had good  
12 rapport with the Vanguardians and because I was working directly  
13 under Mohamed Tarawalli, Sam Bockarie and I were never - never  
14 used to understand each other on the line of communication. For

10:21:06

15 the fact that Sam Bockarie always tried to trample on the  
16 communications network. He always used to speak Mende, Krio on  
17 the communications set. I objected to that twice or three times  
18 and Mr Sankoh also tried to put that under control, but it proved  
19 difficult.

10:21:39

20 And it was based on that misunderstanding between Sam  
21 Bockarie and myself with regards the communication and when he  
22 was appointed as the acting leader of the RUF he decided to  
23 change the entire leadership of the communications sector and it  
24 was based on that idea that he took another person who was called  
10:22:24 25 Sillay Duwoh who was an operator of the NPFL from Lofa County.  
26 He even sent other operators from the RUF to Liberia. He changed  
27 the entire communication system and he suspended and even  
28 expelled me and that I shouldn't have anything to do with the  
29 communications until Mr Sankoh arrived in due course.

1 That notwithstanding, I had every access to communication.  
2 I used to monitor the operators that I trained before he resumed  
3 as leader of RUF and he used to give me information from every  
4 angle and wherever communications set was installed. So I had  
10:23:41 5 sufficient means of getting information with regards the  
6 operation of the RUF, but I was at that time not directly  
7 controlling the communications sector since Sam Bockarie resumed  
8 the leadership of the RUF up to 2000 when I was arrested.

9 Q. Okay. So I'm going to clarify several areas, your Honours.  
10:24:12 10 First let's start with - there was an individual that you  
11 mentioned that was appointed in your stead, in your place, by Sam  
12 Bockarie named Si llay Duwoh. Is that correct?

13 A. Si llay Duwoh.

14 Q. Can you spell that for the Court?

10:24:33 15 A. Yes, S-I-L-L-A-Y D-U-W-O-H.

16 Q. Now you said that when Sam Bockarie took over --

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, the interpreter kept  
18 referring to the word "resumed as leader". I'm not sure if he  
19 meant assumed leadership.

10:25:20 20 MR SANTORA: That's what I want to clarify because there  
21 was a he and I'm not clear as to which he he is referring to, the  
22 witness, and that's part of the area of clarification so that may  
23 cover that as well:

24 Q. You said I used to monitor the operators that I trained  
10:25:42 25 before he resumed as leader of RUF and he used to give me  
26 information from every angle wherever communications set was  
27 installed. When you say before he resumed as leader who are you  
28 talking about? Who are you talking about?

29 A. I meant Sam Bockarie and he had misunderstanding with me

1 before he was appointed as leader or acting leader of the RUF and  
2 all the operators that were working with him during his regime, I  
3 had access to them in terms of communication and I had  
4 communication set myself through which I used to monitor the RUF  
10:26:42 5 operations, though I was no longer the head of communications  
6 since 1996 up to 2000.

7 Q. And when you said he resumed, you used the word resumed  
8 with regards to Sam Bockarie, what do you mean?

9 A. I meant he took over or he assumed.

10:27:14 10 Q. Assumed. When he assumed leadership, is that what you  
11 mean?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And was this the first time that Sam Bockarie had assumed  
14 leadership of the RUF?

10:27:39 15 A. Yes, that was the time that he assumed leadership of the  
16 RUF as acting leader in the absence of Mr Sankoh.

17 Q. Now you also said that Sam Bockarie had suspended you from  
18 operations when he took over as acting leader of the RUF and that  
19 also notwithstanding you had every access to communications and  
10:28:05 20 continued to monitor. What do you mean by this?

21 A. What I am trying to say is that the operators still  
22 complied with me in terms of communication and they always used  
23 to send information to me with regards RUF operation and myself,  
24 I had a set that I used to monitor the RUF operations.

10:28:37 25 Q. So when you're referring to this period now - I'm sorry,  
26 let me rephrase the question. When you say that you were  
27 suspended but continued with access to communications and would  
28 receive information with regards to RUF operations what time  
29 period are we talking about - are you talking about?

1 A. From the time he was mandated to serve as acting leader  
2 from 1996 when Mohamed Tarawalli got missing in action and up to  
3 2000 when I was arrested.

10:29:43 4 Q. Now during the time you were at Kangari Hills were there  
5 any changes in the overall radio procedures?

6 A. Yes, there were only additions, an additional procedure to  
7 monitor communication which was a bit strange to the system that  
8 we used to practice in the past. Whilst we were at Kangari Hills  
9 we had another radio that we used to monitor either the ECOMOG  
10:30:19 10 communication or communications amongst ourselves whenever it was  
11 necessary.

12 Q. Now when you say there was an additional procedure to  
13 monitor communication which was a bit strange to the system what  
14 do you mean exactly?

10:30:45 15 A. There were separate communications that we used to monitor  
16 whether a person was not speaking directly to you, but you would  
17 have access to know what was going on through the RUF radio  
18 network.

19 Q. Who instituted this new procedure?

10:31:19 20 A. I was the one who did that, because we had extensive areas  
21 to control and we had to capture communications from the enemy  
22 positions and that also assisted us to give us the duty  
23 information with regards the movement of the helicopters against  
24 our positions.

10:31:48 25 Q. Okay. I understand you've said what the monitoring was for  
26 in terms of what you were monitoring, my question though is what  
27 exactly did you set up in terms of the overall radio system?

28 I'm going to ask the witness to not answer that question  
29 and I will rephrase the question. Can you explain what you mean

1 when you said there were separate communications to monitor  
2 whether a person was not speaking directly to you?

3 A. Okay. What I'm trying to say is this: In a communication  
4 network you have a tendency to listen to everyone that is  
10:32:52 5 speaking without interfering with the communication itself, or if  
6 you had a frequency whenever two people are communicating you may  
7 have access to listen to them without interfering with the  
8 communication. When Sam Bockarie deemed it necessary to change  
9 the entire set up in the communication that system was introduced  
10:33:18 10 in order to monitor systematically the activities of Sam Bockarie  
11 as well as the enemy positions.

12 Q. How did you set the system up?

13 A. There were other communications that were used purposely to  
14 monitor and to know exactly what was going on on a daily basis in  
10:33:50 15 the RUF and beyond the RUF controlled areas with respect to enemy  
16 positions, especially about the Alpha jet movement towards our  
17 positions.

18 Q. When you say there were other communications that were used  
19 do you mean other communications sets or do you mean  
10:34:13 20 communications between people? What do you mean?

21 A. A communications set that was used apart from the station  
22 that was in full control of transmitting and receiving messages.

23 Q. So are you saying that there was a separate set?

24 A. Yes, a separate set.

10:34:44 25 Q. Now was this a change - was this instituted only at Kangari  
26 Hills or was it instituted throughout the network?

27 A. Yes, at Kangari Hills and Sam Bockarie himself had such a  
28 system.

29 Q. And these sets that were used for monitoring, what kind of

1 sets were they?

2 A. They were the same sets. It could be either Thompson,  
3 Kenwood, but their duty was only to listen to every communication  
4 that you may have access to at that particular time without  
10:35:39 5 transmitting, or responding to anyone during the time that you  
6 were monitoring the communication between whosoever - among  
7 whosoever was speaking on the net.

8 Q. Now yesterday you testified that you were involved in the  
9 training of radio operators in 1992 at Pendembu. Is that  
10:36:14 10 correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Did you continue to have that duty while you were at  
13 Kangari Hills or not?

14 A. Beg your pardon?

10:36:28 15 Q. Did you continue to engage in the training of radio  
16 operators while you were at Kangari Hills?

17 A. Yes, until 1996 I was still conducting training and after  
18 conducting the training I used to transfer the operators to  
19 Mr Sankoh at Zogoda. But after Mohamed Tarawalli got missing in  
10:37:04 20 action I was no longer in charge of training operators.

21 Q. Mr Witness, just to understand, after Sam Bockarie took  
22 over and your assignment was changed, but after that point you  
23 still continued to have access to the communications system. Is  
24 that correct?

10:37:42 25 A. Yes, but I was not transmitting.

26 Q. I want to ask you now some questions that relate to your  
27 observations as to how radio operations worked during the course  
28 of your involvement in the conflict in Sierra Leone generally.

29 A. Yes.



1 Q. First of all you've discussed radio installation. How does  
2 that work?

3 A. The process of installation, you would need to have a  
4 communications set, an antenna, your battery that could start the  
10:38:39 5 communication and you have what we call the frequency or channel.  
6 After connecting the set to the battery you would have to tune,  
7 switch your set on and make sure the frequency had five digit  
8 numbers that you may have to supply to all other nets or radios  
9 that would be in line with the head station. You would have to  
10:39:25 10 ensure that you use the antenna line on the radio to receive  
11 clear signals. At the end of that you have to test or call other  
12 stations that are working on the same frequency with you. All  
13 other stations that work on that particular frequency are called  
14 radio nets or substations.

10:39:58 15 Q. Now you've talked about an antenna. How do you place the  
16 antenna?

17 A. Based on the range at which you want to communicate you can  
18 use a long range antenna or a short range antenna, depending on  
19 the range at which you want to communicate.

10:40:16 20 Q. When it came to the radio sets that you were involved with  
21 in Sierra Leone what were the range of these sets?

22 A. Depending on the position where you install your  
23 communications set it is possible that you can communicate beyond  
24 Sierra Leone or in the subregion of Africa.

10:40:52 25 Q. Were there other factors that affected the range of  
26 communication?

27 A. Yes. Your antenna position can affect your communication.  
28 The weather can also affect the communication. Lack of a charged  
29 battery can also affect your communication. Your position can

1 also affect your communication.

2 Q. How generally did the batteries remain - how did you keep  
3 the batteries charged?

10:41:41

4 A. You needed to use a solar panel or a generator to charge  
5 your battery for effective communication.

6 Q. Now you've mentioned two types of radios thus far in your  
7 testimony. You've talked about installing a fixed station but  
8 then you've also mentioned at one point when an individual had a  
9 mobile set. What's the difference between these?

10:42:04

10 A. What I am trying to say is that when you want to have a  
11 base --

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause, Mr Witness. Yes, Mr Anyah?

13 MR ANYAH: I recall the witness mentioning three types of  
14 radios yesterday. Thompson, CAT and Kenwood.

10:42:27

15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yaesu.

16 MR ANYAH: Thompson, CAT and Kenwood and there was a Yaesu,  
17 and I think it's nomenclature but perhaps counsel could clarify  
18 what he means as in perhaps he means the mobility of these sets.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: I recall the witness also using the word  
10:42:44 20 mobile.

21 MR SANTORA: I think perhaps to clarify he referred to two  
22 positions, one being an installation that was fixed, a fixed  
23 radio, and another being a mobile radio. Maybe the word  
24 positions --

10:42:55

25 PRESIDING JUDGE: There seems to be two different issues,  
26 these brand names and then the mobile and fixed, so we'll deal  
27 with them separately.

28 MR SANTORA:

29 Q. Just in terms of the difference between a fixed and a

1 mobile set can you explain?

2 A. What I'm trying to say is that a communication that you use  
3 or a set that you use at a station can also be used for mobile.  
4 When I talk about mobile I am talking about when you move, when  
10:43:31 5 you are moving. The Yaesu or CAT system radio can come on to  
6 communicate and when you finish you stop it and you continue to  
7 move. But base communication, you cannot remove it. It is used  
8 to receive transmission from every angle and it is on 24 hours  
9 round the clock.

10:43:57 10 Q. Now you've discussed yesterday high frequency. Can a  
11 mobile station - first of all, what do you mean by high  
12 frequency?

13 A. High frequency, what I'm trying to say is that the same  
14 frequency can be used for mobile, but with the base or  
10:44:21 15 headquarters station the communication set is on 24 hours while  
16 the mobile set can only come on, give information, switched off  
17 and the journey is continued.

18 Q. Can a mobile set by a high frequency set?

19 A. Yes. Yes, they use the same frequency, but it's a fact  
10:44:44 20 that the mobile set cannot be used for 24 hours. It is not  
21 permanent. It comes on and off.

22 Q. And is there a difference in range between a high frequency  
23 and a low frequency radio?

24 A. No, there is no difference.

10:45:01 25 Q. So what is the difference between high frequency and low  
26 frequency in terms of how they operate?

27 A. The difference between high frequency and low frequency is  
28 the range at which you communicate.

29 Q. Which one has a larger range?

1 A. The one that is properly erected with a very high level  
2 antenna or an advanced level antenna. This can communicate at a  
3 higher range, while the shortest antenna or a mobile antenna can  
4 only communicate at a short range.

10:45:49 5 Q. I'm going to just ask the question one more time and I'll  
6 move on, but between high frequency and low frequency is there a  
7 difference in range?

8 A. There is a difference. The difference is that the antenna  
9 position, the kind of antenna that you used, the area where you  
10:46:13 10 are can determine the high frequency and that of the low  
11 frequency.

12 Q. I want to ask you some questions generally about the RUF  
13 radio network and how it operated. Can you describe how the flow  
14 of communications would generally work within the RUF?

10:46:37 15 A. Pardon?

16 Q. Can you describe generally how the flow of communications  
17 would work within the RUF?

18 A. Yes. For example, in Kailahun there was a particular  
19 station that operated alongside other substations and in Kangari  
10:47:11 20 Hills there were many substations, but they were operating  
21 directly under one head station. Above all, all other stations  
22 within the RUF command structure focused on the headquarters  
23 station which was in Zogoda at the time Foday Sankoh was in  
24 Zogoda and later in Kailahun when Sam Bockarie was in command as  
10:47:42 25 the acting leader.

26 Q. So how would the flow of communication work between a  
27 substation and a headquarters station?

28 A. All substations either in the north can communicate  
29 directly to the headquarters stations in the north and further

1 information would be passed on from the headquarters station on  
2 to the other headquarters station either in Zogoda or in Kailahun  
3 District. But one fact is that all other internal communication  
4 was restricted to internal purposes and only the station which  
10:48:29 5 was with Mr Sankoh or Sam Bockarie that has every access to  
6 communicate outside Sierra Leone.

7 Q. So when you say only the head station - I'm sorry, let me  
8 repeat the question. When you say only the station which was  
9 with Mr Sankoh or Sam Bockarie has every access to communicate  
10:49:05 10 outside Sierra Leone what do you mean by that?

11 A. What I am trying to say is this: Kangari Hills never had  
12 the mandate to communicate either with the NPFL or during the  
13 time that Mr Sankoh was in Sierra Leone Sam Bockarie never had  
14 access to communicate outside RUF communication. But only  
10:49:32 15 Mr Sankoh had that mandate to do so. But all other stations  
16 within Sierra Leone were subject to a particular station that was  
17 within that region.

18 Q. How do you know that only these headquarters stations,  
19 whether it was under Sankoh or Bockarie, had this authority to  
10:50:09 20 communicate outside of Sierra Leone?

21 A. That was the system that was in place and I know it because  
22 it was put in place and I was part of it from the very beginning,  
23 but it was strictly restricted that no other communication in  
24 Sierra Leone should be transmitted out of Sierra Leone except  
10:50:34 25 through Mr Sankoh.

26 Q. Now I'll come back to that issue. I want to talk to you  
27 though a little more about how the radios worked. Have you ever  
28 heard of the phrase "net call"?

29 A. Pardon?

1 Q. Do you know the word net call, what it means?

2 A. Okay, yes, I know what net call means. A net call is a  
3 call to alert every station to ensure that they are on the net  
4 and they are observing or listening to the net or the particular  
10:51:30 5 frequency at which every station operates at a particular time.

6 Q. Who would institute a net call?

7 A. A net call can be instituted by any other station based on  
8 the quality of material or information that you want to pass on  
9 at a particular time.

10:52:00 10 Q. So you've discussed headquarters stations and substations.  
11 Could a substation institute a net call?

12 A. Yes, depending on the information that you want to pass on  
13 to other stations you can institute a net call.

14 Q. What is the phrase "voice procedure" referring to?

10:52:29 15 A. A voice procedure is an act of communicating using the  
16 voice.

17 Q. Typically in the RUF radio network what language was used  
18 to communicate over the radio?

19 A. We used voice procedure.

10:52:55 20 Q. And in what language were the communications in?

21 A. We used to communicate in English. Later in Krio and  
22 typical or the vernacular in Sierra Leone.

23 Q. When did the communications move generally from English  
24 toward Krio?

10:53:28 25 A. When Sam Bockarie assumed leadership in 1996.

26 Q. Now were these communications stored in any fashion?

27 A. Pardon?

28 Q. Were records kept of radio communications in the RUF?

29 A. Please make that very clear.

1 Q. I will rephrase the question. After - well, explain  
2 exactly maybe as an example, just explain how a communication  
3 would work from one commander to another?

