



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

FRIDAY, 4 APRIL 2008
9:30 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Mr Simon Meisenberg
Ms Sidney Thompson

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura

For the Prosecution:

Mr Nicholas Koumjian
Mr Mohamed A Bangura
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Terry Munyard
Mr Morris Anyah
Ms Elizabeth DUBY

1 Friday, 4 April 2008

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:30:08 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. I notice some changes on
6 both Bars this morning. Mr Koumjian?

7 MR KOUMJIAN: Morning, your Honours. For the Prosecution
8 Mohamed A Bangura, Maja Dimitrova and myself Nicholas Koumjian.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

09:30:26 10 MR MUNYARD: Good morning your Honours and counsel
11 opposite. On the Defence bench there is myself Terry Munyard,
12 Morris Anyah and Elizabeth Duby. Madam President, I am afraid
13 I am still in the same situation as yesterday as regards my
14 decibel level. I don't know how loudly I am speaking because it
09:30:48 15 is all echoing inside my head, so if the Court can give me
16 guidance if it's necessary I will be grateful for that.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: I will definitely bear that in mind. If
18 there are no other matters I will remind the witness of his oath.
19 Mr Witness, again I remind you as I have done on other mornings
09:31:06 20 that on Monday you took the oath and swore to tell the truth.
21 That oath is still binding on you and you must answer questions
22 truthfully. Do you understand?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord.

24 WITNESS: TF1-532 [On former oath]

09:31:18 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, please proceed. Thank you
26 Mr Munyard.

27 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR MUNYARD: [Continued]

28 Q. Mr Mongor, when we broke off yesterday we were looking at
29 page 39004 it is 25 and 27 July, tab --

1 JUDGE LUSSICK: Tab 12, I think it is.

2 MR MUNYARD: Thank you, your Honour. Yes, I think it is.

3 Yes. Just before I ask the witness further questions about this
4 may we enquire of counsel opposite about the interview notes.

09:32:09 5 You will remember that two days ago at midday we were given a
6 file by Ms Hollis and I again reiterate that we are grateful to
7 her for giving us that when the Prosecution realised they hadn't
8 disclosed it to us. It doesn't contain handwritten notes of all
9 of the interviews.

09:32:29 10 Now we know from what we have seen of Mr Kolot's notes that
11 sometimes he has stated that he has been making the notes on his
12 computer and he has transferred them into this format from his
13 computer, but we don't have any handwritten notes for this
14 particular tab. This is the interview in July 2007 that has got
09:32:54 15 the two different months on it. Nor do we have any handwritten
16 notes for any of the proofing sessions in the year 2008 and
17 I just wonder if my learned friend opposite could let us know
18 whether those are missing, or what the situation is with those.
19 I was looking at them last night because I hadn't had much of a
09:33:17 20 chance to do so before.

21 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, there are not handwritten notes
22 of the proofing sessions that I can say. And as to the others
23 I can double check, but my understanding is we have asked the
24 investigators for all handwritten notes.

09:33:32 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: You have heard counsel.

26 MR KOUMJIAN: One moment if I can just double check
27 something. It is our belief we have given all the handwritten
28 notes.

29 MR MUNYARD: Well, I would ask that a further check be made

1 because it is somewhat surprising that there are no handwritten
2 notes of any of the proofing sessions this year. However, I have
3 put on record that I would like the Prosecution to check that and
4 I will now move on to the evidence.

09:34:01 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: On the face of the record Mr Koumjian
6 said they didn't make handwritten notes during the proofing
7 sessions and I have no reason to doubt what he has told me.

8 MR KOUMJIAN: I am just talking about the ones I am present
9 at. I cannot of course speak to all sessions.

09:34:17 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I should have made that distinction.

11 MR MUNYARD: That's why I would like it checked:

12 Q. Now, Mr Mongor, page 39004, please. We looked yesterday at
13 paragraph 52 on this page and I would like you to look again if
14 you would. Just let me know when you can see it on the screen.

09:34:48 15 Paragraph 52, just over halfway down the page.

16 A. Yes I have seen it.

17 Q. Who is Jonathan Kposowa?

18 A. He was the general adjutant to Foday Sankoh.

19 Q. How long had he been in that post?

09:35:24 20 A. Well, he held that position for a long time.

21 Q. Right, did you know him well?

22 A. Yes, my Lord.

23 Q. And you knew well the difficulty that the RUF were in
24 during the period 1993 really until about 1998 in terms of their
09:35:54 25 inability to get arms or ammunition from Liberia, didn't you?

26 You told us that yesterday. So where else was the RUF getting
27 its arms and ammunition from?

28 A. If my memory serves me well I had said that we also got
29 ammunition, arms and ammunition, from Guinea and at that time we

1 were doing cross border business with them and we got - it was
2 just a small quantity of ammunition that we got from there.

3 Q. I am dealing here with someone who is sent to Ghana.

4 Before I go into this in more detail I want to be absolutely

09:37:08 5 clear. Yesterday you were perfectly plain in saying that you got
6 no arms or ammunition from Liberia by any method during the
7 period we are talking about, 1993 to about 1998. Now that is
8 right, isn't it?

9 A. Yes, it is right.

09:37:31 10 Q. Thank you. In 1996 you were in a very senior position in
11 the RUF. That's right, isn't it?

12 A. Yes, my Lord.

13 Q. Who was it that Foday Sankoh was sending Jonathan Kposowa
14 to see in Ghana about buying arms and ammunition, or ammunition

09:37:58 15 on the face of this paragraph?

16 A. Well, he was to go and collect money.

17 Q. And buy ammunition with it?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Who was he collecting the money from?

09:38:24 20 A. Well, I don't know the person, but the person was Foday
21 Sankoh's friend.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Munyard, sorry to interrupt. I am
23 just noticing from the record that the answer by the witness when
24 you asked him, "So where else was the RUF getting their

09:38:45 25 ammunition from" is not recorded, but he did say, "If my memory
26 serves me right". Now that has been merged with your question
27 and it looks as if you're giving the evidence. His answer has
28 completely disappeared from the record. If that could be
29 corrected, because I think the answer is important and it has

1 just been merged into your question.

2 MR MUNYARD: Thank you, your Honour. I wasn't keeping an
3 eye on the record at that point. I think maybe that should be
4 done now before we move on any further if we can clarify that
09:39:25 5 with the transcriber.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: I have a note that he said they got it
7 from Guinea, there was a cross border business, small amount.
8 But that's not an ad verbatim, but pretty close to ad verbatim.

9 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: If you look at page 4, lines 4 to 19
09:39:48 10 I think it was, the question and answer have been merged and they
11 both appear like a question which is wrong.

12 MS IRURA: Your Honour, I believe they will be corrected on
13 the final transcript as they cannot be corrected on the screen.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you for that clarification. If you
09:40:07 15 can please make a note to ensure that it's done. There is a bit
16 about the cross border business.

17 MR MUNYARD:

18 Q. Who was Foday Sankoh's friend in Ghana, Mr Mongor?

19 A. [Microphone not activated].

09:40:32 20 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the witness's microphone is
21 not switched on.

22 MR MUNYARD:

23 Q. Mr Mongor, could you lean forward and just press the silver
24 button at the bottom of the microphone section, the big button
09:40:48 25 nearest to you, and a red light will come on on the microphone
26 itself. Thank you. Can you give us any idea when in 1996
27 Jonathan Kposowa travelled to Ghana, or was sent to Ghana?