4 A. Okay, I understand what you're trying to say. Every  
10:54:28 5 station had what we called log book and you would make sure that  
6 every message that you were transmitting to another station is  
7 recorded for further record purposes?

8 Q. Where were these log books kept?

9 A. Every station had a log book and a general log book used to  
10:55:00 10 be with the head station, Mr Sankoh had more record log books.  
11 At the end of every month you have to submit your log book for  
12 record purposes.

13 Q. So was the recording in the log books occurring at the time  
14 the communication took place?

10:55:24 15 A. Yes, for every communication you were sending out it needed  
16 to be recorded in your log book.

17 Q. Now was every communication between commanders recorded?

18 A. No. Voice procedure - sorry, voice communication or  
19 communication that is done verbally among commanders can never be  
10:55:50 20 recorded into the log book.

21 Q. What do you mean by that?

22 A. What I'm trying to say is this: For example, when Sam  
23 Bockarie wanted to talk to Issa Sesay you would only make  
24 prearrangements at the time and change from the national  
10:56:10 25 frequency to another frequency that would be suitable for the two  
26 stations to communication and that communication can never be  
27 recorded into the log book. The log book was mainly for  
28 transmission of messages that you are transmitting to another  
29 station that may have implications on you as an operator.

1 Q. So just to understand the difference, the communications  
2 recorded in log books, who was actually transmitting these  
3 communications over the radio set? Who was physically  
4 transmitting them?

10:56:53 5 A. All operators were trained and that was their duty, to  
6 transmit information from every commander to another person that  
7 the message is meant for.

8 Q. And the other type of communication was when commanders  
9 would have communications directly over the set. Is that  
10:57:22 10 correct?

11 A. Okay, we used to have what we called prearrangement, like  
12 what I have just discussed with you in the past. Whenever  
13 Mr Sankoh wanted to communicate to Mr Charles Taylor you have to  
14 make the prearrangements and such communication can never be  
10:57:46 15 encoded. They will speak to each other and make sure that the  
16 frequency on which they were communicating was free from all  
17 other stations except the two.

18 Q. I want to talk to you about frequencies. You've talked  
19 about something called the national frequency. What is the  
10:58:18 20 national frequency?

21 A. The national frequency, like I said in the past, frequency  
22 is a five digit number that every station is bound to monitor or  
23 listen to, then when you listen to another station where everyone  
24 focuses on communication or to receive transmission, but there  
10:58:57 25 are other frequencies that are private or that are restricted to  
26 authorities. For example, if you have a list of frequencies  
27 there are restricted frequencies that no other station can  
28 communicate on except the authorities.

29 JUDGE LUSSICK: Well, I still don't know what the national



1 frequency is.

2 MR SANTORA:

3 Q. Let's start just with the national frequency. When you say  
4 national frequency what do you mean?

10:59:32 5 A. It is a frequency that every net or radio communication  
6 within that net are bound to listen to or it is a frequency that  
7 all other stations are given in order to communicate or to do net  
8 calls at the time of transmission.

9 Q. During your time in terms of the RUF radio network do you  
11:00:07 10 remember the national frequency number?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What was it?

13 A. The national frequency for the RUFSL from the beginning to  
14 the end was 70110.

11:00:31 15 Q. So when you say it is a frequency that every net or radio  
16 communication within that net are bound to listen to, what do you  
17 mean?

18 A. Okay, for example, the 70110 was a national frequency. All  
19 other stations that want to communicate with the RUF, whether  
11:01:03 20 internally or externally have to come to that frequency in order  
21 to connect with the particular station that that station wants to  
22 communicate with. So that is the only frequency that you can use  
23 to connect with another station within the RUF operation system.

24 Q. So you're saying all other stations that wanted to  
11:01:28 25 communicate with the RUF came to the national frequency first.  
26 Is that correct?

27 A. Yes, that is the only way you can get that particular  
28 station.

29 Q. Now you've also talked about other frequencies. Let's just

1 take - actually, I'm sorry. Let me withdraw that and I ask you  
2 this: Upon arriving to the national frequency typically what  
3 would happen then if somebody wanted to communicate to someone in  
4 the RUF?

11:02:08 5 A. Be it the RUF or not, as long as you arrive at the national  
6 frequency you can call the particular station that you want to  
7 call and switch from that particular frequency to another  
8 frequency that you wish to communicate with at the time in order  
9 to allow the national frequency to be monitored by other  
11:02:32 10 stations.

11 Q. So if conversation was occurring on the national frequency  
12 was it widely available?

13 A. That will cut off access and everyone would listen to that  
14 communication and that was strictly restricted. You can only  
11:02:57 15 come to the national frequency to get access to the situation  
16 that you want and go to the other frequency for communication.  
17 Only a net call can permit you to talk on the national frequency  
18 for few minutes.

19 Q. Now you said commanders including, you said, when Foday  
11:03:18 20 Sankoh wanted to communicate with Charles Taylor there would be a  
21 prearranged frequency. What do you mean by this?

22 A. Okay, for example, as I just said, the national frequency,  
23 in case you wanted to communicate to Mr Sankoh you first come to  
24 the national frequency and make a net call or call the code name  
11:03:51 25 of Mr Sankoh's radio station, the operator would answer and you  
26 would tell the operator to switch to so and so frequency for  
27 arrangement and you people will have to go there and make the  
28 arrangements for another frequency that would be appropriate for  
29 that particular communication.

1 Q. If you were on the national frequency - I'm sorry, if a  
2 commander was calling to the national frequency and told to go to  
3 another frequency how would this occur? Would he be given a  
4 number?

11:04:32 5 A. The commander cannot come. That is why every commander who  
6 had access to a communication set had an operator. They were the  
7 only people who knew how to carry out the functions of the  
8 communications system. It's only when you're a trained operator  
9 that you can carry out that particular duty.

11:04:54 10 Q. Now you've talked about codes. What would codes apply to  
11 within the radio systems?

12 A. A code is applied in order to secure or make the  
13 information secret. For example, if you wanted to talk about  
14 Freetown instead of calling out the name of Freetown you will use  
11:05:31 15 Foxtrot Tango or FT which is the initial. Instead of using the  
16 initial of Freetown you will use Tango 1 which every operator  
17 knew that Tango 1 is the name of Freetown.

18 Q. Did frequencies have codes?

19 A. Yes.

11:05:59 20 Q. Explain what you mean by that?

21 A. For example, if station 1 wanted to contact station 20  
22 station 1 would come to on the net and say, "Station 1 for  
23 station 20, take me to Bravo 1". That means Bravo 1 is a  
24 frequency which you know. No other person listening at that time  
11:06:27 25 would know except if the code determines what Bravo 1 is. If  
26 Bravo 1 has a specific frequency, perhaps it may be 285, you  
27 would immediately have to go to that frequency and catch up with  
28 the station that you wanted to communicate with.

29 Q. So in the example you just gave where station 20 would come

1 to the net for station 1 would that initial contact occur over  
2 the national frequency?

3 A. Yes, you have to come to the national frequency before  
4 getting to the frequency that you deem necessary.

11:07:12 5 Q. And then in this example station 1 would call out the name  
6 of a code which would refer to a frequency?

7 A. Yes, as I have just told you, you may have 20 frequencies  
8 at the time in your code book and you want to communicate with  
9 station 1 - station 20 may want to communicate with station 1 at

11:07:46 10 68285 and if 68285 is on B1 you will just say, "Station 1 for  
11 station 20, take me to B1".

12 Q. In this example B1 being the code for --

13 A. It is a code for the frequency that you want to refer to.

14 Q. Now who designed these codes?

11:08:17 15 A. The codes originally were from the NPFL and as time went on  
16 we used our own ideas to manipulate the codes as we got to  
17 understand how to apply those codes in times of operation.

18 Q. Now aside from coding for frequencies which you've just  
19 discussed you've also talked about something called grid  
11:08:54 20 references. Can you explain what a grid reference is?

21 A. Yes, I said that grid references are specifically used for  
22 strategic locations, towns and, if possible, for instruments, for  
23 equipment like weapons or places.

24 Q. You said there were codes for things like equipment, like  
11:09:39 25 weapons?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. How would this work?

28 A. Okay. In a military operation they have various weapon  
29 names. We have AK, G3, grenade launcher, anti-tank, et cetera,

1 et cetera. You will ensure that you sought out every weapon that  
2 you know is available for that particular operation and we used  
3 codes to match each name - each weapon to a name. So in times of  
4 operation if you needed any of those material or to be supplied  
11:10:27 5 with arms and ammunition, instead of speaking on the net saying,  
6 "I need a resupply" or, "I'm short of AK ammo" you would just use  
7 that particular code. Sometimes you will say 22, tango 22 or  
8 Bravo 22 or 221. That would suit your convenience and the person  
9 who was monitoring the net will know that you are communicating  
11:10:52 10 and that you are using strange words and he will not have full  
11 knowledge of your communication at the time.

12 Q. Now thus far you've talked about codes for frequencies, for  
13 locations and for content and weapons. Can you describe in terms  
14 of the coding system for content of communications what kind of  
11:11:21 15 coding system were you using?

16 A. Yes. A coding system in terms of content is that if you  
17 are sending message for example for Mr Sankoh - from Mr Sankoh to  
18 Sam Bockarie, Mr Sankoh's code name is Smile and to Sam Bockarie  
19 is Log. The subject could be content --

11:11:54 20 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness kindly  
21 take this area slowly.

22 MR SANTORA: I just wonder maybe where to pick up.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you're speaking too fast for  
24 the interpreters. Can you go more slowly and maybe repeat the  
11:12:14 25 last part of your answer.

26 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

27 MR SANTORA:

28 Q. Mr Witness, you were just describing the coding system and  
29 how a message would be sent under code. What kind of coding

1 system are you referring to?

2 A. I said in terms of content or contents, for example when  
3 you were sending a message from the leader of the RUF the code  
4 name of the leader of the RUF may be Smile, so you say from Smile  
11:13:04 5 to - if it was Sam Bockarie his code name is Log.

6 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, the word is Log.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: As in the lump of wood.

8 MR SANTORA: Exactly.

9 Q. Continue, Mr Witness.

11:13:34 10 A. And the content will be what the message is all about. It  
11 could be a directive, an advice or an information. Then you will  
12 have the date. Before you receive or start to receive the  
13 message you already knew the weight of the message. The weight  
14 of the message will come from the content. If it is a directive  
11:14:12 15 you will know before you start taking down the message.

16 Q. Was the content itself coded?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. In terms of that coding what kind of coding was being used  
19 for the content?

11:14:37 20 A. It depends on the code that you are using at that  
21 particular time, because the code used to change depending on the  
22 situation or the area of operation. Your code book will  
23 determine the kind of code that you want to use for a specific  
24 word that you intend to use at the time.

11:15:04 25 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Santora, I'm just growing curious here.  
26 Is this going to relate to any specific evidence or is it just a  
27 general guide for radio operators?

28 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, it's relevant to this witness's  
29 specific testimony later on and it's our submission as well that

1 it's very, very relevant as well for additional evidence that the  
2 Prosecution will present during the course of the Prosecution's  
3 case.

4 JUDGE LUSSICK: Very well.

11:15:30 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Before we move on, Mr Santora, two code  
6 names were given. It is unclear to me whether they are  
7 hypothetical examples or the actual codes for the persons named.

8 MR SANTORA: I will clarify that, your Honour:

9 Q. Mr Witness, you said that there was the code name Smile.

11:15:53 10 Was this somebody's real code name?

11 A. Yes, Smile was allocated to Mr Sankoh.

12 Q. And the code name Log?

13 A. It was also allocated to Sam Bockarie at a particular time.

14 Q. Did these names change at any time?

11:16:20 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. How frequently would the names change?

17 A. It depends on the security situation of the person, because  
18 for example Sam Bockarie during the time that he was in a top  
19 position, he used to talk over the air too much so what he needed  
11:16:48 20 to do was to change his code name and people used to do it  
21 depending on the security network or what is determined at the  
22 time. It can stay for some time, maybe two to three months, and  
23 it can change.

24 MR SANTORA: I ask now that the witness be referred to what  
11:17:13 25 is marked now in tab 23, a document in tab 23 and in particular  
26 the second page of that document I would ask the witness's  
27 attention be drawn to.

28 THE WITNESS: Second page.

29 MR SANTORA: For the record too the ERN number for the page

1 I'm referring the witness to is 00025639. Can we check that that  
2 corresponds?

3 THE WITNESS: 639.

4 MR SANTORA:

11:19:08 5 Q. Mr Witness, do you recognise what's on this document?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. Can you describe for the Court what's on it?

8 A. Yes. I can see "BFC - Sky". BFC is the abbreviation for  
9 battlefield commander and Sky is the code word for battlefield  
10 commander.

11:19:46

11 Q. I want you to look down the document - I'm sorry, I want  
12 you to first look across and you see that there's the numbers  
13 listed 1 through 9 and corresponding --

14 MR ANYAH: Madam President, I'm sorry to interrupt, I don't  
15 know if the document has been identified.

11:20:05

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, it has not.

17 MR SANTORA: Okay:

18 Q. Do you recognise what this document is?

19 A. Yes.

11:20:20

20 Q. What is it?

21 A. It's a document that belonged to the signal operation.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, are you referring the page or  
23 the document that begins with something else other than what's on  
24 the --

11:20:48

25 MR SANTORA: Your Honours, with this particular witness I  
26 was just drawing his attention to a page within a larger document  
27 and seeking his --

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I understand that, but what are you  
29 referring to now when you asked him does he know the document?



1 MR SANTORA: The page. I should say the page. I'm sorry  
2 about that.

3 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I thought the objection was does this  
4 witness recognise this entire document.

11:21:15 5 MR ANYAH: Madam President, we have before the witness a  
6 handwritten document. We don't know who authored it. We don't  
7 know from where it came. We don't know if he's seen it before.  
8 I'm asking for some foundation, that's all.

9 MR SANTORA: I will ask that the witness have a few minutes  
11:21:33 10 to look at the entire document first.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, he has to do that first.

12 MR SANTORA: That's what I'm asking. I ask permission that  
13 he look at the document:

14 Q. Can you look at that entire document, Mr Witness. Just go  
11:21:47 15 ahead and look at the document as a whole. Have you looked at  
16 this document, Mr Witness?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Do you know what it is?

19 A. Yes. This is a document that belongs to the signal unit  
11:23:30 20 about teaching the act of encoding and a process in which you use  
21 the code in relation to appointments, code words and duty  
22 information about communication in the RUF.

23 Q. Now did you prepare this particular document?

24 A. This is a note --

11:24:01 25 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness repeat his  
26 answer. It's not clear whether it's for or from.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter requires you  
28 to repeat your answer. Can you start again from the beginning.

29 THE WITNESS: I said this is a document that is recognised

1 as a document that was used for the communication of the RUF.

2 MR SANTORA:

3 Q. Based on your experience as a radio operator is this  
4 document typical of the documents that were prepared with regards  
11:24:39 5 to radio operations?

6 A. Yes, this is a classroom document.

7 Q. Now I would ask --

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, no, you can't. You've asked  
9 this witness whether he prepared this document. He hasn't  
11:24:57 10 answered that question.

11 MR SANTORA: Okay. I will clarify that:

12 Q. This particular one, did you yourself prepare this  
13 document?

14 A. I said this is a document, a note, belonging to a student.

11:25:15 15 Q. So you yourself didn't write this document?

16 A. This particular document is not my handwriting. It's the  
17 handwriting of another student, but it's in line with the  
18 communication rules and a form of preparing codes.

19 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: The witness also said this is a document  
11:25:44 20 that is recognised as a document that was used for the  
21 communication of the RUF. Now was this an RUF document or was  
22 this student notes? That needs to be clarified.

23 MR SANTORA: Yes, your Honour:

24 Q. Just to clarify, Mr Witness, this document, you said it was  
11:26:02 25 a student note and you also said it was related to the RUF.  
26 Exactly what is this document?

27 A. Yes, this document, it's a copy of the exact code that we  
28 used during the time of the RUF movement.

29 Q. And who prepared this particular - do you know who prepared

1 this document?

2 A. Yes, this document, from what I am seeing, it is a document  
3 of one of the bodyguards of Mr Sankoh.

4 Q. How do you know that?

11:26:51 5 A. It is written boldly at the back of the paper that it's a  
6 Black Guard document and he's an operator.

7 Q. And who is the individual? Do you know who the individual  
8 is whose document this actually is?

9 A. I only saw it as a Black Guard notebook. Perhaps it was  
11:27:19 10 used at the station, but I recognise it as exactly what I'm  
11 seeing inside - from what I'm seeing inside it's a document that  
12 is authentic.