28 A. Well, he and Foday Sankoh went on the Abidjan peace accord
29 and they were in Abidjan when he was sent.

1 Q. Right, and do you know when that was in 1996, the Abidjan
2 peace accord period?

3 A. Well, I can't remember the month now.

4 Q. Did Foday Sankoh have contact with the Libyans in Ghana?

09:42:25 5 A. Well, I can't tell. I don't know about that.

6 Q. Mr Mongor, you know perfectly well, don't you, that Foday
7 Sankoh was dealing with the Libyans in Ghana in 1996, getting
8 money from them for arms?

9 A. Well, I don't know much about that that I can recall now.

09:43:07 10 Q. You were one of the top commanders.

11 A. Yes, I have not disagreed with that, that I was one of the
12 commanders, or top commanders.

13 Q. One of the top half dozen or so commanders of the RUF and
14 therefore you would know exactly where the RUF was getting its
09:43:36 15 supplies and its money for supplies, wouldn't you?

16 A. It doesn't mean that because of my position I should know
17 everything.

18 Q. Right. I am going to ask you to have a look at a document
19 please and, your Honour, I have got copies for everybody. It is
09:44:04 20 a two page document - yes, it is a two page document. I hope
21 there is one for the screen, yes. Now, have a look at that two
22 page document. It is headed at the top of the first
23 page "Revolutionary United Front of Sierra Leone (RUF/SL)", it is
24 dated June 26 1996 and it is said to be from Corporal Foday S
09:45:27 25 Sankoh. Do you see that?

26 A. Yes, I have seen it.

27 Q. Right. Turn over to the second page, please, and you see
28 at the bottom of the writing halfway down the second page it says
29 "Sign" and then there is initials "FS Corporal Foday S Sankoh

1 Leader RUF/SL." Do you see that?

2 A. Down?

3 Q. Do you see the initials at the bottom of the writing on the
4 second page? Is there a problem with this, Mr Mongor?

09:46:42 5 MR KOUMJIAN: There is no document on the screen. The
6 screen is not showing - no, it is my fault.

7 THE WITNESS: I have not seen it as yet, that is why.

8 MR MUNYARD:

9 Q. Well, Madam Court Officer will show you where it is and
09:46:57 10 I believe it has been on your screen.

11 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Munyard, are these initials, or is
12 this a signature?

13 MR MUNYARD: I have been calling them initials.

14 THE WITNESS: Okay, because I see a signature.

09:47:10 15 MR MUNYARD:

16 Q. Oh, all right then. You call it a signature, I call it
17 initials, but I am not going to argue with you. That is Foday
18 Sankoh's signature, isn't it, those initials?

19 A. The other signature that I see here is not Foday Sankoh's
09:47:35 20 signature.

21 Q. Which other signature?

22 A. The particular signature that I see here.

23 Q. You are not a handwriting expert, are you?

24 A. I am not a handwriting expert.

09:47:59 25 Q. Well let us go back to the first page, please, and I am
26 going to take you through this document. We have established
27 that at the top it says, "From: Corporal Foday S Sankoh, Leader
28 RUF/SL", then it is addressed to "Brother Mohammed Talibi, Libyan
29 Arab People's Jamahiriyya Accra Ghana. Subject: Follow up

1 request:

2 I want to thank you and the other brothers back home again
3 very much for the half million United States dollars ...", and
4 then in numerical form 500,000 USD, "... which I received through
09:48:52 5 you for the purchase of needed material to pursue the military
6 mission. However, I wish to let you all be informed that my
7 business partners for these materials are here with me and we
8 have had extensive discussions on this subject. Attached to this
9 letter you will find a list of materials, arms and ammunitions
09:49:11 10 and their costs for your serious and urgent attention. I now
11 need 1.5 million United States Dollars ...", and that is repeated
12 in numerals, "... in order to purchase twice the listed materials
13 for effective and smooth operation. My representative, Captain
14 Philip S Palmer, will elaborate on this all important and urgent
09:49:37 15 mission as he is expected to travel along with my business
16 partners somewhere for these materials if and only if the above
17 mentioned amount is available. These materials will be given to
18 me at discount rates and ...", something, "... the requested
19 amount plus the one already to ...", something, "... hand", it
09:49:59 20 may be "at hand", "... will cover in addition all transportation
21 ...", it would appear to be "costs", "... for air lifting these
22 materials."

23 Over the page, please:

24 "The air lifting of these materials to our controlled
09:50:14 25 territory will be done before any payment for this mission is
26 done by me. This is why I am urgently appealing to you and the
27 other brothers back home for your usual cooperation in providing
28 this time the one and a half million United States dollars ...",
29 and then in brackets the numerical figure is actually only

1 500,000, "... to be at hand with me so that my business partners
2 and my representative can proceed for these materials very
3 quickly for fast and smooth operation. Kind regards. Sign ..."
4 , and then there is initials which appear on the face of it to be
09:50:55 5 the initials "FS", "... Corporal Foday S Sankoh, Leader RUF/SL."

6 Who is Captain Philip S Palmer?

7 A. Captain Philip S Palmer was one of the RUF men.

8 Q. What was his position?

9 A. Philip Palmer, I knew him to be a soldier and he was also
09:51:44 10 with Foday Sankoh.

11 Q. Right. What was his position with Foday Sankoh?

12 A. Well, he was with Foday Sankoh and at any time Foday Sankoh
13 travelled somewhere he went with him.

14 Q. Was he his driver, his bag carrier, or what?

09:52:15 15 A. Well, he was with him. They were together, both of them.

16 Q. Captain Palmer was a man who did arms deals for Mr Sankoh,
17 wasn't he?

18 A. Well, I don't know him for that particular function.

19 Q. Mr Mongor, you are in the top command of the RUF; the top
09:52:53 20 half a dozen or so. Help us, please, with who it was who Foday
21 Sankoh used either to get money for arms, or to get the arms and
22 ammunition themselves, or for both of those purposes?

23 A. Well, the only thing that I know is that during the war it
24 was Foday Sankoh himself who went to collect his arms and
09:53:30 25 ammunition and brought them into Sierra Leone. There was not a
26 day that I saw him ask somebody to go on behalf of the RUF to
27 transact some business for him. I am not talking about the time
28 we went - they went to Abidjan, because I was not present there.

29 Q. The fact that you were not present at Abidjan hasn't

1 prevented you saying on page 39004 that Jonathan Kposowa was sent
2 by Foday Sankoh from Abidjan to Ghana to collect --

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is not entirely correct. It said
4 "Sent somewhere, he thinks in Ghana."

09:54:22 5 MR MUNYARD: Well, I am working on the basis that that is
6 what he thought. That is the somewhere that he was thinking.
7 That is good enough for the purpose of the question, with great
8 respect, your Honour:

9 Q. Now, Mr Mongor, I am going to try again. The fact that you
09:54:42 10 weren't there has never stopped you telling the Prosecution
11 page after page after page of information about events, people,
12 radio transmissions, conversations between others, et cetera, has
13 it?

14 MR KOUJIAN: Objection, that is purely argumentative.

09:55:05 15 MR MUNYARD:

16 Q. Well, you said that you were not there and so you wouldn't
17 know. You have got a great deal - you have given this Court a
18 great deal of information about events that you were not present
19 at, haven't you?