13 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Could the witness perhaps point on the  
14 overhead to us what he means by what is written boldly at the  
11:27:48 15 back of the paper.

16 THE WITNESS: It is crystal clear from the back of the  
17 document that this document is a Black Guard hand note.

18 JUDGE LUSSICK: So, Mr Santora, I take it then that these  
19 are not student notes because he has now said that it's a Black  
11:28:13 20 Guard document and it's by somebody who is an operator.

21 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, my understanding is that the two  
22 are not mutually exclusive and this is what I'm going to try to  
23 clarify. The contents of this document he recognises from his  
24 observations and experience involved in radio operations. Now  
11:28:35 25 this particular document he refers to as being with regards to a  
26 Black Guard operator, he also referred to it as typical of  
27 students notes. Now I don't think they're mutually exclusive,  
28 but I can clarify that, your Honour.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: You'll have to clarify it in the next

1 minute as the tape, I suspect, is about to run out. I'm just  
2 watching the time, Mr Santora, but let us deal with this.

3 MR SANTORA: I think that's appropriate, I will just deal  
4 with this when we return. I can ask him now?

11:29:07 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ask him now, please.

6 MR SANTORA:

7 Q. Mr Witness, quickly this particular document, you said it  
8 was notes of a student but that it was also a Black Guard  
9 operator. What do you mean? Which one do you recognise it as?

11:29:23 10 A. What I'm trying to say is that this document is noted by me  
11 as a process or a document which I use to teach a student, but  
12 it's also a code that we used, but our code used to be type  
13 wherein and this is a copy of a document that we used as a code.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think we will have to adjourn at this  
11:29:54 15 point, Mr Santora, as the two hours are up. Mr Witness, we will  
16 now take the mid-morning adjournment and we will resume at 12  
17 o'clock.

18 [Break taken at 11.30 a.m.]

19 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

11:59:19 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, please proceed.

21 MR SANTORA: Thank you, your Honour:

22 Q. Mr Witness.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. I would like you to turn, within the document you have in  
11:59:40 25 front of you, to the page with the number 00025639. Do you have  
26 that page in front of you?

27 A. Yes, yes.

28 Q. Could you describe what you see on this page?

29 A. Yes.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause. Mr Anyah, you are on your feet.

2 MR ANYAH: Yes, Madam President. Before the break  
3 I believe we were in the process - or counsel, rather, was in the  
4 process of establishing foundation for this document before the  
12:00:43 5 witness could comment as to its content. I still interpose a  
6 foundational objection in this sense: I have not examined the  
7 document up close, but looking at it by virtue of the copies  
8 I have and from the distance between me and the witness, it is  
9 handwritten and despite the witness's evidence that it is  
12:01:09 10 representative, or typical of other documents he has seen, or  
11 saw, during the time he spent with the RUF, there is still a  
12 temporal question about the document. Many documents are  
13 prepared long after the events to which they speak, or purport to  
14 speak and there is no foundation as to when this document was  
12:01:32 15 prepared. Even if we accept, for the sake of argument, that it  
16 was prepared by a former member of the RUF and even if we took it  
17 a step further and said it was prepared by an RUF radio  
18 communicator, often times people can write down what they  
19 remember from memory long after the events and we don't know, we  
12:01:53 20 simply do not know when this document was prepared. Even if the  
21 witness were to testify as to something in the content of the  
22 document that he recalls as being identical to codes or phrases  
23 used perhaps ten years hence, it still would not suffice to  
24 identify when this document was prepared.

12:02:19 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Your reply, Mr Santora?

26 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, the witness has stated that he  
27 recognises this as a handwritten copy of the type of documents  
28 that he was associated with when he was training radio operators.  
29 There is a time connection because he has already, in testimony,

1 talked about the time he was involved in training. He recognises  
2 the contents therein and typical, or as - the same type of  
3 contents that he was associated with. Your Honour, in most  
4 jurisdictions, and including within the international system,  
12:03:00 5 when a witness can identify a document as being the type of  
6 document that he has been associated with, foundation is laid.  
7 I know it is sometimes called something like a business records  
8 exception, or a business record, or something, that he is  
9 familiar --

12:03:15 10 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, can I learned counsel please  
11 speak slower.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: You have heard the interpreter.

13 MR SANTORA: I did your Honour. I will slow down. The  
14 point being is that --

12:03:42 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated].  
16 Mr Interpreter - I am sorry, I didn't press my microphone - there  
17 is no need to interpret what counsel is saying to us, but you  
18 must record it.

19 MR SANTORA: I will shorten it to this: This witness has  
12:04:09 20 already said he is familiar with this document and the contents  
21 therein as being a copy, a written copy, of a typed document that  
22 was used in training purposes. He has testified, at several  
23 occasions already, at his association with the training of RUF  
24 radio operators and he recognises the contents of this particular  
12:04:31 25 document as being identical to the contents that he was  
26 associated with in his capacity as trainer of the RUF radio  
27 operators. I think foundation has clearly been laid at this  
28 point.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah's objection appears to go to

1 time, whether it is a contemporaneous document or not.

2 MR SANTORA: Your Honours, in terms of the timing, the  
3 witness is on the record at this point in talking about the time  
4 he was associated with the training of RUF radio operators. He  
12:05:00 5 has discussed it already in terms of his time in Pendembu and  
6 then he is also on the record in terms of his additional training  
7 that he performed at Kangari Hills.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: But it is not his training, it is when  
9 the document was written.

12:05:16 10 MR SANTORA: In terms of foundation being laid, the  
11 contents - the witness has said this is a copy of a training  
12 document that they used. When that actual transcription of  
13 writing occurred from this particular operator to this  
14 handwritten form, in my submission is not relevant as to whether  
12:05:41 15 or not there is foundation for it.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: We uphold the objection. We consider  
17 there has not been adequate foundation laid in relation to this  
18 document either as to the time it was made, or its authorship.

19 MR SANTORA:

12:07:00 20 Q. Mr Witness, do you know who wrote this document?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Looking at the document can you tell if - one moment, your  
23 Honour. Looking at the cover, can you look at the cover of the  
24 document.

12:07:27 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. What do you recognise that to be?

27 A. I can see something like Black Guards administration.

28 Q. What does that mean?

29 A. Black Guards were the bodyguards of Mr Sankoh and some of

1 them were operators as well.

2 Q. With regards to some of these that were operators, in the  
3 course of your training did you train some of these operators?

12:08:15

4 A. Yes, I trained some of them, some of the bodyguards as  
5 operators.

6 Q. Now, you said that the contents of this document are a copy  
7 of another document, a handwritten copy of another document, is  
8 that correct?

12:08:43

9 A. Yes, I said that it is a handwritten copy of a document,  
10 all the code procedures that were taught in the classroom whilst  
11 I was with them.

12 Q. In terms of the document that this was a copy of, are the  
13 contents of that document substantially similar to what you see  
14 in this document?

12:09:13

15 MR ANYAH: Madam President, I would object to the form of  
16 the question in several respects: It is leading, it diminishes  
17 the threshold for authenticity when counsel uses the words  
18 "substantially the same", when previously in submissions he said  
19 they were "identical", and regardless of what the witness's  
20 response were to be, it would not to any significant degree  
21 establish the question of when the document in front of him was  
22 made.

12:09:38

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: It is leading, Mr Santora. It cannot be  
24 put in that form.

12:09:55

25 MR SANTORA:

26 Q. Mr Witness, the contents that you see in this document, are  
27 they identical to the contents of the document you were using  
28 when you were involved in training of radio operators?

29 A. Yes.



1 MR ANYAH: Madam President --

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah, it is still leading, yes. Is  
3 that --

4 MR ANYAH: Besides, we have been here and the witness  
12:10:25 5 reviewed the document for perhaps five seconds. He has a  
6 notebook in front of him. How could he possibly say, under oath,  
7 that the contents of these are exactly identical to a document  
8 that is not before him, that he may not have seen the original  
9 since 10 years ago? How could he possibly say that?

12:10:44 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: He can be asked a question, but the  
11 question in the form it was in was leading.

12 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, in terms of leading, the witness,  
13 based on his experience - there is significant foundation laid  
14 for this witness's experience in terms of training radio  
12:11:11 15 operators. Now, in this particular - it is in testimony at this  
16 point yesterday and today, at various points, that he was  
17 involved in training the radio operators and the training that  
18 was going on, he has testified that they used a particular  
19 document in that course of that training. He has also testified  
12:11:31 20 that the contents in this document are identical to what was used  
21 in that training procedure. If we are talking about foundation,  
22 your Honour, I believe that foundation is clearly laid and with  
23 regards to the actual time when this particular student, of a  
24 group that the witness has already testified he knows and the  
12:11:55 25 witness has testified that he trained these particular radio  
26 operators, with regard to when exactly this particular operator  
27 transcribed the writing to a writing form, in my submission is  
28 not relevant to foundation. It is not necessary for foundation.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Are you going to reply, Mr Anyah?

1 MR ANYAH: Only if it pleases the Court.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: There is no reply to a reply, except if  
3 you have some very pertinent legal point.

4 MR ANYAH: I will take my place.

12:13:01 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: It is the view, unanimous view, that you  
6 have not established sufficient foundation and if that cannot be  
7 established then you will have to move on in this  
8 examination-in-chief, Mr Santora.

9 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, I am going to ask for a few  
12:13:18 10 additional questions to establish foundation.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please do so.

12 MR SANTORA:

13 Q. Again, Mr Witness, can you look at the cover of this  
14 document? Can your attention be pointed to the cover?

12:13:39 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. You said you know that the Black Guards - you recognised  
17 the phrase Black Guards, is that correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you yourself trained some of the operators from the  
12:13:53 20 Black Guards, is that correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. In terms of the Black Guards, who were they?

23 A. The Black Guards were the bodyguards to Mr Sankoh.

24 Q. During the course of your training of radio operators, at  
12:14:15 25 what point do you remember training Black Guard operators?

26 A. The Black Guards operators were a part of the students who  
27 were given to me for training into the communications system.

28 Q. When did that happen?

29 A. It happened from the beginning of 1992 when I started

1 giving training in Pendembu and also at Kangari Hills. They were  
2 part of the group that was trained at Kangari Hills.

3 Q. Do you recognise this document as being associated with any  
4 particular phase of training?

12:15:14 5 A. I said yes, it was part of the coding system. As I can see  
6 it, it is numerical and with appointment titles, involving also  
7 with the grid reference.

8 Q. So, your training of Black Guards occurred both in Pendembu  
9 in 1992 and later in Kangari Hills, while you were based there  
10 from 1994 to 1997?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. With regards to this document and the cover, "Black  
13 Guards", is this document a copy of a document you were using in  
14 the training of the Black Guards during those times?

12:16:16 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. The document you were using for training, can you describe  
17 the document you were using for training that this is a copy of?

18 A. I said that the document I used for training were typed and  
19 that this particular document is a hand copy and it is the exact  
20 information that was in the typed document.

21 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: In other words, Mr Santora, these are  
22 notes from the training manual?

23 MR SANTORA: The witness's record is that this is a copy of  
24 what they were using.

12:17:09 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I am asking a question. Are these notes  
26 from the training manual that was typed?

27 MR SANTORA: I apologise, your Honour.

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Because that is what notes would be, in  
29 my understanding.

1 MR SANTORA:

2 Q. Mr Witness, are these notes of the training manual, or are  
3 these an exact copy?

12:17:36

4 A. What I am saying, this copy was written down exactly from  
5 the code book, but this is not the code book that I am seeing at  
6 present.

7 Q. Based on your knowledge of the actual manual that was used,  
8 do the contents in this document - are they the same as what was  
9 in the manual?

12:18:01

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. The manual you were using, was it the same manual from  
12 Pendembu to Kangari Hills?

13 A. Yes.

12:18:15

14 Q. And this is the manual that you used to train radio  
15 operators?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And also this includes radio operators from the Black  
18 Guard?

19 A. Yes.

12:18:27

20 Q. And of which you trained both at Pendembu and Kangari  
21 Hills, is that correct?

22 A. Quite correct.

23 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, I believe foundation has clearly  
24 been laid.

12:18:45

25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah?

26 MR ANYAH: Yes, Madam President, I renew my objection.

27 Some things are clear from the exercise we have undertaken: 1,  
28 the witness doesn't know who wrote the document, that is clear;  
29 2, he doesn't know when it was written, the document in front of

1 him, that is also clear; 3, we see from the title of the document  
2 it says "Black Guards" in plural. It is an administration log  
3 book, or purports to be one, written by somebody. Initially the  
4 question, or the sequence of questions, suggested that it was  
12:19:23 5 written by a particular Black Guard. It is still unclear who the  
6 author of the document is.

7 Lastly, the witness says it is identical in every respect  
8 to what they have termed the "manual" that they used and looking  
9 at the copy, or the document he has in front of him, it is  
12:19:47 10 obvious pages have been ripped out, I can see it from here, so it  
11 obviously would not contain the identical information, assuming,  
12 for the sake of argument, that it relates to an original manual  
13 that is not before the Court.

14 At a minimum, more has to be established than bringing an  
12:20:07 15 exercise book of handwritten notes that could have been written  
16 down three months ago, three years ago, four years ago, by a  
17 school child who runs across some manual in their father's or  
18 mother's study and they bring it here and purport to be an RUF  
19 manual seeking to introduce it to the Court. I renew my  
12:20:28 20 objection.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora?

22 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, may I respond? First of all, the  
23 witness on the record putting a timeframe to this document and  
24 also putting it in terms of his association with the training.  
12:20:45 25 This is not something that we are submitting is viewed in a  
26 vacuum. The witness has clearly established he was involved in  
27 the training of radio operators. It is the contents within this  
28 document that the witness is familiar with as being associated  
29 with that training. It is my submission, your Honour, that when

1 these particular notes, from content that the witness has already  
2 testified he is familiar with, from a manual that the witness has  
3 already testified he is familiar with, when these particular  
4 notes were transcribed is not necessary for foundation.

12:21:24 5 Defence counsel is perfectly entitled to cross-examine on  
6 this document and his knowledge of it, but this is a matter for  
7 cross-examination, your Honour, at this point it is my submission  
8 that we have passed the grounds for foundation. I base that  
9 again and I will just sum it up very quickly: Based on, 1, his  
12:21:45 10 training, his experience as a trainer; 2, his experience with the  
11 manual that was used to train respective radio operators; 3, with  
12 the fact that this particular manual is entitled by a group of  
13 which this witness did train operators from; and, 4, that he has  
14 testified to a specific timeframe and counsel misstates the  
12:22:08 15 evidence when he talks about whether or not this can be three  
16 months ago from a school child. Your Honour, that is not on the  
17 record.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: We consider that there is enough  
19 foundation at this stage and the issues raised by counsel for  
12:23:27 20 Defence can be put on cross-examination. Please proceed,  
21 Mr Santora.

22 MR SANTORA: Thank you, Madam President. I ask that the  
23 witness can be directed to the page marked ERN 00025639:

24 Q. Mr Witness, do you have that page in front of you?

12:24:15 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. Can you explain what you see there?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. What is it?

29 A. At the extreme left there is an abbreviation. I am seeing

1 here "BFC", that means Battle Field Commander, "- SKY", that  
2 means, in terms of code, instead of speaking or writing the whole  
3 word, one after the other, we use "SKY" to represent Battle Field  
4 Commander. The next one is "BDE" which stands for brigade. Then  
12:25:24 5 we have "COMMDR" which means Brigade Commander. Instead of using  
6 Brigade Commander, in terms of signaling we use "OIL" to  
7 represent Brigade Commander.

8 Q. I want to point you to some things on this document now.  
9 First of all, thus far you talked about codes for frequencies and  
12:25:50 10 codes for content and codes for names. This document, starting  
11 from "BFC", what type of coding is this: For content, for  
12 frequency, or for names?

13 A. The first one is an appointment title code.

14 Q. Now, if you would go down to where you see the letters  
12:26:24 15 "ATTK" and the corresponding two letters, what is that?

16 A. It is "AB".

17 Q. Can you describe in a typical communication how this would  
18 be used?

19 A. Yes. The abbreviation for attack is "ATTK" and the code  
12:26:47 20 word for attack is "AB".

21 Q. So in a communication how would it be communicated over a  
22 radio set?

23 A. For example, if you had a message that was directed, "You  
24 are hereby ordered to attack a specific location", instead of  
12:27:25 25 using the word "attack" you would use "AB".