09:55:15 20 MR KOUJIAN: That is exactly the same question. The
21 witness says - if counsel wants to ask the witness if he learnt
22 what happened in Abidjan the witness can give that answer, but
23 this is purely argumentative if the witness knows.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: I agree with Mr Koumjian, Mr Munyard.
09:55:33 25 You must put the specifics, not the general.

26 MR MUNYARD: All right, I will go back to the witness's
27 answer if you will give me just a moment:

28 Q. Yes, what you said, it is page 11:

29 "The only thing that I know is that during the war it was

1 Foday Sankoh himself who went to collect his arms and ammunition
2 and brought them into Sierra Leone. There was not a day that
3 I saw him ask somebody to go on behalf of the RUF to transact
4 some business for him. I am not talking about the time we ...",
09:56:23 5 it has got here, and then, "... they went to Abidjan because
6 I was not present there." Did you go to Abidjan?

7 A. I did not go there.

8 Q. So, how are you able to tell the Prosecution on 26 July
9 last year that Jonathan Kposowa went to Abidjan with Foday Sankoh
09:56:54 10 and whilst there Foday Sankoh sent Mr Kposowa to collect money
11 from some place that you think is Ghana to buy ammunition with
12 the money?

13 A. Well, I came to know that at the time Foday Sankoh returned
14 and when he was explaining about the things that happened during
09:57:33 15 the time they went on the peace accord in Abidjan, and he said he
16 sent his brother to go to one of his friends in Ghana to ask him
17 for some money for us to buy ammunition. He said - but since
18 that time he did not return, he did not come back to Abidjan for
19 me to see him, so at that time he went to the various jungles to
09:58:02 20 explain to us what obtained during the peace accord. So, at that
21 time I saw the Philip Palmer that you are talking about. They
22 all came together, because they all came together in the
23 helicopter.

24 Q. Right. Who came together with Foday Sankoh and Captain
09:58:26 25 Philip Palmer?

26 A. Foday Sankoh together with Captain Palmer and the foreign
27 minister for Abidjan. They all came together in that helicopter.

28 Q. And what about Jonathan Kposowa, what happened to him?

29 A. He did not come with them.

1 Q. What was it you were told had happened to him after Foday
2 Sankoh told you that he had sent Kposowa to, you think, Ghana?

3 A. They said they had given - they had given him money - no,
4 they said they had sent him to his friend to get some money so
09:59:40 5 that they would buy some ammunition, because at that time when he
6 came we also explained our own situation about the attacks that
7 we were getting from the enemies whilst the peace accord was
8 going on.

9 Q. Then what happened to Jonathan Kposowa?

10:00:05 10 A. Well, Jonathan Kposowa did not return to Abidjan. He went
11 to Liberia. He was there until the second peace accord was
12 signed and that is the Lome Accord. It was at that time that
13 Foday Sankoh went to Liberia and met him there, so they both came
14 together to Sierra Leone.

10:00:34 15 Q. Let us just deal with the period of the Abidjan Accord
16 first. You said in the passage that we looked at in the
17 interview notes that instead of collecting money from Ghana and
18 buying ammunition with the money, Kposowa collected the money and
19 converted it to his own use. Is that another way of saying that
10:01:04 20 he stole it?

21 A. Well, I am not saying that he stole it.

22 Q. What does "converted it for his own use" mean, Mr Mongor,
23 if it doesn't mean that he stole it?

24 A. Well, that man is a big man and he was one of the
10:01:32 25 authorities in the RUF and he was a whole general adjutant to
26 Foday Sankoh, so if he went and received money and then used it
27 on his own business I don't want to refer to it as thieving.
28 Maybe he had a reason for which he did it but I would not accuse
29 him that he stole it.

1 Q. What does "convert RUF money that was meant to buy
2 ammunition for his own use" mean?

3 A. He used it for his own business. He did not use it for -
4 in the interests of the movement. He used it for his own
10:02:39 5 business.

6 Q. How much money are we talking about?

7 A. Well, I did not know the amount.

8 Q. Hold on a minute. Foday Sankoh, you have just told the
9 I learned judges, told you all of this when he came back from

10:02:55 10 Abidjan in the helicopter with Captain Philip S Palmer and the
11 Abidjan foreign minister. He told you how he had sent Kposowa to
12 Ghana to collect money and Kposowa had gone off and converted it
13 to his own use. You as one of the top commanders of the RUF
14 would want to know just how much of your movement's money

10:03:23 15 Jonathan Kposowa had gone off with, wouldn't you?

16 A. Well, it was not the issue of the money that I wanted to
17 know about. I only wanted to know about the issue of ammunition
18 that I was supposed to receive. I only knew that he was sent to
19 receive some money, but I don't know what was the amount and

10:03:53 20 I did not ask, say, "Papa, how much money did you send that man
21 to collect?" I did not ask him that. I don't think there was
22 any need for me to ask him.

23 Q. Did you have any idea how much money we're talking about
24 here?

10:04:21 25 A. I said I don't have any idea how much money we are talking
26 about.

27 Q. Are we talking about perhaps half a million, or one and a
28 half million United States dollars?

29 A. I don't know the amount.

1 Q. On your account Jonathan Kposowa, having converted the
2 money to his own use, was afraid to return to Sierra Leone, yes?

3 A. Yes, he was afraid to come back. He did not come back to
4 Sierra Leone and he couldn't come alone.

10:05:09 5 Q. He admitted a grievous offence against the movement, hadn't
6 he?

7 A. Yes, he committed.

8 Q. The sort of offence for which anyone would normally be
9 executed by the RUF, isn't it?

10:05:38 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And in fact what happened to Jonathan Kposowa was that he
12 was appointed secretary general of the RUF after this, wasn't he?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Did that make any sense to you?

10:05:58 15 A. Well, it makes sense to me because it was the leader that
16 brought the man. He took it - he brought him from Liberia and he
17 asked everybody to forget about what the man had done, so if he
18 gave me any other position I don't think it was something I would
19 have gone against, or make comments against what the leader said.

10:06:29 20 Q. Back to page 39004, please. Have we got that on the screen
21 in front of us? Thank you. Paragraph 52 that we have been
22 looking at: "In 1996 Jonathan Kposowa travelled with Foday
23 Sankoh to Abidjan for the peace accord." Paragraph 53, look at
24 that, please, and tell me when you have got it?

10:06:58 25 A. Yes, I have seen it.

26 Q. It reads as follows:

27 "After the peace accord Kposowa met with Foday Sankoh in
28 Liberia and Foday Sankoh came with him to Freetown and was
29 appointed secretary general for the RUF movement."

1 You're talking there about the Abidjan Peace Accord, aren't
2 you?

3 A. No, it is not the Abidjan - it was not during the Abidjan
4 Peace Accord that the man came. After that peace accord I did
10:07:30 5 not see General Kposowa in Sierra Leone. It was only when they
6 went for that other peace accord which was the last peace accord
7 that I saw Kposowa come.

8 Q. So did you tell the investigators and the Prosecution
9 lawyer that you were talking to that where it says in paragraph
10:07:53 10 52, "Jonathan Kposowa went to Abidjan for the peace accord" and
11 the immediate following paragraph, "After the peace accord he met
12 with Sankoh in Liberia" that you were talking about two different
13 peace accords some, I think, three years apart?

14 A. I talked about the second peace accord.

10:08:22 15 Q. Did you tell the two people who were interviewing you on
16 that occasion that you were talking not about the Abidjan Peace
17 Accord in 1996 but the Lome Peace Accord three years later in
18 1999? Did you tell them that's what you were meaning when you
19 said, "After the peace accord Kposowa met with Foday Sankoh in
10:08:52 20 Liberia" and then came back to Freetown and was made secretary
21 general?

22 A. When I was talking about that peace accord I did not make
23 it specific, but I know that the thing I was talking about was
24 that it was after the other peace accord that I saw Foday
10:09:21 25 Sankoh - sorry, I mean Kposowa, when he brought him and made him
26 secretary general. But at the time I was talking to the
27 investigators I did not specify that peace accord to them.

28 Q. Right. I want you to look at something else now. Madam
29 Court Officer, I am going to direct you to - it's tab 9 and I am

1 going to be looking at page 28453. You are being interviewed in
2 February of 2007, 4 February 2007. This is interview number 13,
3 the 13th different date on which you have been interviewed thus
4 far and halfway down - a little over halfway down that page it
10:11:14 5 says, "Clarification by the witness of the 1 October 2006
6 statement" and there are three bullet points there and I want you
7 to look at the second bullet point. Do you see where it starts,
8 "Johnny Paul Koroma indicated"? Do you see that, Mr Mongor?

9 A. Yes, I have seen Johnny Paul.

10:11:43 10 Q. "Johnny Paul Koroma indicated that he told Charles Taylor
11 how things were going. JKP was also asking Charles Taylor to
12 connect him to Libya because JPK wanted arms and ammunition from
13 there."

14 That is what you were telling the Prosecutors, were you, in
10:12:06 15 February 2007?

16 A. Yes, I told them.

17 Q. And so the junta was trying to get arms from Libya, is that
18 right?

19 A. We wanted to get arms.

10:12:31 20 Q. From Libya?

21 A. Yes, if we were able to get the contact there we would have
22 tried to get it there.

23 Q. You know perfectly well that the RUF, and in particular
24 Foday Sankoh, was in contact with Libya seeking either arms or
10:12:55 25 money for arms during the mid-1990s, don't you?

26 A. I don't know whether he had direct contact with Libya for
27 arms and ammunition.

28 Q. Did you know anything at all about arms from Libya?

29 A. I don't know about arms from Libya.

1 Q. Or money from Li bya?

2 A. I don't know about money from Li bya.

3 Q. So you know nothing about either arms or money from Li bya,
4 is that your position?

10:14:10 5 A. I don't know about money from Li bya, or whether RUF or
6 Foday Sankoh got arms from Li bya, or money from there. I don't
7 know about that.

8 MR KOUMJIAN: Before we move too far away counsel showed a
9 two page document. Perhaps he would like to have that marked
10:14:31 10 with an MFI number.

11 MR MUNYARD: I am very grateful to Mr Koumjian. Indeed
12 I would.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. That will be marked for
14 identification - I think we are up to 18 or 19, is it, Madam
10:14:43 15 Court Attendant?

16 MR MUNYARD: I think it was 19. Justice Sebutinde usually
17 is on top of these things.

18 MS IRURA: Your Honour, it will be MFI-18.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: So this is a two page handwritten
10:15:08 20 document headed "Revolutionary United Front of Sierra Leone
21 (RUF/SL)" and it is MFI-18.

22 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, would it be appropriate just to
23 give the date on it as well because I don't think it's the
24 only --

10:15:24 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then it is dated 26 June 1996.

26 MR MUNYARD: Thank you. I am grateful to Mr Koumjian for
27 reminding me of my omission there:

28 Q. Now, tab 15, please. Do you have that in front of you,
29 Mr Mongor?

1 A. Yes, I have it.

2 Q. It is headed "Additional information provided by witness
3 TF1-532", that's you. "The witness gave the following additional
4 information in the course of proofing interviews on 16 and 20
10:16:33 5 February in The Hague." Then it also says, "This material has
6 not been reviewed with the witness or read back to him."

7 I am now going to review at least one passage of it and
8 read it back to you to see if you agree that this is an accurate
9 note of what you told the Prosecutors just a few weeks ago here
10:16:58 10 in The Hague. I would like you to go to the third paragraph from
11 the bottom where there is a sentence that starts, "In discussing
12 the Magburaka plane shipment." Would you let us know when you
13 have got that?

14 A. I have seen it, my Lord.

10:17:26 15 Q. Let's read it and see what you say about this:

16 "In discussing the Magburaka plane shipment the witness
17 said that the shipment received included two single barrel AA
18 guns with ammunition."

19 Is that right? Have they recorded that correctly?

10:17:45 20 A. It is correct.

21 Q. "And GMG ammunition." Did you tell them that?

22 A. I told them.

23 Q. General machine gun, I think. "But did not include any
24 AK-47 ammunition." Did you tell them that?

10:18:04 25 A. I told them.

26 Q. "Which limited the military benefit of the shipment." Did
27 you tell them that? Did you tell them that by not including any
28 ammunition for your AK-47s that rather limited the value of what
29 you'd received in the Magburaka airdrop?

1 A. Yes, I told them.

2 Q. "He understood the shipment was from Libya." Did you tell
3 them that?

4 A. I told them that.

10:18:48 5 Q. So why was it, Mr Mongor, that not five minutes ago you
6 told this Court that you didn't know about any arms from Libya?

7 A. Yes, the reason why I said so, it was because you were
8 talking about the RUF and this particular shipment was not for
9 the RUF. It was Johnny Paul through whom this particular

10:19:23 10 shipment came. So that was why I said when you are talking about
11 the RUF arms deal and money issues with Libya, I told you I don't
12 know about that.

13 Q. I asked you at page 19, on my screen line 12, "Do you know
14 anything at all about arms from Libya?" Answer, line 13,

10:19:55 15 "I don't know about arms from Libya."

16 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, to be fair to the witness the
17 context - I believe we should begin reading from line 6. Line 6
18 on my screen. I have font 14. It begins with, "You know
19 perfectly well."

10:20:15 20 MR MUNYARD: Yes, that's line 7 on mine, but there you are.

21 "Q. You know perfectly well that the RUF and in particular
22 Foday Sankoh was in contact with Libya seeking either arms
23 or money for arms during the mid-1990s, don't you?

24 A. I don't know whether he had direct contact with Libya
10:20:35 25 for arms and ammunition.

26 Q. Do you know anything at all about arms from Libya?

27 A. I don't know about arms from Libya."

28 That is in the context of the RUF seeking arms from Libya
29 in the mid-1990s. I hope I have properly put it into context

1 now:

2 Q. Now back to page 100209, Mr Mongor. When was the Magburaka
3 plane shipment if you were there at all to see it?

4 A. It was in 1998.

10:21:46 5 Q. You say it was in 1998. Why didn't you say - when I asked
6 you, "Do you know anything at all about arms from Libya?", why
7 didn't you say, "Oh, well we did get arms from Libya in 1998"?

8 A. Yes, it was because you were talking about Foday Sankoh's
9 business and at that time you know we were discussing Foday
10:22:20 10 Sankoh and General Kposowa's issue and at that time I did not
11 think about that, so that was why I did not answer it that way,
12 but I am aware that we had arms shipment from Libya that came to
13 Sierra Leone and that was at the Magburaka airstrip. I think
14 I had spoken about that before. So if it came to a time that you
10:22:49 15 were going to ask me such a question I knew I was going to talk
16 about it, so that is why when we are now at the particular point
17 that you have asked me, that was why I said yes.