26 Q. Earlier you referred to something called grid references.  
27 Do you see any grid references on here?

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, why don't you let the witness  
29 take us through --

1 MR SANTORA: I am sorry, I thought --

2 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: -- how this message would actually be  
3 translated literally.

4 MR SANTORA: I apologise, your Honour, I will:

12:27:55 5 Q. Can you continue to describe how this message then would be  
6 translated?

7 A. Yes. If the operator is not much educated, the message  
8 will be written by either the secretary to the commander in that  
9 particular area and the only duty of the operator is to secure  
12:28:37 10 all the important words within the message, such as attack,  
11 troops, enemy, or any name within that message that will allow  
12 the enemy to take advantage of your communication.

13 Q. Mr Witness, I want you to clarify something: So the  
14 transmission that would go over the radio, you said they would  
12:29:14 15 use the phrase, for instance, "AB", is that correct?

16 A. Yes, that is to replace "attack".

17 Q. So when this message would be received on the other end as  
18 "AB", what would happen at that point once the message is  
19 received in this code?

12:29:40 20 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Did the witness say the message would be  
21 received as "AB"? He said you replace the word "attack" with  
22 "AB". That was why I was asking you to let him finish the full  
23 text of the message that had been translated.

24 MR SANTORA:

12:29:55 25 Q. Go ahead and describe how a message would work from the  
26 point of transmission in relation to this.

27 A. In terms of transmission you will have to ensure, as an  
28 operator, that you disguise, or that you put into code, each and  
29 every important word within the message. The receiver on the



1 other side will, in turn, decode each and every important code  
2 word that is within the message, encode the real words that you  
3 see by the left-hand side as you see it on the screen. So,  
4 whenever a message is received, for example "AB", that will be  
12:30:56 5 decoded for "attack".

6 Q. When the message was received, who would decode it?

7 A. The operator who received the message on the other side  
8 will be the person that will use the words by the extreme left to  
9 decode the message, before presenting it to a person who is not  
12:31:28 10 trained for this process.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, my learned sister had asked  
12 that the message - the example given by the witness be put in.  
13 Let him complete that example.

14 MR SANTORA: I apologise, your Honour, I misunderstood you:

12:31:46 15 Q. You were talking about an example of a message. Can you go  
16 ahead and complete the example you were talking about?

17 A. Yes. I said, for example, the message will be written,  
18 "You are hereby instructed to attack Bo." As a trained operator,  
19 instead of transmitting that message that, "You are hereby  
12:32:31 20 instructed to attack Bo", you will have to replace "attack" with  
21 the alphabet "AB", so you will transmit that message by saying,  
22 "You are hereby instructed to Alpha Bravo", or "AB." Then you  
23 use the grid reference for "Bo", which is 413, instead of using  
24 "Bo" whilst you were transmitting that message. In return, the  
12:33:33 25 receiver, that is the operator, will rephrase them into the words  
26 by the left-hand side before it was presented to the person for  
27 whom the message was meant.

28 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. Now, one final point about this  
29 document: You see on the right-hand side, bottom right, there is

1 a series of numbers going down the page and then corresponding  
2 with the numbers are letters. Do you see that?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can you explain what this is?

12:34:28 5 A. Yes, in the past I explained about alphabets and numerical.  
6 This is the exact demonstration of numerical starting from 0 to  
7 9.

8 Q. As you did earlier, can you give an example of how this  
9 would be used?

12:35:03 10 A. Yes. For example, when you intend to inform somebody about  
11 a specific number in terms of frequency, you may want to use  
12 something, for example, that happened in the past like 70110. In  
13 this manner you would use "L4LH00H". That means that it is  
14 70110.

12:36:16 15 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Could the witness repeat the coded  
16 number, please, because I think he made some errors somewhere, or  
17 repetitions?

18 THE WITNESS: Okay, what I am saying here is in order for  
19 you to code 70110 you will now call and say "Lima", which is "L";  
12:36:51 20 "0", which represents "H", called Hotel; "1", which represents  
21 "0", which is "Oscar"; and another "1", which represents "Oscar"  
22 for "1"; and again "0", which represents "Hotel", "H". That will  
23 correspond to 70110. That was the numerical code.

24 MR ANYAH: Your Honour, that is not what I have him as  
12:37:47 25 saying previously in the transcript.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is what the evidence is, Mr Anyah.  
27 Are you saying he coded it wrong?

28 MR ANYAH: We have two different codes for the same set of  
29 digits, 70110. Initially the response was the code for 70110 was

1 "L" like Lawrie, the number 4, "L" like Lawrie, "H" like Henry,  
2 the numbers "00" and "H" like Henry, and now, a few seconds  
3 later, for the same set of numbers we are given a different set  
4 of codes.

12:38:28 5 MR SANTORA: I am not sure of the objection. Counsel is  
6 welcome to cross-examine him on the coding.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is what the witness has said and if  
8 it is incorrect you can pick him up on it, or cross-examine him  
9 on it. I noticed the difference myself.

12:38:46 10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, I am just looking at the  
11 page in front of us. The numbers appear to start at 1 rather  
12 than zero.

13 MR SANTORA: If you look up to the left immediately - that  
14 was my mistake. I think I was misleading in starting him --

12:39:04 15 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I am saying the witness said that the  
16 numbers begin at zero, but what I see is the numbers begin at 1.  
17 There is some other thing at the top above which looks like a  
18 zero with a cross in between and I can't work out the dash,  
19 whether it is an "H", or a "4". If you can clarify that, please,  
12:39:24 20 with the witness.

21 MR SANTORA:

22 Q. Mr Witness, I want to point you to the document, on a  
23 portion of the document. You see the word "SKY" on the document?

24 A. Pardon me?

12:39:39 25 Q. You see the word "SKY" on the document?

26 A. Yes, indeed.

27 Q. If you move across the document from left to right there is  
28 a figure there, a dash and then another figure. Do you see what  
29 I am referring to?

1 A. Exactly.

2 Q. What is that?

3 A. That is "H".

4 Q. What is "H" corresponding to there?

12:40:11 5 A. To zero.

6 Q. So in this document the numbering starts at zero?

7 A. Yes, indeed. It is zero, 1 up to 9.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed.

9 MR SANTORA: Thank you, your Honour. I ask at this point  
12:40:51 10 that this particular page be marked.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is one page out of - when you say  
12 marked, I presume marked for identification?

13 MR SANTORA: Yes.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is one page, handwritten, and it is  
12:41:05 15 marked for identification - are we back to 16, Madam Court  
16 Attendant?

17 MS IRURA: That is correct, your Honour.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Marked for identification MFI-16.

19 MR SANTORA: I would now request that the document under  
12:41:28 20 tab 19 be shown to the witness:

21 Q. Mr Witness, can you examine that document. Can you take a  
22 moment to look through that document.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Anyah, I see you rising to your feet.  
24 I have not heard a question yet.

12:43:14 25 MR ANYAH: We are at a slight disadvantage in the sense we  
26 were disclosed two pages and the witness is looking at a document  
27 with several pages and I am wondering if we are entitled to the  
28 additional pages as well.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora?

1 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, the portion that the Prosecution  
2 was seeking for identification is just one particular page of  
3 this document.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: However, the witness is looking at, it  
12:43:45 5 would appear - what is the purpose of the witness looking at a  
6 bigger document?

7 MR SANTORA: My initial idea was just to look at this  
8 particular page. However, given what happened earlier, with the  
9 instruction that he look at the entire document, he has the  
12:44:05 10 original and the Prosecution is only seeking admission of one  
11 particular page.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: It would appear from Mr Anyah's  
13 submissions that he has only had disclosure of two pages. What  
14 was disclosed to the Defence?

12:44:19 15 MR SANTORA: The document in its entirety at some point was  
16 disclosed to the Defence. However, with regards to preparation  
17 for this particular witness only these two pages were disclosed  
18 and so, as we have and as your Honours have, the Prosecution is  
19 only seeking to admit one page here and if it suits your Honours  
12:44:43 20 I would just have the witness look at one particular page that we  
21 are seeking admission of.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: I would feel easier in my mind if the  
23 Defence saw the entire document before questions are put, now  
24 that the witness has seen the entire document.

12:49:03 25 Mr Anyah, have you perused it?

26 MR ANYAH: Yes, Madam President.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Let me clear before the document is  
28 returned to the witness. Mr Santora is going to put one  
29 page only, or two?

1 MR SANTORA: One page, your Honour.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: One page only and there is no objection.  
3 That page should be opened to the witness, Madam Court Attendant.  
4 What is the number of the page, Mr Santora?

12:49:45 5 MR SANTORA: It is ERN 00010009.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just pause a moment, please, Mr Anyah is  
7 on his feet. Don't open it just yet until I deal with that  
8 objection. Mr Anyah, you are on your feet.

9 MR ANYAH: Yes, Madam President, I reviewed the document  
12:50:06 10 and on the front of the document, at the cover page, are some  
11 entries that explicate the nature of the document, what type of  
12 book it is. The witness has already seen this information and  
13 that information is not necessarily reflected on any of the other  
14 particular pages to which we may be referred, meaning there is a  
12:50:28 15 curative problem here if he has gleaned what kind of book it is  
16 from the title to which he has been exposed. He may not  
17 otherwise have known what is contained in the document.

18 JUDGE LUSSICK: Look, there has not been one question asked  
19 yet, so I fail to see how there can be an objection. The matters  
12:50:57 20 you brought up, Mr Anyah, are cross-examination material.

21 MR ANYAH: The reason that we are emphasising every aspect  
22 of these documents be properly established has to do with the  
23 reference by Mr Santora that they are attempting to use this  
24 witness as a vehicle to introduce a category of documents that  
12:51:22 25 will relate to the testimony of other witnesses. I am not  
26 necessarily interposing an objection at this point. I made the  
27 request because we were at a disadvantage and we are given the  
28 anticipation that there might be other documents of this nature  
29 put to the witness. At the appropriate time I may seek leave of

1 court to voir dire the witness before the documents are put in.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: If you are not raising an objection now  
3 we will proceed on and we will deal with other documents, if any,  
4 that are put to the witness at a later point. Please proceed,  
12:51:57 5 Mr Santora.

6 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, just for the record, I want to  
7 correct, I do not believe I ever said that it is the intention of  
8 the Prosecution to use this witness for a vehicle to put  
9 documents through for other witnesses. That is not what I said.

12:52:11 10 I said his evidence as a whole is relevant to - his evidence with  
11 regards to certain information about how radios worked is  
12 relevant to his entire testimony and future witness testimony.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. That is now on record,  
14 Mr Santora.

12:52:28 15 MR SANTORA: I would just seek a clarification, Madam, from  
16 the Bench at this point. It was the Prosecution's intention to  
17 only put one page and to establish foundation for that page.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: I have directed Madam Court Attendant to  
19 show the witness that one page only. I withheld it pending what  
12:52:49 20 would appear to have been an objection. An objection was not  
21 formulated against that page. Please show the witness  
22 page number ending 0009.

23 MR SANTORA:

24 Q. Mr Witness, do you see a page in front of you marked with  
12:53:23 25 the last three digits being 009 on the top right corner?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. What is this? Can you explain what this is? What is this  
28 document?

29 A. This is another code for appointments, or nicknames.

1 Q. During the course of your - both involved in radio  
2 operations and training, to you what does this page - can you  
3 explain this page based on your experience and observations as a  
4 radio - involved in radio operations?

12:54:24 5 A. Yes. Like I am saying, starting from Colonel Gibri I  
6 Massaquoi on to Colonel Kailondo, vanguards, looking at the  
7 extreme right, whenever a message was given to you having to do  
8 with any of the personnel listed from top to the bottom, you have  
9 to use a code word at the extreme right to serve as a replacement  
12:55:14 10 for the ones at the extreme left.

11 Q. So this document and the contents that are on there --

12 A. Pardon me?

13 Q. I apologise. During the time you were a radio operator  
14 involved in training, is this document similar to types of  
12:55:58 15 documents you were familiar with in terms of coding?

16 A. Yes. I have said it over and again that the documents used  
17 to change from one point to the other and at the time that there  
18 were no ranks given in the RUF, we used some other means, but at  
19 this time that there was now appointments or ranks given to  
12:56:28 20 individuals, we used to use these ones that were used as place  
21 for the commanders, for instance like brigade commanders,  
22 battalion commanders, et cetera, et cetera.

23 Q. How often would these types of codes change?

24 A. Depending on the changes like I have just said, in the  
12:57:00 25 past, since the RUF started, there were no rank systems in the  
26 RUF, but at that particular time we used to give titles to  
27 individuals according to their positions in the form of brigades,  
28 or battalion commanders and when I compare them to this document  
29 in front of me these guys are carrying ranks, so this time round



1 you will use another code that will suit the convenience of their  
2 ranks and their names in terms of coding, because it will sound  
3 premature to go on the net and give information that will cause  
4 serious panic to the hearer.

12:58:17 5 To make it very clear, at this point in time, for example,  
6 like for Brigadier Mike Lamin, as it is written, might have done  
7 something wrong and that his security is about to give an  
8 intelligence report to Mr Sankoh and Brigadier Mike Lamin's name  
9 will be written in the message. It will sound premature, as an  
12:59:13 10 operator, to call Brigadier Mike Lamin's name. Instead he will  
11 just use "Yankee Romeo Yankee". He might be in the studio with  
12 you and he might listen to the message, but he would never  
13 understand that the message given concerns him.

14 Q. Mr Witness, first of all you said there was a time when the  
12:59:50 15 RUF had no ranks and then there was a change to that where people  
16 did have ranks. When was that change, do you remember?

17 A. Yes. In my prior explanation I did say that from 1991 up  
18 to the early part of 1992 the entire operation in Sierra Leone  
19 was directed/controlled by the Special Forces. It was only after  
13:00:39 20 that period, 1992, that the RUF assumed operations,  
21 directed/controlled by Mr Sankoh. During that time the rank  
22 system started coming into effect within the RUF.

23 Q. Who would have access to these types of codes that you see  
24 before you?

13:01:19 25 A. Only the operator had the right, at that time, to see such  
26 a code that I now see in front of me.

27 Q. Looking down this page, I am going to refer you to one of  
28 the individuals listed. You see an individual there named  
29 General Ibrahim?

1 A. Yes, not yet. Yes, yes, General Ibrahim.

2 Q. Do you know who that is?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Who is he?

13:02:41 5 A. I came to know General Ibrahim as a finance controller of  
6 the RUF and a businessman attached to Sam Bockarie, at that time  
7 when I visited Monrovia.

8 Q. What do you mean "finance controller"?

9 A. He was the one who was responsible for finance, to give  
13:03:23 10 money to people who needed money at that time, whenever they were  
11 in Liberia, under the instruction of Sam Bockarie.

12 Q. Did you ever have the occasion to meet him?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Can you explain the circumstances of that?

13:03:50 15 A. Yes. I met General Ibrahim Bah in Monrovia in December  
16 1999, at a hotel called Hotel Boulevard. He later visited me at  
17 the Congo Town guesthouse and he gave me the sum of 500 dollars  
18 for shopping. According to him, he was given the instructions to  
19 give me this money and Mr Sankoh gave him the instruction.

13:04:55 20 Q. Do you know who General Ibrahim was working with?

21 A. Yes, General Ibrahim was working directly with Sam Bockarie  
22 when Mr Sankoh was in prison in Nigeria and later, after the  
23 release of Mr Sankoh, he was given that appointment to control  
24 the financial issues of the RUF.

13:05:58 25 Q. In terms of what you said, he was finance controller, do  
26 you know where he received money from?

27 A. Yes. According to what General Ibrahim himself told me at  
28 Hotel Boulevard, he was an international businessman who  
29 purchases diamonds and gold, Sam Bockarie was his best of friend

1 and he met him in Monrovia and that he had been his friend and as  
2 business partners. In the issues dealing with the RUF it was  
3 Mr Sankoh who met him and after introduction by Sam Bockarie, in  
4 respect of his role as business partner to Sam Bockarie, he was  
13:07:21 5 asked to control the financial issues within the RUF when they  
6 met in Monrovia.

7 Q. You said you also saw him at Congo Town guesthouse?

8 A. Yes, indeed.

9 Q. What is that?

13:07:52 10 A. When I arrived in Monrovia on 22 December I was taken to a  
11 house in Congo Town where Rashid Foday, Memenatu Deen and other  
12 RUF personnel were based in Monrovia. That was where I met  
13 General Ibrahim when he gave me the sum of 500 dollars.

14 MR SANTORA: Your Honours, the spelling. I am not sure  
13:08:37 15 Memenatu Deen has been spelt for the record. It has been,  
16 I apologise:

17 Q. The money you were given by General Ibrahim, what was it  
18 for?

19 A. He gave me the money for shopping.

13:09:07 20 Q. I would now ask that the witness - that this document be  
21 marked for identification.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated]. I am sorry,  
23 I did not have my microphone on. I will repeat that. One  
24 page document with handwriting becomes MFI-17.