18 Q. We weren't talking about Jonathan Kposowa when I went into
19 the question of do you know anything at all about arms from
10:23:17 20 Libya. Have you forgotten - before Mr Koumjian objects, if we go
21 back to page 19 that he himself raised, if you go to the previous
22 page you will see on page 18 that we were looking at what he'd
23 said about the junta and Johnny Paul Koroma. We have moved on
24 from Jonathan Kposowa, Mr Mongor.

10:23:50 25 A. Yes, we moved. That was when you asked me whether I saw
26 Johnny Paul I said yes, I saw him. I recall that.

27 Q. Yes. Why have you just told us, "Oh, well, I didn't tell
28 you, I was waiting to tell you about the arms from Libya -
29 Magburaka in 1998, but you", me, "were asking me questions about

1 Jonathan Kposowa, or we were talking about Jonathan Kposowa." We
2 weren't, were we?

3 MR KOUMJIAN: I believe that's unfair to the witness
4 because the questions in series were three questions that began
10:24:35 5 with Foday Sankoh and the RUF. It's true that he had spoken
6 earlier about Johnny Paul Koroma, but --

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Frankly, Mr Munyard, regardless of
8 Mr Koumjian's objection I consider that the witness has given an
9 explanation as to why he answered in the way he answered and I do
10:24:56 10 not see any value in pursuing this unless you are going to
11 challenge his credibility. I think this is now a matter for
12 submission.

13 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, can I make it clear that
14 I challenge his credibility completely, but I am not doing so --

10:25:09 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Of course we see the logic in your
16 question.

17 MR MUNYARD: All right. I am quite happy to move on. It
18 is the same subject, but it's a different point.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed.

10:25:25 20 MR MUNYARD:

21 Q. So those arms in the Magburaka airdrop came from Libya,
22 yes?

23 A. Yes, my Lord.

24 Q. And that is something you know yourself, is it?

10:25:52 25 A. Well, that was what they told me and that was how I came to
26 know that.

27 Q. Who is "they", Mr Mongor?

28 A. Well, when I said they, I mean the Head of State by then
29 and that is JPK.

1 Q. Right. So this must be - if it's 1998 it must be around
2 January if Johnny Paul Koroma is Head of State, or are you
3 referring to him as Head of State even after the intervention and
4 the junta are thrown out of Freetown? Just help us with that,
10:26:42 5 would you?

6 A. Yes, after the intervention I still regarded him as Head of
7 State because he was our Head of State and I had regard for him.

8 Q. Very well. Right. Tab 7, please. Sorry, my tabs have
9 gone awry this morning as you have probably realised. Tab 8

10:28:26 10 actually. First page, page 26278. Now this is an interview on
11 28 January 2007. This is interview number 12 and I would like
12 you to look, please - there is a very dense first paragraph and
13 I am going to have to ask you about something right in the middle
14 of that paragraph. Well, actually towards the end. Do you see

10:29:14 15 the main paragraph on that page, Mr Mongor, that starts with your
16 name and ends with "1998" about three-quarters of the way down
17 the page? Do you see that? I am not asking you to read it.
18 I just want you to confirm that you are looking at the first
19 paragraph. Do you see?

10:29:38 20 A. Yes, I have seen it, my Lord.

21 Q. All right. Look at the last sentence of that paragraph,
22 that is working back from the date "1998" count up three lines
23 above "1998" and does it read as follows:

24 "Apart from the delivery at Magburaka air field that Mongor
10:30:02 25 referred to in a prior interview, he maintains that he knew of no
26 supplies coming to the RUF from Liberia during the period from
27 1995 to September 1998."

28 Is that what you told the investigators on 28 January 2007?

29 A. Yes, I told them.

1 Q. So you told them there, did you, that the Magburaka arms
2 came from Liberia?

3 A. Yes, it came from Liberia because it passed through there
4 before it arrived. That was why I said that.

10:30:53 5 Q. But you told us just a moment ago that those arms came from
6 Libya?

7 A. Yes, even if you read that particular page that we have
8 just come from the sentence from there will tell you that the
9 shipment came from Libya, but it was through the help of

10:31:22 10 Mr Taylor in Liberia before it entered Sierra Leone. If you go
11 back to that page you will see it there.

12 Q. Right, let us just do that. You want us to go back to the
13 previous page that we were looking at a moment ago?

14 A. Yes, where we talked about the Magburaka shipment.

10:32:24 15 Q. Page 100209. Yes, you are quite right. You say it was
16 arranged with the help of Mr Taylor and came through Liberia,
17 yes? So you have now got it coming from Libya but through
18 Liberia, yes?

19 A. Yes, it came to Liberia through the help of Mr Taylor
10:33:09 20 before it came to Sierra Leone.

21 Q. Right. I would like you to look, please, at page 39007,
22 which is in the tab we were looking at a moment ago from July
23 2007, tab 12. Now can you confirm that you have got that,
24 please? Have you got that page?

10:34:33 25 A. Yes, I have seen it, my Lord.

26 Q. That page has numbered paragraphs on it. I would like you
27 to look, please, at paragraph 76, the second paragraph from the
28 bottom. Do you see there?

29 A. Yes, my Lord.

1 Q. Paragraph 76:

2 "Witness was present in Magburaka before the intervention
3 when a plane dropped boxes of arms/ammos at an improvised
4 Airport. The plane dipped down a short distance from the ground
10:35:17 5 and dropped the boxes."

6 Pausing there for a moment, was it before the intervention,
7 or was it after the intervention? You told us this morning that
8 it was after the intervention?

9 MR KOUMJIAN: Objection, that misstates the evidence. The
10:35:30 10 witness said he referred to Johnny Paul Koroma as Head of State
11 even after the intervention. He never made that remark about the
12 shipment.

13 MR MUNYARD: The Court knows what the evidence was.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I recall that remark being made.

10:35:40 15 MR MUNYARD: Oh, that remark was made, but he gave the date
16 as 1998 which is why that led to that remark, because I then
17 said, "Well, if it is 1998 and Johnny Paul is Head of State, does
18 it mean January before they were pushed out, or are you referring
19 to him as Head of State after they were pushed out?" Answer:

10:35:58 20 "Yes, I still called him Head of State after they had been pushed
21 out." That is how we got onto the discussion of Johnny Paul
22 being referred to as the Head of State, because he had been
23 specific about the year in which this arms drop took place. 1998
24 is the year he gave for the arms drop in his evidence to the
10:36:24 25 Court this morning.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am getting lost. Mr Munyard, put your
27 question again, please.

28 MR MUNYARD:

29 Q. This morning you told the Court that the air drop at

1 Magburaka was in 1998. Do you remember telling them that?

2 A. Yes, I recall that I said that.

3 Q. Thank you. In this paragraph here you say it was before
4 the intervention, so are you saying that it was during the very
10:37:04 5 first few weeks of 1998? Is that what you are saying? Because
6 we know the intervention comes around January/February of 1998.
7 I will be corrected if I am being imprecise there.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think it was February.

9 MR MUNYARD: Yes.

10:37:22 10 MR KOUMJIAN: It is a stipulated fact. February 14,
11 I believe.

12 MR MUNYARD: Fine. Valentines Day, yes:

13 Q. Was it in the first six weeks then of 1998 that the
14 Magburaka air drop occurred?

10:37:43 15 A. Well, I have said that the shipment came in 1998 and after
16 that it was not a long time after that that we were pushed out of
17 Freetown.

18 Q. Paragraph 77, please:

19 "The witness was part of the team that received the
10:38:15 20 arms/ammos. The team was led by [Colonel] SO Williams."