13:09:57 25 MR SANTORA:

26 Q. Mr Witness, at this point I want to ask you a few more  
27 questions about radio operations before continuing to where we  
28 were talking about before.

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. You have discussed coding for frequencies and for content,  
2 for names and locations, and you have also talked about national  
3 frequency and coded frequencies. In terms of code, who had  
4 access to these codes?

13:10:41 5 A. Only the operators had access to the codes. These were  
6 strictly restricted to them.

7 Q. Did anyone outside Sierra Leone have access to the codes?

8 A. If anybody else outside Sierra Leone had access to the  
9 code, he should be an operator.

13:11:15 10 Q. Did this occur?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Who else had access to the codes?

13 A. Like I told you: Osman Tollo, Memenatu Deen, who were at  
14 the lodge, or the guesthouse, in Monrovia where all operators and  
13:11:47 15 they also had access to these codes.

16 JUDGE LUSSICK: I am not sure whether you have covered this  
17 already, Mr Santora, but who actually created the codes?

18 MR SANTORA: I will clarify:

19 Q. Before I go on with this, Mr Witness, the codes themselves,  
13:12:07 20 who was in charge of creating the codes?

21 A. The code was brought from Liberia and it was a code from  
22 the NPFL and we extracted them from the NPFL code system.

23 Q. You mentioned Osman Tollo and Memenatu Deen as having  
24 access to the codes, is that correct?

13:12:43 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. How do you know that?

27 A. Because they were external delegates from the RUF side,  
28 based in Monrovia.

29 Q. Why did they have access to the codes, do you know?

1 A. Yes, because they were operators and they used to  
2 communicate with the RUF as external delegates.

3 Q. How do you know that?

4 A. I knew that as an operator and it was agreed and they sent  
13:13:38 5 them for that purpose, and even before they went to Monrovia they  
6 were with Mr Sankoh in Ivory Coast, and later, after Mr Sankoh  
7 was dislodged, they escaped and entered Monrovia.

8 Q. I want to take you to the time when Sam Bockarie was in  
9 charge of the RUF.

13:14:06 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. When Sam Bockarie was in charge of the RUF, did anyone  
12 outside of Sierra Leone have access to the RUF codes?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Who?

13:14:21 15 A. Osman Tollo was an operator who had access to the RUF  
16 codes. Another operator by the name of Memenatu Deen also had  
17 access to these codes and many others who were assigned with  
18 Benjamin Yeaten, otherwise referred to as 50. Some were assigned  
19 in Vahun and Foya.

13:14:58 20 Q. Who was Benjamin Yeaten?

21 A. Benjamin Yeaten was the immediate coordinator, according to  
22 how I understood it when I arrived in Monrovia in 1999, 22  
23 December. I was introduced to him by Mr Sankoh and he explained  
24 himself to me that he had been the coordinator between Mr Charles  
13:15:41 25 Ghankay Taylor and Sam Bockarie.

26 Q. Do you know why operators for Benjamin Yeaten had access to  
27 the RUF codes?

28 A. Yes, that was the only way they could communicate properly.

29 Q. Communicate properly with who, Mr Witness?

1 A. The station at which they were operating and to the other  
2 stations in Sierra Leone because you can never do proper  
3 communication, in terms of transmitting, without being in  
4 possession of the codes.

13:16:43 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, if you look at the record the  
6 answer is not very clear, "they were operating and to the other  
7 stations in Sierra Leone", et cetera, et cetera. The question  
8 you asked was, "Communicating with who, Mr Witness?"

9 MR SANTORA: Maybe my question too was a little  
13:17:04 10 abbreviated:

11 Q. Mr Witness, I asked you why the operators for Benjamin  
12 Yeaten had access to the RUF codes and you said, "That was the  
13 only way they could communicate properly." My question is:  
14 Communicate properly with who?

13:17:30 15 A. Sam Bockarie and Benjamin Yeaten, that Sam Bockarie and  
16 Benjamin Yeaten could communicate properly.

17 Q. You talked about monitoring that you established while you  
18 were at Kangari Hills, operators designated specifically for  
19 monitoring, is that correct?

13:18:13 20 A. Pardon me?

21 Q. Earlier you were talking about while you were at Kangari  
22 Hills you established a system where certain operators would be  
23 designated for the purpose of monitoring, is that correct?

24 A. Yes, but what are you actually trying to tell me? It is  
13:18:45 25 not very clear to me what you are talking about, monitoring or  
26 communicating? You mean who is an operator, who is a monitor?

27 Q. I apologise, Mr Witness. What I am asking is that I just  
28 want to confirm that earlier in your testimony you talked before  
29 about operators who were designated only to monitor, is that

1 correct?

2 A. Where?

3 Q. When you were at Kangari Hills, that you yourself  
4 implemented a system where some operators were assigned to  
13:19:37 5 monitor.

6 A. Yes, yes.

7 Q. Would these operators have access to the codes?

8 A. Yes, indeed.

9 Q. Now, you also have said that after Sam Bockarie came into  
13:20:00 10 the leadership of the RUF, that your assignment changed but you  
11 continued to have access to the radio operations through  
12 monitoring, is that correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. So during the time of Sam Bockarie did you continue to have  
13:20:20 15 access to the codes?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. I just want to ask you just one or two more questions with  
18 regard to radio operations. I apologise, your Honour.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated].

13:20:51 20 MR SANTORA: I realised I missed something:

21 Q. Have you ever heard of the phrase "back up codes"?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What are those?

24 A. A back up code is a temporary code that are normally used  
13:21:12 25 by sub-stations for a short period of time and after that  
26 operation that particular code becomes invalid.

27 Q. Why were they necessary?

28 A. They were necessary in order to know, or to check and  
29 balance the security network.

1 Q. How would they check and balance the security network?

2 A. I said security network. What I am trying to say is this:

3 For example, if you knew that your area of operation, for example

4 Kangari Hills, is under serious threat by the enemies, you could

13:22:28 5 use a back up code for the troops that are moving in the battle

6 and that code will not be accessible to other stations, except

7 your headquarters station at Kangari Hills. So, each and every

8 communication that you would transmit will never reach any other

9 station that will be monitoring you at that particular point in

13:23:16 10 time. On the other hand, a back up code was also used whenever

11 your ground is being captured, when you lose control of your

12 code, so it can also be referred to as a sub-code to replace the

13 original code that you had in possession.

14 Q. Have you ever heard the phrase, or the term "emergency

13:23:59 15 code"? What does that mean? Sorry, that is two questions. Have

16 you ever heard of the phrase "emergency code"?

17 A. Yes, an emergency code and a back up code are almost the

18 same. They are for a shorter term and for any danger that could

19 come at that time.

13:24:32 20 Q. Now, you have talked about "headquarter station" on several

21 occasions. During the time of Sam Bockarie, when he was in

22 charge of the RUF, where was the headquarter station?

23 A. The headquarters station for Sam Bockarie's administration

24 was in Buedu.

13:24:58 25 Q. You also said that there were radio operators in Liberia,

26 including --

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, did the witness say Buedu, or

28 Bai du?

29 MR SANTORA: I will ask him again. I understood Buedu, but



1 I will ask again:

2 Q. Where was the headquarter station during the time that Sam  
3 Bockarie was in charge of the RUF?

4 A. It is Buedu, B-U-E-D-U.

13:25:29 5 Q. This is different from the Baidu that you referred to  
6 earlier in Koindu?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Mr Witness, you said that there were operators assigned to  
9 Benjamin Yeaten who had access to the codes. Actually, I retract  
13:26:00 10 that.

11 You talked about the term "headquarter station" and you  
12 also discussed that some people had the authority to communicate,  
13 earlier you said communicate with the NPFL network.

14 A. Yes. I said that only Sam Bockarie, after Mr Sankoh had  
13:26:25 15 left the country, had the power to communicate with external  
16 stations like that of Benjamin Yeaten, or any other station that  
17 was within the NPFL controlled area.

18 Q. You say other external stations, do you know some others?

19 A. Yes. Foya station was an external station that had an RUF  
13:27:06 20 operator, Vahun and the station that was created in Ivory Coast  
21 at the time Mr Sankoh was there on peace talk, and also the  
22 station that was located in the guesthouse in Monrovia. That was  
23 also part of the external stations.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is that a convenient point because, if  
13:27:39 25 really necessary, we have about two minutes, but if that is a  
26 convenient point --

27 MR SANTORA: I can ask another question without going over.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, fair enough.

29 MR SANTORA:

1 Q. You said there was an RUF radio operator in Foya, what do  
2 you mean?

3 A. They were there as external delegates to undertake  
4 operations to connect with the NPFL in terms of operations.

13:28:09 5 Q. Now, during the time of Sam Bockarie's leadership -  
6 actually, this is probably convenient.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well, Mr Santora, if this is an  
8 appropriate time we will take the lunchtime adjournment.

9 Mr Witness, we are now going to adjourn for lunchtime and we will  
13:28:30 10 be resuming at 2.30. Please adjourn court.

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

12 [Upon resuming at 2.30 p.m.]

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I note the absence of the representative  
14 from the --

14:30:21 15 MR ANYAH: That is correct, Madam President. I believe he  
16 actually left preceding the last session and we just omitted to  
17 mention it.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: And I didn't catch it either. Very well,  
19 we will proceed. Mr Santora, you were in the midst of your  
14:30:38 20 cross-examination in-chief. Examination-in-chief.

21 MR SANTORA: At this point only examination-in-chief.  
22 Thank you, your Honour:

23 Q. Good afternoon, Mr Witness.

24 A. Good afternoon, sir.

14:30:58 25 Q. This morning when you were talking about codes you said  
26 that the codes would be changed depending on the security  
27 situation. Who would authorise the changes of these codes?

28 A. The authority may come from the head, or the leader with  
29 advice from the overall signal commander that will mandate the

1 changing of the entire code.

2 Q. During the time when Foday Sankoh was in Sierra Leone,  
3 before he left to Ivory Coast, who would authorise the changes of  
4 codes?

14:31:56 5 A. As I precisely said, Sam Bockarie was acting in Foday  
6 Sankoh's stead and so Sam Bockarie and the person who was in  
7 charge as the signal commander depending on the situation it  
8 would be necessary to do the changes.

9 Q. Before Sam Bockarie became the acting leader of the RUF,  
14:32:32 10 when Foday Sankoh was still present in Sierra Leone who would  
11 authorise the change of codes?

12 A. Mr Sankoh was the person who authorised the change based on  
13 the recommendations from the signal commander.

14 Q. And after Sankoh left - after Sankoh left to Ivory Coast  
14:32:59 15 and Sam Bockarie became the acting leader, would he authorise  
16 these changes?

17 A. He can only do so based on the recommendation of the  
18 commander who was in place for the communication.

19 Q. Now the changes of codes, how would they be distributed?

14:33:34 20 A. The copy would be sent to the various stations under the  
21 guidance --

22 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness please  
23 repeat that? It is not very clear.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: There was a word you used, Mr Witness,  
14:33:54 25 that the interpreter is not clear about. Perhaps repeat your  
26 answer. It is in particular the bit that deals with "under the  
27 guise". What exactly did you say?

28 THE WITNESS: What I am trying to say is that, after  
29 changing the code, if it is necessary the distribution of the new

1 codes can be done by the operators under security to wherever  
2 that code was to be received.

3 MR SANTORA:

14:34:35

4 Q. Now, this morning you said that there were operators in  
5 Liberia and operators with Benjamin Yeaten. Would these  
6 operators receive these changes of codes?

7 A. Yes.

14:34:59

8 Q. Now, this morning you said that there were operators who  
9 were in communication - let me rephrase the question. This  
10 morning you said that there were operators with Benjamin Yeaten  
11 who were in communication with operators for Sam Bockarie. Is  
12 that correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. How do you know they were in communication with each other?

14:35:19

15 A. It was not a matter of management. You will hear them  
16 communicating. They are monitored and they used the code that  
17 would enable you to know that these people are on line and they  
18 have access to the code that we are using.

14:35:49

19 Q. Now in terms of the communications between Benjamin Yeaten  
20 and Sam Bockarie, when Sam Bockarie was acting leader of the RUF,  
21 do you remember any of the content of those communications?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Can you explain?

14:36:21

24 A. Yes. Whenever Benjamin Yeaten was dispatching material to  
25 Foya, or to Sam Bockarie, he will always send a message or he  
26 will say that this particular person was coming with some rations  
27 for you to your location. Upon the arrival of the person, he  
28 will only come on the net to testify that he has reached with  
29 that material. He will come with them and a document. That was

1 the procedure of communication that was conducted during  
2 Sam Bockarie's time and Benjamin Yeaten as mediator between  
3 Mr Charles Taylor and Sam Bockarie.

14:37:16 4 Q. You said "Whenever Benjamin Yeaten was dispatching material  
5 to Foya, or to Sam Bockarie." What do you mean by the word  
6 "material"?

7 A. When I talk about materials I mean arms and ammunition, or  
8 anything that had to do with war material. Most of the time it  
9 is not explicit. It cannot be simplified on the net, but as an  
14:37:48 10 operator it can be revealed to you that there is a transaction to  
11 you, there is a transaction between that individual and the next  
12 person who was receiving that information.

13 Q. Now, this morning you said that when commanders wanted to  
14 speak directly with each other there would be predesignated  
14:38:16 15 frequencies and that these were not recorded in logbooks. Is  
16 that correct?

17 A. Quite correct.

18 Q. In your position during your time in Sierra Leone with the  
19 RUF, would you have access to the codes for these predesignated  
14:38:43 20 frequencies?

21 A. Once the person who is speaking with another person is not  
22 aware of the code, you have to move to another frequency that you  
23 feel is secured so that they can speak without any fear or  
24 interference.

14:39:13 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am not sure that answers your question,  
26 Mr Santora.

27 MR SANTORA: I am going to rephrase the question and  
28 perhaps try and simplify it:

29 Q. Now, Mr Witness, this morning you said that there were

1 communications directly between commanders on predesignated  
2 frequencies that were not recorded in logbooks. Is that correct?

3 A. Yes.

14:39:46

4 Q. In your position would you have access to the codes for  
5 those predesignated frequencies?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Mr Witness, I am going to move on to a new area.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, before you do, the witness  
9 said this. He said - when you asked him to explain whenever

14:40:16

10 Benjamin Yeaten was dispatching material the witness said, "Upon  
11 the arrival of the person he will only come to the net to testify  
12 that he has reached with that material", and then he said this,  
13 "He will come with them and a document". I am not sure I  
14 understand what that last sentence means.

14:40:35

15 MR SANTORA: I am just looking for it myself on the  
16 LiveNote, your Honour.

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: It is line 6, page 100 I think.

18 MR SANTORA: Thank you, your Honour:

19 Q. Mr Witness, you said:

14:40:57

20 "Whenever Benjamin Yeaten was dispatching material to Foya,  
21 or to Sam Bockarie, he will always send a message or he will say  
22 that this particular person was coming with some rations for you  
23 to your location. Upon the arrival of the person, he will only  
24 come on the net to testify that he has reached with that  
25 material. He will come with them and a document."

26 Can you explain first of all what you mean by a document?

27 A. Yes, to illustrate precisely Memunatu Deen and Jungle --

28 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly  
29 repeat the names?

1           PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter has asked  
2 that you repeat the names.

3           THE INTERPRETER: Memunatu Deen, Jungle. Memunatu Deen and  
4 Jungl e.

14:42:21 5           PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Witness. Please continue  
6 with your answer.

7           THE WITNESS: They were the ones who used to convey  
8 materials - I mean arms and ammunition - from Liberia to Sierra  
9 Leone for Sam Bockarie.

14:42:54 10          MR SANTORA:

11 Q. And when you said "a document", what did you mean?

12 A. I am still on my legs. Whenever Sam Bockarie makes a  
13 request for material, if the material that he requests for are  
14 available Benjamin Yeaten will come and confirm to Sam Bockarie  
14:43:33 15 that the request has been granted. Memunatu will be en route  
16 with this material at so and so time. Based on this  
17 communication, Sam Bockarie will be alerted to receive --

18          PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we are only talking about the  
19 document. What is this document you referred to?

14:44:14 20          THE WITNESS: The document will consist of everything that  
21 has been dispatched along with the individual; the detailed  
22 information about whatsoever material that are available at that  
23 time.

24          MR SANTORA:

14:44:44 25 Q. Who would bring this document to who?

26 A. I said before that it used to be Jungle and Memunatu Deen.  
27 They were purposely assigned to convey such material to  
28 Sam Bockarie.

29 Q. You said the name "Jungle". Who is Jungle?

1 A. That was the only name I knew for him and he was an  
2 individual whom Benjamin Yeaten was using in order to conduct  
3 that service for Sam Bockarie.

4 Q. And how do you know this?

14:45:43 5 A. I knew this through communication monitoring and lastly in  
6 Makeni upon the arrival of Mr Sankoh in Makeni.

7 Q. Okay. Mr Witness, I am going to take you to a specific  
8 time frame that you have discussed earlier. In the time before  
9 Foday Sankoh left for Ivory Coast, do you remember any

14:46:20 10 communications occurring during that period involving Foday  
11 Sankoh?

12 A. You mean prior to his departure to Ivory Coast?

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. Yes.

14:46:40 15 Q. What do you remember?

16 A. I can remember that when Mr Sankoh called Mohamed Tarawalli  
17 to convince him about the peace talks that he intended attending  
18 in Ivory Coast, he made it explicitly clear in a radio  
19 conversation with Mohamed Tarawalli that he has been convinced  
14:47:45 20 that the peace talks in Ivory Coast will set a pace for him,  
21 Mr Sankoh, to reconnect himself with helpers of people he had had  
22 access to in the past. So, it would be very necessary that he  
23 leaves Sierra Leone for the peace accord in Ivory Coast.

24 Q. Mr Witness, you said that:

14:48:53 25 "Foday Sankoh in a conversation with Mohamed Tarawalli made  
26 it explicitly clear that he has been convinced that the peace  
27 talks in Ivory Coast will set a pace for him to reconnect himself  
28 with helpers of people he had access to in the past."

29 A. Yes.



1 Q. My first question is did he say how he was convinced?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. How was that?

4 A. For the second time when he called him, because Mohamed  
14:49:43 5 Tarawalli was totally against the peace accord in Ivory Coast he  
6 tried to continue convincing him that he had spoken with his Big  
7 Brother, in brackets Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor, that he cannot do  
8 anything as of now because there was no link from his position in  
9 Sierra Leone - from Mr Sankoh's position in Sierra Leone - and  
14:50:28 10 Liberia. So, it was advisable to take advantage or to make use  
11 of that peace accord so that he can enlarge his connections.

12 Q. So, who gave Mr Sankoh this advice?

13 A. I said he said that that advice was given to him by  
14 Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor.

14:51:07 15 Q. And when you say Mr Sankoh would be able to reconnect  
16 himself with helpers of people he had access to in the past, who  
17 are you referring to?

18 A. It was a precise communication, Mr Mohamed Tarawalli being  
19 a Special Forces, and as far as I am concerned I know that  
14:51:41 20 Mr Sankoh had connections with Libya, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast  
21 and Liberia - Liberian President, Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor, in  
22 the past.

23 Q. Do you know what he meant - what was - I am going to  
24 rephrase the question. When he - when Mr Sankoh - told Mohamed  
14:52:21 25 Tarawalli he could take advantage and enlarge his connections,  
26 what exactly did he mean, do you know?

27 A. Yes. He was trying to explain to him that, apart from that  
28 peace accord and because every line or connection en route to the  
29 RUF was cut off, it would be quite impossible for RUF to survive

1 without going out to that peace accord to regain its strength.

2 Q. And how would they - how would they regain their strength,  
3 do you know?

14:53:28

4 A. That was clearly demonstrated during Mr Sankoh's stay in  
5 Ivory Coast at the peace accord.

6 Q. How was this demonstrated?

7 A. There were operators like Daff --

8 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat the surname?

9 It is not clear.

14:53:50

10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please pause. The  
11 interpreter asks that you repeat the surname again.

12 THE WITNESS: I said Daff. Dauda is D-A-U-D-A F-O-R-N-I-E.

13 Dauda Fornie. While in Ivory Coast he made a trip with Mr Sankoh  
14 to several places in respect of arms and ammunition. He used to

14:54:41

15 call home to other operators and explain to them the progress  
16 Mr Sankoh has made in respect of arms and ammunition.

17 MR SANTORA:

18 Q. Were you yourself in a position to monitor these  
19 communications?

14:55:12

20 A. Yes, I used to monitor the conversation between Daff and  
21 the other operators, but they used to speak Mende. They had to  
22 decode them for us from the other side.

23 Q. Can you explain what you mean by that; by the fact that you  
24 had to decode them from the other side?

14:55:48

25 A. Yes, Mende is a code by itself. You cannot understand  
26 Mende. They had to explain to you in Krio, or in English. That  
27 is why I am saying they had to decode them.

28 Q. So when you are saying decode here, you are talking in the  
29 context of a language?

1 A. Yes, the language by itself is a code in terms of English  
2 or Krio. When you are speaking Mende on a radio communication it  
3 is a code by itself. It is a code in the sense that you may not  
4 understand Mende because you are not a Mende.

14:56:31 5 Q. Now, the time that Foday Sankoh left for Ivory Coast you  
6 said he went to several places. Is that correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Do you know where he ended up?

9 A. Yes.

14:56:50 10 Q. Where?

11 A. His last trip was when he was en route to Libya and he was  
12 arrested in Nigeria.

13 Q. Now, can you - when Foday Sankoh was arrested in Nigeria,  
14 how did you come to learn this?

14:57:15 15 A. Foday Sankoh made a trip from Ivory Coast along with Gibril  
16 Massaquoi, Martin Moinama, an operator, with the intention of  
17 going to Libya, and he was arrested in Nigeria at the airport.  
18 Gibril Massaquoi escaped and he was in Nigeria along with Martin  
19 Moinama. While in Nigeria he used to visit Mr Sankoh.

14:57:57 20 Q. Who is "he"? Who is "he"?

21 A. Martin Moinama used to visit Mr Sankoh to get information  
22 from Mr Sankoh and then transmit that information to Liberia and  
23 from Liberia we received all necessary communication into Sierra  
24 Leone. To set a bright and clear example, Mr Sankoh was

14:58:34 25 imprisoned in Nigeria. When he promoted Sam Bockarie, Isaac  
26 Mongor, Morris Kallon, Issa Sesay, Peter Vandi and many more saw  
27 communication that they should cooperate until his release. That  
28 particular communication was received from Martin Moinama in a  
29 telephone conversation from Nigeria in Liberia and from Liberia

1 it was transmitted on the HF transmission into Sierra Leone.

2 Q. So while Foday Sankoh was in Nigeria, just to make sure it  
3 is clear, he would - you said in this particular communication as  
4 an example he would have Martin Moinama visit him and Martin  
15:00:00 5 Moinama would use the phone to transmit a message to Liberia and  
6 from that point on from Liberia the message would be transmitted  
7 to the RUF in Sierra Leone through the HF system. Is that  
8 correct?

9 A. Yes.

15:00:25 10 Q. Who in Liberia received the message from Martin Moinama in  
11 this example?

12 A. Martin Moinama made me to understand this when he returned  
13 to Sierra Leone after the AFRC coup that he used to transmit that  
14 message telephone communication to Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor and  
15:01:01 15 then Taylor would download the message, or inform Benjamin Yeaten  
16 and from Benjamin Yeaten to Sam Bockarie. Even the communication  
17 that we received an order for us to join the AFRC was done  
18 through the same process.

19 Q. In terms of the transmission from Liberia to Sierra Leone,  
15:01:34 20 you said it was over HF. Is that correct?

21 A. No.

22 Q. How was the message from Liberia - once it arrived in  
23 Liberia, how would it be sent to the RUF in Sierra Leone?

24 A. From Liberia to Sierra Leone it was done through the HF  
15:01:59 25 communication and from Nigeria to Liberia it was done through  
26 telephone conversation.

27 Q. Now, while Foday Sankoh was in Nigeria - actually, I am  
28 withdrawing that premise to a question. Now, you have discussed  
29 two - you have discussed one message that was transmitted in this

1 fashion with regard to the promotion of certain members of the  
2 RUF. Is that correct?

3 A. Yes.

15:03:06

4 Q. Were there other messages transmitted in this fashion  
5 whilst Sankoh was in Nigeria?

6 A. That is one of the precise messages that I can recall while  
7 Sankoh was in Nigeria.

8 Q. Now, you did say there was also a message related to the  
9 AFRC?

15:03:41

10 A. Yes, that was another one.

11 Q. Explain this message.

12 A. We received an instruction from Sam Bockarie that Mr Sankoh  
13 had agreed with Johnny Paul Koroma that the RUF should join the  
14 AFRC junta in Freetown. That message was sent from Sam Bockarie.

15:04:32

15 According to him, it was a communication that was received from  
16 Martin Moinama to Gibril Massaquoi that we were to comply with  
17 with immediate effect. According to him, there were details that  
18 were recorded. Upon his arrival in Freetown it would be  
19 presented to the hard core of the RUF.

15:05:07

20 Colonel Isaac Mongor refused to obey that command. He  
21 asked Sam Bockarie to clarify that report before his troops could  
22 join the AFRC in Matotoka. Sam Bockarie reiterated to Isaac  
23 Mongor that he was to comply with this instruction

15:05:59

24 notwithstanding. When Martin Moinama and Gibril Massaquoi were  
25 invited to Freetown after the AFRC coup, they themselves - I  
26 mean, Martin Moinama and Gibril Massaquoi made it very clear that  
27 every conversation that was going on between Mr Sankoh on to  
28 Liberia and then transmitted on the HF to Sam Bockarie were  
29 conducted by them.

1 Q. Okay. So, Mr Witness, just in terms of the message to join  
2 the AFRC, you said it was a message from Martin Moinama. Who  
3 would this message go to exactly? Where did this message first  
4 go, I am sorry?

15:07:02 5 A. Martin was in Nigeria. He had a means of communicating  
6 with Mr Sankoh and in return send a telephone message to  
7 Mr Charles Taylor in Liberia. After that conversation, he would  
8 communicate all necessary messages that will be received on to  
9 Sam Bockarie through the HF radio.

15:07:42 10 Q. How do you know that there was - Martin Moinama had a  
11 telephone conversation with Charles Taylor?

12 A. I said after the AFRC coup, after the AFRC overthrew --  
13 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can the witness kindly  
14 repeat his answer and go slowly.

15:08:14 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter needs you to  
16 repeat your answer. You started by saying, "After the AFRC  
17 coup." Please continue from there.

18 THE WITNESS: When AFRC overthrew the NPRC in 1997, Martin  
19 confirmed the communications that we used to receive from  
15:08:49 20 Sam Bockarie through Benjamin Yeaten on the orders of Mr Charles  
21 Taylor having been received from Martin and Gibril Massaquoi from  
22 Nigeria.

23 MR SANTORA:

24 Q. So with regard to this particular communication, are you  
15:09:17 25 saying you learned it after the fact from Martin that he  
26 explained it to you?

27 A. Yes, not only me. It was in a general meeting at Hill  
28 Station between the High Command of the RUF, Gibril Massaquoi and  
29 Martin Moinama. They made it explicit in respect of past

1 communications conducted by them and the channel through which  
2 they used to get their communication from Mr Sankoh.

3 Q. Mr Witness, I want to move to the time of the AFRC coup in  
4 Sierra Leone.

15:10:10 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. You have actually already said how you heard about --

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, sorry to interrupt again.

8 The witness used the expression "they made it explicit". Now  
9 does this mean they confirmed, or what does it mean?

15:10:29 10 MR SANTORA: Your Honour, I am just looking for the  
11 reference and I can --

12 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: It is line 18.

13 MR SANTORA:

14 Q. Mr Witness, you said that, "There was a general meeting at  
15:10:41 15 Hill Station between the High Command of the RUF, Gibril  
16 Massaquoi and Martin Moinama. They made it explicit in respect  
17 of past communications conducted by them and the channel through  
18 which they used to get their communication from Mr Sankoh". What  
19 do you mean by the word "explicit"?

15:11:06 20 A. It was made clear.

21 Q. And what exactly was made clear?

22 A. The RUF High Command used to debate or they had reservation  
23 on communications being received from Sam Bockarie in the past  
24 that were conducted from Martin into Liberia onward to Sierra  
15:11:41 25 Leone. When Sam Bockarie entered Freetown, Gibril Massaquoi and  
26 Martin Moinama, who were in Freetown, he called them up to make  
27 it clear to the High Command that everything that he used to say  
28 or every message that was received from Liberia were through  
29 these guys, Martin Moinama and Gibril Massaquoi, at that

1 particular time. Those who never believed what Sam Bockarie was  
2 saying, Gibril Massaquoi and Martin made it explicit that they  
3 were the agents who were transmitting that communication or those  
4 communications that were received until the time of the AFRC  
15:12:39 5 junta coup.

6 MR SANTORA: I am not sure if your Honour is satisfied in  
7 terms of this particular use of the word "explicit"?

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: It probably carries the same meaning as  
9 confirmed, I suppose.

15:12:57 10 THE WITNESS: I said explicit.

11 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Yes, but I don't know what the English  
12 translation really is. Is it the same, explicit?

13 MR SANTORA: I think you said --

14 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Probably I would ask Mr Interpreter. Is  
15:13:15 15 explicit in Liberian English, does it translate into explicit in  
16 English?

17 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, it does.

18 THE WITNESS: When I talk about explicit, I mean he made it  
19 clear.

15:13:44 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please continue, Mr Santora.

21 MR SANTORA: Yes, your Honour:

22 Q. Now at the time of the AFRC coup in Sierra Leone, did you  
23 remain at Kangari Hills, or did you leave?

24 A. We left Kangari Hills and joined the AFRC in Matotoka.

15:14:09 25 Q. From Matotoka where did you go?

26 A. From Matotoka we went to Makeni.

27 Q. During the time of the AFRC junta in Sierra Leone, were you  
28 based in Makeni?

29 A. I was in Makeni, but I used to go to Freetown as well as



1 Kono.

2 Q. Where were you exactly based in Makeni?

3 A. I said I was based in Makeni at the barracks. Teko  
4 Barracks.

15:14:45 5 MR SANTORA: Teko is on the record I believe, but it is  
6 T-E-K-O:

7 Q. Now, what was your position now during the junta period?

8 A. During the junta period I was still monitoring and we were  
9 working side by side with the SLA operators.

15:15:15 10 Q. Now, was there any change with regards to the radio  
11 networks when the AFRC joined the RUF?

12 A. There was a little bit of a change, because the SLA were  
13 using Morse code while the RUF was using voice procedure. So,  
14 they used to work side by side.

15:15:46 15 Q. And when you say they worked side by side, what do you  
16 mean?

17 A. Every radio station used to have both an AFRC operator and  
18 an RUF operator to enhance smooth operations.

19 Q. With regards to codes, would the codes be shared?

15:16:12 20 MR ANYAH: Madam President, I would just make another  
21 objection for the leading nature of these questions. I have not  
22 interposed one thus far, but it's been ongoing since lunch.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: It is leading, Mr Santora, and there have  
24 been a few that have been ignored but this one is objected to and  
15:16:36 25 I uphold that objection.

26 MR SANTORA:

27 Q. Now, Mr Witness, earlier this morning you have spoken about  
28 codes. When the AFRC joined did anything happen with respect to  
29 codes?

1 A. No, the AFRC were working side by side. What I mean is  
2 that for every area, for example in Zimmi, Kono, if a commander  
3 in Zimmi is RUF the deputy will be AFRC. So communication used  
4 to come from the army headquarters in Morse codes and when it  
15:17:37 5 reaches the station at Zimmi if there is any other area that had  
6 an RUF commander that message would be encoded into an RUF code  
7 and sent to the commander there for a clear understanding.

8 Q. Can you just explain what Morse code is, briefly?

9 A. We still maintained our code, but the AFRC were using Morse  
15:18:13 10 code which the RUF operators were not familiar with.

11 Q. Now during the junta time, who was your commander, your  
12 immediate commander?

13 A. I was working with Superman.

14 Q. And were you working with any other commanders?

15:19:03 15 A. No, apart from Superman there were many commanders with  
16 whom we met and discussed, but I was very close to Superman than  
17 any of them.

18 Q. At Teko Barracks where you were based, do you remember some  
19 of the names of the other commanders there?

15:19:31 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who were they?

22 A. Bai Bureh Kamara was there, another guy by the name of  
23 Kailondo was also there, but they were not permanently based in  
24 Makeni. They used to go to Freetown to receive supplies for the  
15:19:57 25 front line soldiers.