21 Did you tell them that, those two facts?

22 A. I talked about SO Williams. I also talked about Fonti
23 Kanu.

24 Q. Right. All I am concerned at the moment to ask is did you
10:38:51 25 tell them the two things that are in that paragraph: first of
26 all that you were part of the team that received the arms and,
27 secondly, that the team was led by Colonel Williams? You have
28 answered the second part. Have they recorded it accurately?
29 That is all I am interested in knowing.

1 A. Yes, I told them that I went there. I was part of the team
2 that went there; that went to the airfield.

3 Q. Over the page, please, paragraph 78:

4 "Witness did not know where the plane came from but knew
10:39:38 5 the RUF/AFRC were expecting materials from Burkina Faso."

6 Did you tell them that?

7 A. I did not talk about Burkina Faso.

8 Q. Are you quite sure about that?

9 A. I am sure.

10:39:59 10 Q. All right, so the investigator and/or the lawyer who were
11 interviewing you on that date have got that wrong, have they?

12 A. How can I talk about Libya and the next moment I move from
13 that and talk about Burkina Faso? I talked about Libya.

14 Q. This is the second part of that interview. If we go back
10:40:34 15 to it - I am not asking you to go back to it, but if anyone wants
16 to check the date it is on page 39004 and it is 10.30 am on 26
17 July 2007. Paragraphs 49 onwards are on 26 July. So you told
18 them Libya and they managed to write down not just a mistake like
19 Liberia instead of Libya, but a country that doesn't even sound
10:41:07 20 like Libya. Is that what you are telling the Court, Mr Mongor?

21 A. I would not talk about Libya and then later I come and talk
22 about Burkina Faso again. I want to believe even the person who
23 was interviewing me should have asked a question that will have
24 enhanced correction to be made, because I told them that the
10:41:50 25 plane came from Libya and then passed through Liberia to
26 Magburaka. So, I will not go the next moment and say the plane
27 came from Burkina Faso. You know, we are all human beings.
28 Think if I will say something like that to you and you make sense
29 out of it.

1 Q. And so this is one of the interviews that you have told us
2 was read back to you. This is one of the interviews that took
3 place in Freetown and was read back to you so that you could
4 correct any errors that the interviewers had made in the course
10:42:42 5 of writing down what you say. Now, Mr Mongor, I specifically
6 asked about this interview this morning before I started asking
7 you questions. There are no handwritten notes of this interview.
8 On the face of it, therefore, it appears that this must have been
9 typed directly into a computer. I say on the face of it,
10:43:07 10 I simply don't know, but that is what appears to be the case with
11 this interview.

12 A. Yes, maybe that is what you will say. I will not deny the
13 fact of what you are saying.

14 Q. That wasn't my question. I was just stating the fact that
10:43:28 15 this appears to be an interview that was typed at the time. Now
16 do you remember who was interviewing you on 25 and 26 July last
17 year, the middle of last year?

18 A. I can't recall.

19 Q. All right. We will come back to that in due course. When
10:43:59 20 you were interviewed on earlier occasions we know that you
21 remember the interviewer writing things down on pieces of paper.
22 Can you remember any interviewers at any stage typing the
23 interview into a computer as it was happening?

24 A. Well, I can't recall that now, whether it happened that
10:44:29 25 way, because I will not be able to remember everything now.

26 Q. But you are quite clear, aren't you, that at the end of
27 each interview they read back to you what they had recorded so
28 that you could correct any mistakes they had made?

29 A. I can't remember that now.

1 Q. I am just asking you generally, a general question, do you
2 understand, that the process of interviewing involved somebody
3 asking you questions, those questions being either written down
4 or typed into a computer and then your answers, the information
10:45:19 5 that you had given them, being read back to you so that you could
6 correct it. That's what happened in the course of the very many
7 interviews in Freetown, isn't it?

8 A. When you talk about computer this and that, or whether they
9 wrote - they typed it directly into a computer and later read it
10:45:50 10 back to me, I can't recall that, but I will tell you that yes, if
11 they wrote any interviews they will read it back to me.

12 Q. And when you say wrote it doesn't matter whether they were
13 writing in handwriting or typing into a computer, everything that
14 you said was written down, recorded in some way, and then read
10:46:15 15 back to you, is that right?

16 A. Well, I can't recall that somebody interviewed me and typed
17 it into a computer and read it back to me. I can't recall. But
18 I am sure that the interviews that were written by the
19 investigators were read back to me.

10:46:48 20 Q. Thank you. Now let's go back to Burkina Faso. When the
21 interview took place in July of last year was it read back to
22 you?

23 A. I can't recall that now, but I have told you that I believe
24 and I assume that all the documents that were prepared by the
10:47:24 25 investigators were read back to me, my Lord.

26 Q. Right. And indeed later on, particularly at the end of
27 2007 and again in 2008, you had quite lengthy interviews, didn't
28 you, in which your earlier interview notes were gone through with
29 you and you were asked to clarify, or expand on those earlier

1 interviews, weren't you? I can show you if you wish to jog your
2 memory, but it's there. Indeed we have looked at some of these
3 where it says clarification of such and such an earlier
4 interview.

10:48:17 5 A. I am not denying that.

6 Q. When this interview was read back to you why didn't you put
7 your hand up and say, "What on earth are you saying? I never
8 mentioned Burkina Faso"?

9 A. I will not say that I had never spoken about Burkina Faso
10:48:46 10 because in a topic generally the issue of Burkina Faso must come
11 inside, but on this particular topic I was unable to remember to
12 call the attention of the investigator at that particular time.

13 Q. Right. Well, let's just look at that. So you remember the
14 investigator reading back to you the words "Burkina Faso", do
10:49:29 15 you, and for some reason you weren't able to call the attention
16 of the investigator at that particular time? Is that what you're
17 telling us?

18 A. Well, I can't say it was for some reason, because if I say
19 it was for some reason it means I had certain things in mind and
10:50:01 20 maybe that was the reason why I did not tell him at that time to
21 correct it, but sometimes maybe it is possible that it was a
22 mistake and that I should have told the investigator, but I did
23 not actually ask any further questions for corrections to be made
24 at that moment.

10:50:27 25 Q. How do you remember?

26 A. What do you mean, my Lord?

27 Q. We're talking about the 16th time on which you were
28 interviewed by the Office of the Prosecutor. How do you remember
29 what went on in the course of interview number 16 when you can't

1 even remember who it was who was interviewing you on that
2 occasion?

3 A. Well, I can't understand the way you are talking - you are
4 saying it, about what I did not remember, but I have so many
10:51:19 5 other things in mind that I cannot tell you specifically the
6 things that I would recall, or maybe my memory did not serve me
7 well at that time to go back to this mistake and correct it.

8 Q. I think I might have made a mistake as well. I think
9 I have double counted the 14 and 15 June and both the 25 and 26
10:51:44 10 July interviews so we are probably on interview number 18 at this
11 stage. Mr Mongor, are you saying that you have a recollection of
12 the interviewer reading out to you "Burkina Faso" but for some
13 reason you didn't correct him or her?

14 A. I did not talk about and I am unable to say it was for some
10:52:15 15 reason. I am saying maybe the idea did not occur to me, or maybe
16 my mind did not run there early.

17 Q. Well, your mind ran very fast to it when I put it to you
18 just now, didn't it? You said, "How could I have said Burkina
19 Faso when I have been telling you they came from Libya?"