26 Q. Now earlier while you were at Kangari Hills you said that  
27 somebody named Isaac Mongor was there?

28 A. Yes, he was overall commander at Kangari Hills.

29 Q. Do you know where he was during the AFRC time?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Where was that?

3 A. He was based at Teko Barracks, but his assignment area was  
4 in Freetown and he had his house at Hill Station.

15:20:36 5 Q. Now I want to take you to the time of the intervention in  
6 Sierra Leone. Do you know what the intervention was?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Where were you when the intervention happened?

9 A. I was in Makeni. I later moved to Kono, back to Kabala and  
15:21:07 10 then Makeni.

11 Q. Starting from when you were in Makeni, what did you observe  
12 in Makeni at the time of the intervention?

13 A. We were in Makeni when the fighting started in Freetown.

14 After a week of gun battle in Freetown Johnny Paul Koroma, Issa  
15:21:44 15 Sesay, Eldred Collins and SAJ Musa were received along with some  
16 other commanders and soldiers in Makeni. We were informed that  
17 Freetown had fallen to the Kamajors. They mobilised themselves  
18 in Makeni in order to go to Kono. According to Johnny Paul  
19 Koroma, Kono and Tongo were very much important for the AFRC  
15:22:31 20 junta to occupy. So he urged Issa Sesay and Dennis Mingo, alias  
21 Superman, to ensure that Tongo and Kono were under the  
22 supervision or the control of the AFRC and RUF.

23 Q. Mr Witness, after these commanders arrived in Makeni, how  
24 long - did you have occasion to leave Makeni?

15:23:17 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. About how long after these commanders arrived did you stay  
27 in Makeni for?

28 A. We stayed in Makeni for over a week while the fighting was  
29 taking place between Kono and Makeni.

1 Q. Now after leaving Makeni did you have occasion to arrive in  
2 Koidu?

3 A. Yes, after a week.

4 MR SANTORA: Your Honours, I can rephrase --

15:23:52 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: It's a bit late in the day to start  
6 rephrasing a leading question when the witness has answered.

7 MR SANTORA: I am just - I do not - if I just may speak to  
8 your Honour, that just in terms of efficiency of where I want to  
9 put this witness's testimony I did not want to waste the Court's  
15:24:10 10 time to go through every single village. We are not leading - I  
11 can if - I didn't want to - for efficiency's sake I thought it  
12 would be more --

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Continue with your examination-in-chief.  
14 And just as a matter of observation, as I have observed either to  
15:24:30 15 you or to one of your colleagues, the first interest of this  
16 Court is in proper justice and a fair trial. Efficiency is after  
17 that.

18 MR SANTORA: No, your Honour, this is what we are - there  
19 is no intention to lead evidence and that's why I did phrase it  
15:24:44 20 the way I did, but of course if your Honours want me to go from  
21 the starting point of Makeni I will do that.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: I have already observed it has been  
23 answered, Mr Santora. Continue.

24 MR SANTORA:

15:25:01 25 Q. During the time you went from Makeni to Koidu were you  
26 attached to any particular commander?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. Who was that?

29 A. I was with Dennis Mingo from Makeni on to Kono. I stayed

1 with Dennis Mingo after Kono had fallen to the AFRC/RUF junta.  
2 We stayed there for over a month.

3 Q. Before you discuss what happened in Koidu, about how much  
4 time passed between the time you left Makeni and arrived in  
15:25:42 5 Koidu?

6 A. I said fighting took place for over a week between Makeni  
7 for the recapture of Kono.

8 Q. Now you said that you were attached with Superman, with  
9 Dennis Mingo. Is that correct?

15:26:05 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Did you observe anything with relation to radio  
12 communications during this time you moved from Makeni to Koidu?

13 A. Yes, while in Kono, after Kono had been recaptured  
14 Sam Bockarie sent a radio message to Issa Sesay in order to  
15:26:35 15 escort Johnny Paul Koroma and some of the staff with Johnny Paul  
16 Koroma including his bodyguards, Akim Turay, to Buedu. During  
17 that particular time the road leading to Sam Bockarie in Buedu  
18 through Gandorhun onto Bunumbu was occupied by Kamajors.  
19 Fighting went on for over two weeks without success.

15:27:16 20 Sam Bockarie sent another communication that Issa Sesay  
21 should use the bush path in order to join him along with Johnny  
22 Paul Koroma and his crew. After that he sent a communication to  
23 Dennis Mingo promoting him to the rank of a battle group  
24 commander. He said that Superman should control and direct every  
15:27:56 25 fighting that was going on between the AFRC junta and the ECOMOG  
26 within Kono District and he should ensure that he consolidates  
27 Kono and fortify the area if it was possible. While in Kono,  
28 Morris --

29 Q. Before we talk about what happened in Kono, I just want to

1 ask you when you arrived at Kono, where were you initially -  
2 where did you initially go yourself?

3 A. I was staying with Superman, while trying to fight on the  
4 highway to Gandorhun there was a communication from Sam Bockarie  
15:29:00 5 that Rambo should invite me in Gandorhun. While going there  
6 should be an ambush and I should be killed in that ambush. Such  
7 a communication was monitored by an operator Alice Pyne. She  
8 made me understand that this was the plot that has been planned  
9 against me. Based on this information I informed Superman and I  
15:29:30 10 left Koi du for Kurubonla.

11 Q. Mr Witness, explain what you mean when you said an operator  
12 Alice Pyne made you understand that there was a plot planned  
13 against you?

14 A. I said there was a communication from Sam Bockarie to Rambo  
15:30:06 15 and this communication was monitored by Alice Pyne that Rambo  
16 should invite me to Gandorhun where he had his base and on my way  
17 to Gandorhun he should set an ambush where I would be killed.

18 Q. After you arrived in Koi du how much time passed before you  
19 heard about this plot?

15:30:38 20 A. I said we spent up to one month in Koi du before I departed  
21 Koi du for Kurubonla.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Did we have Kurubonla spelt in this  
23 trial? I don't think so.

24 MR SANTORA: I will spell it. K-R-U-N-B-O-L-A. Though I  
15:31:12 25 have seen it spelled in other ways too, but:

26 Q. Now, Mr Witness, are you saying that this threat against  
27 you that you heard about made you leave Koi du?

28 A. What I am saying is that there was a message that was  
29 monitored from Sam Bockarie to Rambo Boston Flomo in Gandorhun

1 that I should be invited and while I was on my way to Gandorhun  
2 Rambo should set an ambush to kill me. Alice informed me about  
3 this communication and I decided to leave Koidu for Kurubonla.

4 Q. And did you go to Kurubonla?

15:32:19 5 A. Yes, I went to Kurubonla for a week.

6 Q. What happened while you were in Kurubonla?

7 A. When I was in Kurubonla Superman asked Sam Bockarie that  
8 this was the information that I got - that he got from Foday  
9 Lansana that you have planned to kill him in an ambush by using

15:32:54 10 Rambo to invite him to Gandorhun. Sam Bockarie denied this and  
11 he said that was not an instruction from him and Rambo was also  
12 asked and he too denied the fact. So Superman told him that if  
13 that was the case he will go all out for Foday to come back to  
14 him in Kono because one way or the other he was helping in the

15:33:28 15 communication area though he had been suspended as a commander,  
16 but he was doing well and that explanation went down well with  
17 Sam Bockarie and he gave the instruction to Superman to ensure  
18 that I was alive and brought back to Koidu.

19 MR SANTORA: Just one spelling, your Honour. Gandorhun

15:33:58 20 G-A-N-D-O-R-H-U-N:

21 Q. So, Mr Witness, you said that you went to Kurubonla for a  
22 week and then there was a communication between Sam Bockarie and  
23 Superman. Is that correct?

24 A. Yes.

15:34:27 25 Q. And that Superman told him that if that was the case he  
26 would go all out for Foday to come back to him in Kono. First of  
27 all, where was Superman when you left to Kurubonla?

28 A. Superman was in Kono, but I told him not to react until I  
29 departed.

1 Q. How did you know there was this communication between  
2 Superman and Sam Bockarie with relation to you?

3 A. I said it was a communication between Sam Bockarie and  
4 Superman and it was done after my departure and while I was in  
15:35:18 5 Kurubonla.

6 Q. How do you know that?

7 A. There was a communication in Kurubonla.

8 Q. So how do you know that? How do you know about the  
9 communication between Sam Bockarie and Superman?

15:35:41 10 A. I monitored them while they were in conversation when  
11 Superman was trying to enquire from Sam Bockarie in respect of my  
12 departure from Koidu to Kurubonla and my stay in Kurubonla at  
13 that particular time.

14 Q. So when you left to Kurubonla at this point, after arriving  
15:36:04 15 in Koidu, who did you go with?

16 A. I went with some of the security who were with me in Koidu  
17 to Kurubonla and I returned with them after everything had been  
18 settled at that time.

19 Q. So when you returned to Koidu when you arrived where was  
15:36:41 20 Superman?

21 A. Superman was at the heart of Koidu at the  
22 telecommunications centre in Koidu.

23 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: When the witness was quoting Superman or  
24 quoting this conversation, he says in that case Superman will go  
15:37:06 25 out for Foday, he is not - is he referring to himself, the  
26 witness, or Foday Sankoh or who?

27 MR SANTORA: I can clarify that:

28 Q. When you referred in this conversation between Sam Bockarie  
29 and Superman and they were discussing Foday, who were you talking



1 about?

2 A. I am talking about myself, Foday Lansana.

3 Q. So when you returned to Koidu after this trip to Kurubonla,  
4 who was in control of Koidu?

15:37:50 5 A. The junta and the RUF were in control of Koidu.

6 Q. And at that time do you know who the commanders were in  
7 Koidu?

8 A. Yes, Superman was the overall commander in Koidu.

9 Q. Do you know any other commanders in Koidu at this time?

15:38:29 10 A. Yes, there were too many commanders in Koidu. Isaac Mongor  
11 was in Koidu, Boston Flomo commonly known as Rambo was in Koidu,  
12 Bai Bureh Kamara, Peter Vandj, Savage, Bomb Blast of the AFRC and  
13 many others were in Koidu.

14 Q. Now did you remain in Koidu?

15:39:17 15 A. Yes, I stayed in Koidu with Superman until ECOMOG pushed us  
16 out of Koidu.

17 Q. So when you returned from Kurubonla after this trip and  
18 rejoined Superman what was your assignment?

19 A. I was not given any specific assignment except that I used  
15:39:50 20 to assist with the communication area and also monitor  
21 communication when he is not available.

22 Q. Now you said you remained in Koidu until ECOMOG pushed us  
23 out of Koidu. What happened at that point?

24 A. We received information that ECOMOG was advancing from  
15:40:21 25 Makeni and they had already surfaced at Bumpe, a nearby town from  
26 Koidu. We prepared in order to move to Bumpe and clarify that  
27 information that we got. Superman and other commanders boarded a  
28 truck, a Land Rover jeep. After our departure to Bumpe an Alpha  
29 jet blasted the truck and Superman and the other commanders who

1 were in the jeep dispersed and some retreated to Koidu. He  
2 informed Morris Kallon that Superman's vehicle was hit at the  
3 time that he was advancing towards Bumpe.

4 Based on this information Morris Kallon decided to go and  
15:41:37 5 raid the house of Superman, burn down the house and give  
6 instructions that they should set Koidu ablaze. Koidu was burnt  
7 down while we were still at the front line. When we retreated to  
8 Koidu we were informed that Morris Kallon had given instructions  
9 that Superman's vehicle was hit and he does not know the  
10 whereabouts of Superman. For this reason he gave instruction  
11 that Koidu should be burnt down.

12 Q. Mr Witness, when the group that was in Koidu left can you  
13 describe where they went?

14 A. After a series of fighting, or two to three days fighting  
15:42:48 15 between the junta and ECOMOG, Superman had a base out of Koidu  
16 that was commonly known as Superman Ground. Rambo Boston Flomo  
17 also had a base in Gandorhun. Bai Bureh Kamara was instructed to  
18 go to Tefiya while Komba Gbundema was also instructed to go to  
19 Yomandu.

15:43:34 20 Q. Mr Witness, you have just given several commanders and  
21 various locations. First of all, you said that Superman  
22 established a base at Superman Ground. Is that correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Where was Superman Ground?

15:43:58 25 A. Superman Ground was about seven miles away from Koidu Town  
26 going towards the Guinean border in a nearby village called  
27 Jagbwema Fiama.

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, there are so many names that  
29 you need to spell before we forget them.

1 MR SANTORA: I don't want to forget them, your Honour. I  
2 am going to go through them right now. Gandorhun,  
3 G-A-N-D-O-R-H-U-N. Tefiya, T-E-F-I-Y-A. I believe the name  
4 Yomandu was used, Y-O-M-A-N-D-U.

15:45:09 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: There was an individual instructed to go  
6 to Yomandu. Who was that individual?

7 MR SANTORA: That individual was Komba Gbundema. I believe  
8 that actually is on the record, but I will respell it if your  
9 Honour is inclined, K-O-M-B-A G-B-U-N-D-E-M-A. I believe also  
15:45:39 10 the word Bumpe - I'm sorry, no, I believe that actually has been  
11 spelled for the record. I believe that does cover the names that  
12 were just recited:

13 Q. Now, Mr Witness, you were just describing where the  
14 location of Superman Ground was and you said it was seven miles  
15:46:24 15 away from Koidu Town towards the Guinean border in a nearby  
16 village called - what was the name of the village that Superman  
17 Ground was located in?

18 A. I said Jagbwema Fiama.

19 MR SANTORA: That was the name I think I was missing.  
15:46:48 20 Jagbwema, J-A-G-B-W-E-M-A:

21 Q. Did you say Jagbwema Fiama?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Can you spell Fiama?

24 A. Yes, F-I-A-M-A.

15:47:15 25 MR SANTORA: I believe I do not owe you spellings any more,  
26 at least at this point.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: If we notice one we will ask, Mr Santora.

28 MR SANTORA:

29 Q. Now you also said that Rambo went to a place called

1 Gandorhun. Is that correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And Bai Bureh went to a place called Tefiya?

4 A. Yes.

15:47:50 5 Q. And finally Komba Gbundema went to Yomandu. Is that  
6 correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What were these various locations?

9 A. They were surrounding Koidu Town as defensive positions for  
15:48:19 10 onwards battle against ECOMOG.

11 Q. Do you know why they were moving to these respective  
12 locations?

13 A. Yes, that is what I am saying. I said they were defensive  
14 positions for onwards battle against the ECOMOG in Koidu.

15:48:43 15 Q. Now at these respective locations - first of all where did  
16 you go with regards to after you left Koidu?

17 A. I went along with Bai Bureh to Tefiya.

18 Q. And why did you do that?

19 A. I was advised by Superman to do so.

15:49:11 20 Q. What specifically did Superman tell you?

21 A. After the fall of Koidu, we were advised that too many  
22 officers were not supposed to be based at one location and so at  
23 the time the advice was given he advised me to join Bai Bureh to  
24 Tefiya.

15:49:44 25 Q. Now was there any connection between these various  
26 locations?

27 A. Yes, they had communication and they often used the bush  
28 path for communication.

29 Q. Now prior to leaving Koidu you said you were working with

1 Superman in relation to radio operations. Now what happened with  
2 relation to radio operations when you went to Tefiya?

3 A. Before my departure to Tefiya the radio operators were  
4 distributed between Gandorhun, Yomandu and some stayed with  
15:50:47 5 Superman and I went along with one other person to Tefiya.

6 Q. Who was the other person you went with?

7 A. It was Alfred Malloh.

8 Q. Was he a radio operator?

9 A. Yes, yes.

15:51:16 10 Q. Now can you describe the communications, if any, that  
11 existed in terms of radio between the various camps - between the  
12 various locations, I'm sorry?

13 A. Whilst we were in Tefiya Superman sent to Bai Bureh at a  
14 point that we should report to him that we should go to him on  
15:52:00 15 his ground at Jagbwema Fiama in order for us to discuss pertinent  
16 issues. Sam Bockarie sent to him that Issa Sesay was giving some  
17 amount of diamonds for him to go in search of arms and ammunition  
18 in Liberia. But whilst Issa Sesay was going on that trip he sent  
19 a communication to him that the diamonds got missing and it was  
15:52:47 20 based on that information that almost all the jungles, including  
21 the Joru jungle, the fighters became annoyed as a result of that  
22 situation. So Sam Bockarie invited him to a general forum in  
23 Buedu.

24 Q. Mr Witness, before you talk about this particular  
15:53:21 25 communication I just want to ask you some more questions about  
26 from where you were at Tefiya. Now earlier you discussed about  
27 how you were monitoring communications in various locations?

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Santora, do we have a spelling of this  
29 jungle, the jungle that he just named, Joru or Jui or whatever he

1 said? If you don't mind could you spell it, please.