10:52:44 20 A. Yes, because I was confused just now in that area.

21 Q. Paragraph 79, please. Sorry, before we finish paragraph 78
22 I should read the second sentence. Back to paragraph 78, please,
23 Mr Mongor, "He thinks Ibrahim Bah was involved in arranging the
24 plane to bring the arms/ammo." Did you tell them that?

10:53:24 25 A. Yes, I told them that.

26 Q. This is the arms and ammo from Burkina Faso. Do you
27 understand what this sentence is actually referring to?

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard, I find that somewhat
29 confusing. You have put to him that the arms were from Libya.

1 He said they were from Libya via Liberia. Are you now putting to
2 him they were actually from Burkina Faso?

10:54:06 3 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, I hope I haven't put any
4 destination - sorry, not destination, provenance to him. I am
5 simply putting what he has been saying. I'm not claiming that
6 any arms ever came from anywhere.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: I understand that, but the series of
8 questions is whether the word "Burkina Faso" or the word "Libya"
9 was used.

10:54:21 10 MR MUNYARD: All right. I will try and tie it up now. We
11 will just do paragraph 78 and then we will do 79 and then we will
12 move on:

13 Q. I am going to read paragraph 78 again to you:

14 "Witness did not know where the plane came from but knew
10:54:42 15 the RUF/AFRC were expecting materials from Burkina Faso. He
16 thinks Ibrahim Bah was involved in arranging the plane to bring
17 the arms/ammo."

18 Were you telling the interviewers that Ibrahim Bah was
19 arranging a plane to bring arms and ammo from Burkina Faso, or
10:55:07 20 from Libya?

21 A. Ibrahim Bah, he did arrangements on both sides.

22 Q. Well, that may well be, I don't know, but would you now
23 please go back to the question I asked you and deal with that?

24 A. Yes, I spoke about Burkina - Libya that he made the
10:55:47 25 arrangements at the time he came to Freetown, Ibrahim Bah.

26 Q. I don't want to take an unfair point against you. You have
27 just used both countries there. Which one are you intending to
28 convey to the Court Ibrahim Bah had arranged for the arms/ammo to
29 come from?

1 A. The arrangement he made for the ammos to come, the first
2 one was from Libya when they brought the AAs at that time.

3 Q. We are talking about the Magburaka air shipment in this
4 section. No, hang on --

10:56:44 5 A. Yes, yes, it is --

6 Q. Are you talking about the Magburaka air shipment?

7 A. Isn't that what you are talking about, my Lord?

8 Q. Yes, that's what we're discussing, the Magburaka air
9 shipment.

10:57:06 10 A. The Magburaka air shipment was from Libya and the aircraft
11 left and it passed through Liberia. Through the help of
12 Mr Taylor it came to Magburaka and it was Ibrahim Bah that came
13 to JPK and they made the arrangement before he left.

14 Q. Were you there when this happened?

10:57:48 15 A. Well, I went with Ibrahim Bah because we were the ones who
16 took Ibrahim Bah to JPK's house and after we had all spoken
17 together they later had a closed door meeting and then after that
18 JPK told us what the arrangements were that they have made for us
19 to get something for supplies to come.

10:58:23 20 Q. So the answer to my question is, "No, I wasn't there when
21 JPK and Ibrahim Bah made this arrangements because that was in a
22 closed door session", is that right?

23 MR KOUMJIAN: That was not the question that was asked.

24 The question was, "Were you there?", which is rather - could be
10:58:44 25 interpreted in a number of ways: in the country, in the city, in
26 the location.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: We really don't know what they spoke
28 about together whilst the witness was present. That is unclear
29 as well.

1 MR MUNYARD: All right:

2 Q. Were you there when JPK and Ibrahim Bah made this
3 arrangement to bring in arms from Libya?

10:59:21

4 A. At the time they were in the room talking I was not there,
5 but I was within Johnny Paul's compound.

6 Q. Right. Would you turn, please - well, that is just - it
7 may just be me, but - no, it is all right. We have established
8 this is from Libya. Turn to paragraph 79 then, please, over the
9 - sorry, it is on the same page, 39008. Do you see that?

11:00:02

10 A. Yes, I have seen 79.

11 Q. "Before the arrival of the plane the RUF had arrangements
12 for arms to be shipped in from Burkina Faso but when they joined
13 the AFRC, the contract was renewed by JPK."

14 Did you tell them that?

11:00:28

15 A. Yes, I told them that.

16 Q. Which contract was renewed by JPK?

17 A. He renewed the contract by talking to Ibrahim Bah so that
18 he will be able to bring arms and ammunition for the movement at
19 that time.

11:01:02

20 Q. "Before the arrival of the plane ...", this is the plane at
21 Magburaka, yes?

22 A. It was before we received the first supply that came.

23 Q. "Before the arrival of the plane ...", are you referring to
24 the plane at Magburaka?

11:01:33

25 A. Yes, the plane that came to Magburaka.

26 Q. "... the RUF had arrangement for arms to be shipped in from
27 Burkina Faso but when they joined the AFRC, the contract was
28 renewed by JPK."

29 Now, you have told us that he renewed the contract by

1 talking to Ibrahim Bah?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So this is the contract - this is the arms that were
4 brought in by that plane at Magburaka, is it?

11:02:16 5 A. No, that was not it.

6 Q. This is another contract, is it?

7 A. Yes, after he had spoken to the man and the man agreed to
8 carry on, but it did not happen until we were pushed out. He did
9 not bring any consignment any longer until the time we were
11:02:50 10 pushed out.

11 Q. And after you were pushed out, did he bring a consignment
12 from Burkina Faso?

13 A. Well the time we were pushed out of Freetown I did not hear
14 about, or I did not know about, any further ammunition that was
11:03:19 15 brought from Burkina Faso, although we had some ammunition that
16 came behind rebel lines, but I did not understand whether it came
17 from Burkina Faso.

18 Q. Mr Mongor, you have just said:

19 "Yes, after he had spoken to the man and the man agreed to
11:03:40 20 carry on, but it did not happen until we were pushed out. He did
21 not bring any consignment any longer until the time we were
22 pushed out."

23 So after you were pushed out, did he bring a consignment?

24 A. No, he did not bring any consignment that I am aware of
11:04:16 25 with regards the contract that JPK that had given - that JPK had
26 given to the man that he agreed to, or whether he later brought
27 arms for that reason. I don't know about that.

28 Q. And we are talking here about a contract between JPK and
29 Ibrahim Bah for arms to be shipped in from Burkina Faso, yes?

1 A. Yes, my Lord.

2 Q. You were telling the interviewers in July 2007 that the
3 Magburaka air drop came from Burkina Faso because Ibrahim Bah,
4 who had previously arranged a contract with the RUF, now arranged
11:05:05 5 it with Johnny Paul Koroma and that is where these arms came
6 from, weren't you, Burkina Faso, the Magburaka air drop?

7 A. No, my Lord, that was not where it came from.

8 Q. I am going to ask you just one last time. Are you aware of
9 any arms and ammunition - arms or ammunition coming from Burkina
11:05:42 10 Faso after you were pushed out?

11 A. Well, when we were pushed out I can't recall now whether
12 any arms or ammunition came from Burkina Faso for us. I can't
13 recall that, my Lord.

14 Q. Well, just try please. Try a bit harder. Was there any
11:06:14 15 time after you were pushed out when you were aware that any
16 members of the RUF and/or the AFRC obtained arms as a result of
17 contacts in Burkina Faso?