2 THE WITNESS: It is J-O-R-U, Joru.

3 MR SANTORA:

15:54:07

4 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. Now, from your position at Tefiya,  
5 were you still in a position to monitor communications?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. At that time can you describe which commanders, if any,  
8 were communicating with other commanders?

15:54:35

9 A. Yes, almost all the radio station commanders or the  
10 commanders that were at the various points I have mentioned used  
11 to communicate with Superman and Superman in return would  
12 communicate with Sam Bockarie.

13 Q. Now how frequently was this occurring?

14 A. Communication often went on on a daily basis.

15:55:18

15 Q. Now describe Tefiya camp where you were. Who was there?

16 A. At Tefiya there were over one battalion of commandos and  
17 some SLA soldiers were on that ground. Bai Bureh Kamara was the  
18 commander at Tefiya and I was also with Bai Bureh there assisting  
19 with communication. Tefiya is about four miles away from Yomandu  
20 and 17 miles away from Koidu Town.

15:56:04

21 Q. Now at this time while you were at the location in Tefiya,  
22 what, if anything, was happening in relation to civilians?

23 A. In fact at Tefiya, Tefiya was completely empty and there  
24 were no civilians present in Tefiya at the time we were there.

15:56:48

25 Q. Now you said that you were called at some point to Superman  
26 Ground. Is that correct?

27 A. Pardon me?

28 Q. At some point you said you were called to Superman Ground?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Did you arrive at Superman Ground at some point?

2 A. Yes, Superman invited us in order for us to discuss who  
3 will join him to go to the meeting that was supposed to take  
4 place in Buedu with Sam Bockarie with regards the diamonds that

15:57:37 5 Issa Sesay lost in Monrovia.

6 Q. Now before you went to Superman Ground from Tefiya, you  
7 said that Superman was in regular communication every day with  
8 Sam Bockarie. What were they in communication about?

9 A. They were discussing about their defensive positions, how  
15:58:07 10 to get arms and ammunition in order to go back to Koidu and  
11 Superman always used to send requisition for materials before  
12 they moved in to fight against ECOMOG and Sam Bockarie always  
13 informed him that they were working out modalities and that was  
14 in fact one of the reasons why he decided to send Issa Sesay to  
15:58:40 15 Monrovia with some quantities of diamonds in pursuit of arms and  
16 ammunition.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Santora, I am not entirely clear what  
18 is working out modalities.

19 MR SANTORA: I was just looking at that phrase, your  
15:59:08 20 Honour, and I was going to clarify it.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

22 MR SANTORA:

23 Q. You said that Sam Bockarie always informed him that they  
24 were working out modalities. What do you mean?

15:59:23 25 A. By that I meant that he was always on his feet trying to  
26 create an avenue or to make ways of getting arms and ammunition  
27 for the defensive positions in Koidu or around Koidu.

28 Q. Did you ever learn how Sam Bockarie was planning to obtain  
29 arms and ammunitions?

1 A. Yes, that was one of the ways. And by sending Issa Sesay  
2 to Monrovia was one means by which he could get arms and  
3 ammunition in order to supply the front lines.

4 Q. Did you learn where he was sending Issa Sesay to in  
16:00:28 5 Liberia?

6 A. Yes, he sent Issa Sesay to Monrovia in order to get arms  
7 and ammunition from Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor.

8 Q. How do you know that?

9 A. I came to know that when the meeting was conducted in Buedu  
16:01:03 10 and it was at that time that Superman made it very clear to us  
11 when he returned back from Buedu with some quantity of arms and  
12 ammunition.

13 Q. Mr Witness, what was made explicitly clear when Superman  
14 returned from Buedu?

16:01:27 15 A. We were made to understand by Superman that Issa Sesay was  
16 given some quantities of diamonds that were taken from Johnny Paul  
17 and he was sent down to Monrovia to get arms and ammunition and,  
18 according to him, he said he lost the diamonds and in return one  
19 Fonti Kanu made arrangements for us to get arms and ammunition  
16:02:00 20 and the arrangement went on with one ECOMOG general in Monrovia.

21 Q. Now earlier, Mr Witness, you said the name Savage. Who was  
22 that?

23 A. Savage was one of the commanders who was assigned at  
24 Tombodu after the fighting took place, or after Superman returned  
16:02:47 25 from Buedu with the arms and ammunition a fighting took place at  
26 Tombodu and it was after that fighting that Savage was assigned  
27 at Tombodu on the defensive in order to take care of Tombodu.

28 Q. Who assigned savage to Tombodu?

29 A. Savage was assigned at Tombodu by Superman upon advice of



1 the SLA commander who was in Kono at this time and who was  
2 working side by side with Superman by the name of Hassan Papa  
3 Bangura, alias Bomb Blast.

16:03:40 4 Q. Now are you aware of anything that may have happened to  
5 Savage?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Can you explain what you are aware of?

8 A. Yes, at one time a complaint reached Superman about Savage  
9 that he killed a lot of civilians in a house with five rooms in  
16:04:15 10 Tombodu. Superman sent some of his bodyguards in order to prove  
11 whether that information was true. His bodyguards returned and  
12 reported to Superman that the information was true. And he later  
13 went with two other commanders including Isaac Mongor and Peter  
14 Vandi and myself to Tombodu to observe the areas that were where  
16:04:52 15 Savage destroyed the civilians in the house with five rooms. He  
16 burnt them all down into ashes and that area was under monitoring  
17 and he later sent a message to Sam Bockarie with regards the  
18 attitude of Savage in Tombodu.

19 Q. Who sent the message to Sam Bockarie?

16:05:20 20 A. Superman was the person who sent the message to  
21 Sam Bockarie.

22 Q. Did you yourself - how do you know that?

23 A. I said that Superman, Isaac Mongor, Peter Vandi and myself  
24 Foday Lansana, visited the site where Savage carried out that  
16:05:49 25 destruction.

26 Q. How do you know that Superman sent a message to  
27 Sam Bockarie?

28 A. I was in the radio room when the message was written by the  
29 secretary and I was also there when I heard him send this message

1 to Sam Bockarie.

2 THE INTERPRETER: Correction, your Honour. "I was also  
3 there when Alice Pyne send this message to Sam Bockarie".

4 MR SANTORA:

16:06:24 5 Q. What happened, if anything, as a result of this message?

6 A. I did not follow up the details of this message with  
7 regards any disciplinary action against Savage until we finally  
8 left Koidu Town.

9 Q. I just want to clarify, Mr Witness. At this point were you  
16:07:01 10 in Koidu Town or were you in Tefiya?

11 A. The incident took place whilst we were in Koidu Town, not  
12 in Tefiya.

13 Q. And you are saying you are not aware of anything - you  
14 yourself are not aware of anything following this message?

16:07:29 15 A. I meant the response that Sam Bockarie sent after he  
16 received a message regarding the act that was done by Savage at  
17 Tombodu.

18 Q. Now during the time you were in - well, first of all,  
19 before I ask you this, how long did you end up remaining in the  
16:08:03 20 Kono District approximately?

21 A. I was in Kono District from January 1998 up to September  
22 1998.

23 Q. And just to understand where you were based during that  
24 time, you said first you came to Koidu Town. Is that correct?

16:08:44 25 A. Pardon me?

26 Q. During your time in the Kono District first you were based  
27 in Koidu Town. Is that correct?

28 A. That is not clear to me, please.

29 Q. When you first arrived in the Kono District in 1998 was

1 your first location in Koidu Town?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And at some point you moved to Tefiya and based there. Is  
4 that correct?

16:09:24 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. About how long were you based in Tefiya?

7 A. I stayed in Tefiya over four months.

8 Q. Now within Kono during this time were you ever based  
9 anywhere else?

16:09:52 10 A. No, from Superman's house where we retreated to, that is  
11 Jagbwema Fiama at Superman Ground, I immediately proceeded to  
12 Tefiya and I stayed there until Superman finally left Koidu for  
13 Kurubonla.

14 Q. Now during your time in the Kono District were you aware of  
16:10:24 15 what was going on in terms of civilians?

16 A. Yes, apart from that one that I have just disclosed with  
17 regards what Savage did in Tombodu, whilst we were in Koidu there  
18 were constant reports about civilians that were killed by Morris  
19 Kallon and that was whenever they refused to comply with him with  
16:11:04 20 regards carrying out diamond mining in Koidu Town.

21 Q. Mr Witness, when you say there were constant reports about  
22 civilians that were killed by Morris Kallon, what do you mean?

23 A. I mean the civilians as well as the IDUs used to file  
24 reports against Morris Kallon that he was killing civilians in  
16:11:40 25 Koidu Town and there were sufficient proofs that indeed Morris  
26 Kallon was indeed carrying out killings and whosoever refused to  
27 carry out diamond mining for him in Koidu.

28 Q. Where were these reports sent?

29 A. The IDU used to send these reports through Superman to

1 Sam Bockarie.

2 Q. And just to clarify, you said IDU, what do you mean by IDU?

3 A. The IDU was one of the security units within the RUF,  
4 otherwise known as the Internal Defence Unit.

16:12:36 5 Q. You said that Morris Kallon was indeed carrying out  
6 killings and whoever so refused to carry out diamond mining for  
7 him in Koidu?

8 A. Yes, I was informed that Morris Kallon was in charge of  
9 mining at the time we returned to Koidu before ECOMOG pushed us  
16:13:04 10 out of Koidu Town.

11 Q. How do you know that? How do you know that Morris Kallon  
12 was in charge of mining when you were in Koidu?

13 A. He himself made it very clear, when he was given this  
14 appointment by Sam Bockarie to carry out mining while Superman  
16:13:39 15 should carry on with the fighting in Koidu.

16 Q. Now, Mr Witness, earlier you discussed that there was one  
17 particular communication where Sam Bockarie communicated with  
18 Superman about diamonds that were lost by Issa Sesay. Is that  
19 correct?

16:14:06 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Now as a result of this communication what happened?

22 A. I said as a result of this communication there was dispute  
23 within the RUF movement and Sam Bockarie asked Superman to join  
24 him in Buedu in order to calm down the situation through a forum  
16:14:39 25 or a meeting.

26 Q. And after that communication what happened?

27 A. Superman went to Buedu in order to be part of the meeting  
28 and he later returned with some quantity of arms and ammunition  
29 to Koidu.

1 Q. First, where were you when Superman went to Buedu?

2 A. I was in Tefiya when Superman returned from Buedu to  
3 Superman Ground.

4 Q. Where were you when he went to Buedu?

16:15:28 5 A. I was in Tefiya.

6 Q. So how do you know he went to Buedu? How do you know  
7 Superman went to Buedu?

8 A. He sent for us so that he could explain to us and whilst he  
9 was in Buedu he used to communicate with us on a daily basis.

16:15:54 10 Q. Do you know how long Superman remained in Buedu at this  
11 time?

12 A. Yes, Superman was in Buedu for over four weeks. One month  
13 plus.

14 Q. Now you said you were in Tefiya when he went to Buedu and  
16:16:28 15 then you said he sent for us so that he could explain to us  
16 whilst he was in Buedu. Just to clarify, what do you mean?

17 A. Before he moved and upon receiving information or  
18 instruction from Sam Bockarie for him to report, that was the  
19 time he called us for consultation before he departed for Buedu.

16:17:06 20 Q. When you say called you, what do you mean he called you?

21 A. He sent for us to meet him on his ground at Jagbwema Fiama.

22 Q. Now, while Superman was in Buedu, where were you?

23 A. I was in Tefiya.

24 Q. And did you have any opportunity to learn what was  
16:17:38 25 happening in Buedu?

26 A. Yes, we were in constant communication with Superman or  
27 operator King Perry and Alice Pyne, they also travelled with  
28 Superman whilst he was in Buedu.

29 Q. Now what did you learn about what was happening in Buedu?

1 A. We came to know that despite the fact that Issa Sesay lost  
2 the diamonds that were given to him, which were meant for him to  
3 go and purchase arms and ammunition in Monrovia, Fonti Kanu was  
4 able to get some quantity of arms and ammunition from Monrovia.

16:18:46 5 We also came to know that some of the LURD rebels or the ULIMO-K  
6 in Lofa County had already surrendered to Sam Bockarie, precisely  
7 one General Abu Keita came with some quantity of arms and  
8 ammunition to Buedu, to Sam Bockarie in Buedu.

9 Q. Now did you learn anything else about this meeting between  
16:19:30 10 Sam Bockarie and - I'm sorry, did you learn anything else while  
11 Superman was in Buedu?

12 A. Yes, when we were in Koinadugu later we came to know that  
13 the reason why Superman stayed for long in Buedu included also  
14 planning to eliminate --

16:20:05 15 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness say again  
16 that area.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you please repeat the  
18 last part of your answer for the interpreter.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes. I said that whilst we were in Koinadugu  
16:20:32 20 I came to understand that the reason why Superman stayed long in  
21 Buedu also included a plan to eliminate - for Superman to  
22 eliminate SAJ Musa at Kurubonla.

23 MR SANTORA:

24 Q. Now you said you learned this at some point later in  
16:21:12 25 Koinadugu. Is that correct?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. So at this point while you were in Tefiya - actually I will  
28 withdraw that question. It's unnecessary. Now after Superman  
29 was in Buedu, you said that he left Buedu, is that correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. What happened after that?

3 A. After Superman left Buedu he came along with some troops  
4 from Sam Bockarie's location, that is Buedu, to his ground at  
16:22:07 5 Jagbwema Fiama. He was given to undertake a special operation,  
6 that is to attack Koidu, and upon his arrival he called the  
7 various defensive positions from Gandorhun, Tefiya, Yomandu, and  
8 they launched an operation called Fitti-Fatta. At the end of the  
9 operation Fitti-Fatta Superman left Koidu for Kurubonla.

16:22:53 10 Q. First of all, Mr Witness, do you know what the word  
11 Fitti-Fatta means?

12 A. Fitti-Fatta was a code name given to the operation that was  
13 launched immediately after Superman's return from Buedu.

14 Q. Now where were - I will withdraw that question. Where were  
16:23:24 15 you when the operation called Fitti-Fatta was launched?

16 A. I was in Tefiya.

17 Q. And do you know the purpose of this operation?

18 A. Yes, it was intended on attacking and capturing Koidu and  
19 to get sufficient arms and ammunition.

16:24:05 20 Q. Do you know the result of this mission?

21 A. Yes, the result of that mission was that there were serious  
22 casualties on both sides from the RUF as well as the ECOMOG which  
23 did not allow the RUF to push further from Koidu. Superman  
24 evacuated the wounded soldiers from Koidu and he continued to  
16:24:54 25 Kurubonla in order to attack Sama Bendugu in the Koinadugu  
26 District.

27 MR SANTORA: I believe that's a new name, your Honours.  
28 Sama Bendugu, S-A-M-A B-E-N-D-U-G-U.

29 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Is it one word or two?

1 MR SANTORA: I believe it's two, but I will check with the  
2 witness:

3 Q. Mr Witness, the name Sama Bendugu, is that one word or two  
4 words?

16:25:37 5 A. Two.

6 Q. Now did you yourself accompany Superman to Kurubonla?

7 A. Yes, I later went. After he had captured Kabala he sent  
8 for me.

9 Q. Now you said you at some point did leave the Kono District.  
16:26:01 10 Is that correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. So from Tefiya, where did you go?

13 A. From Tefiya I went to Yomandu where Komba Gbundema had his  
14 base and whilst Komba Gbundema too was on the same operation  
16:26:31 15 together with Superman at Sama Bendugu. And after I spent a week  
16 in Yomandu Superman instructed me to join him in Koinadugu.

17 Q. Mr Witness, I want to ask you one question. Do you know  
18 who Sani Abacha was?

19 A. Yes, indeed. Sani Abacha was the President of Nigeria in  
16:27:06 20 1998.

21 Q. Do you know where you were when he died?

22 A. Yes, I was in Yomandu when we heard the information over  
23 the BBC about Sani Abacha's death in Nigeria.

24 MR SANTORA: It is perhaps a convenient time, unless --

16:27:35 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well, Mr Santora, if this is a good  
26 point to break. We will therefore adjourn until tomorrow  
27 morning.

28 Mr Witness, I will again remind you as I have done before  
29 that you have taken the solemn declaration to tell the truth and



1 until the time all your evidence is finished you should not  
2 discuss your evidence with any other person. Do you understand  
3 what I said?

4 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

16:28:03 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: We will adjourn Court now until tomorrow  
6 morning at 9.30. Please adjourn the Court.

7 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.30 p.m.  
8 to be reconvened on Friday, 22 February 2008 at  
9 9.30 a.m.]

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**I N D E X**

**WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:**

TF1-275	4409
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR SANTORA	4409