18 A. Well I can't recall it now, because I don't think I have it
19 in mind now that arms and ammunition came from Burkina Faso that
11:06:59 20 I recall, my Lord.

21 Q. Do you remember when you first started giving evidence
22 telling these judges about an occasion when you heard that Sam
23 Bockarie and SYB Rogers had been to Burkina Faso and they showed
24 you photographs of the hotel that they had been in?

11:07:24 25 A. Yes, my Lord, I said that.

26 Q. Does that help to jog your memory about the question of
27 arms coming from Burkina Faso?

28 A. I said that, but I don't think and I can't recall whether
29 I did say that arms and ammunition came from that place that came

1 to the RUF controlled areas. I don't recall that. The fact that
2 they went there I have not disagreed with and, even when they
3 came, they showed us some pictures.

4 Q. What was it they went for to Burkina Faso?

11:08:22 5 A. Well, what Sam Bockarie told me was that he had received
6 call to go to Mr Taylor and at that time when he was going he
7 went with SYB Rogers and some other people. And he said it was
8 during that time that the Pa, Mr Taylor, made a connection
9 between Sam Bockarie and the Libyan leader, so he said after they
11:09:05 10 went there they spoke with the man and then they later came back
11 to Liberia.

12 Q. Did you mean to say, "... the Pa, Mr Taylor, made a
13 connection between Sam Bockarie and the Libyan leader"? Did you
14 mean Libyan leader, or did you mean Burkina Faso leader?

11:09:28 15 A. I said Sam Bockarie told me that when they got to Liberia
16 the Pa, who is Mr Taylor, he connected him with the Burkina Faso
17 President.

18 Q. Thank you. And what was the point of connecting him with
19 the Burkina Faso president, Mr Mongor?

11:10:01 20 A. Well, he connected him with them there because of materials
21 and that was arms and ammunition contact.

22 Q. Thank you. So that was the purpose of Sam Bockarie and SYB
23 Rogers going to Burkina Faso and staying in a hotel, to try to
24 get arms and ammunition from Burkina Faso?

11:10:38 25 A. Well they went there to establish the contacts, but they
26 did not immediately get the arms and ammunition from there. That
27 was why they went and stayed in the hotel and, when Sam Bockarie
28 came back, that was what he explained to me.

29 Q. And they came back with a large amount of materials, as you

1 call them, didn't they?

2 A. Yes, they came with materials, but they did not bring them
3 from Burkina Faso where they went. He did not tell me that where
4 they went was where they got them from.

11:11:25 5 Q. Right. I want to move on, please, to a number of separate
6 points, separate issues.

7 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Munyard, I am interested to hear the
8 logical conclusion of this from the witness. If Bockarie did not
9 tell the witness that they got them from Burkina, what did
10 Bockarie tell him they got them from?

11 MR MUNYARD:

12 Q. Yes, where did he get his arms and ammunition from?

13 A. Well he got those ammunition from Liberia, from Mr Taylor.

14 Q. Although he had just been on a trip together with SYB
11:12:20 15 Rogers to Burkina Faso just before he got these materials from
16 Mr Taylor. Is that what you are telling us?

17 A. It was not when he went to Burkina Faso that he got the
18 ammunitions from there, because it was as a result of those
19 ammunition that Sam Bockarie went to Liberia and it was there
11:12:51 20 that he was able to establish a connection to go to Burkina Faso
21 and he said Mr Taylor connected him with the Burkina Faso
22 President and he went there and spoke with him concerning
23 materials. But the ones that Mr Taylor called him for, he said
24 when they returned from Burkina Faso those were the ones that
11:13:22 25 they gave to them and those were the ones that they brought.

26 Q. How were they going to pay for arms if they were able to
27 persuade the President of Burkina Faso to give them any?

28 A. Let him go over that again, my Lord.

29 Q. You have told us that Mr Taylor made a connection for them

1 with the President of Burkina Faso and they went and stayed in a
2 hotel there, yes?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And the point of the connection was for them to try and get
11:14:20 5 arms, materials from Burkina Faso, yes?

6 A. It was to go and establish contact to talk with the Burkina
7 Faso leader.

8 Q. Yes, but to talk --

9 A. So that --

11:14:41 10 Q. Sorry, go on.

11 A. To discuss on the issue of materials, that is arms and
12 ammunition.

13 Q. Yes, thank you. And if the Burkina leader was going to
14 give them arms, how were they going to pay for them?

11:15:12 15 A. If he was supposed to give them - if he had given them arms
16 and ammunition we would have used diamonds to pay for them.

17 Q. Thank you. And who was going to take those diamonds to
18 him?

19 A. If we had got the arms and ammunition and if - when the
11:15:49 20 time reached Sam Bockarie would have gone there.

21 Q. Isn't that what actually happened; that when Sam Bockarie
22 and SYB Rogers went to Burkina Faso they were able to obtain
23 materials in exchange for diamonds?

24 A. Well, I want you to know and what I am trying to say is
11:16:28 25 that I have told you that a call came from Liberia first and that
26 was the reason why Sam Bockarie and other members of the RUF
27 delegation went to Liberia. And when they arrived there the
28 connection with Burkina Faso that Mr Taylor arranged for them was
29 for them to go to Burkina Faso, see the President and talk with

1 him, so that if we needed things like ammunition people will
2 leave Sierra Leone, go to Liberia and then go to Burkina to get
3 the ammunition that we needed. But that particular trip that
4 they went on to Burkina Faso was not the case that they went
11:17:26 5 directly with something to go and buy the ammunition and come
6 back. I want you all to understand that.

7 Q. All right. Now I want to just ask you, as I said, a series
8 of questions about issues that are not necessarily connected one
9 with the other. First of all, is it right that Sam Bockarie
11:17:50 10 never used to use the radio to speak to Charles Taylor on your
11 account?

12 A. What did he say?

13 Q. Do you maintain that Sam Bockarie never used to use the
14 radio to speak to Charles Taylor?

11:18:22 15 A. I don't think I have said that he never used to talk to
16 Charles Taylor over radio.

17 Q. Well are you saying that now; that he did used to talk to
18 him by radio?

19 A. I said I don't think I have said here that Mosquito one day
11:18:59 20 spoke to Mr Taylor by radio. I don't think I have said that here
21 before.

22 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Interpreter, what do you mean by "one
23 day spoke"? Do you mean ever spoke?

24 THE INTERPRETER: Sure, your Honour.

11:19:17 25 MR MUNYARD:

26 Q. Well, I am asking you. I am not asking you what you may or
27 may not have said. I am just asking you now, please. Are you
28 saying, is it your position, that Sam Bockarie never used to
29 speak to Charles Taylor over the radio?

1 A. He did talk to Taylor by radio.

2 Q. How often?

3 A. Well I can't recall for me to tell you now, but I think it
4 used to happen at the time the man was submitting his report, but
11:20:23 5 at the time he was submitting his reports I want to make this
6 clear for you all to understand. When he was making his reports,
7 he himself did not go on the radio to talk concerning the
8 activities that were happening in the RUF zones. Those ones were
9 passed over to the radio man for them to be able to decode them,
11:21:01 10 for them to send them, but there were some other discussions that
11 they did and, at the time he got the satellite phone, he was now
12 communicating with him on the satellite phone.

13 Q. Right. I am asking you about radio, you understand?

14 A. Yes, you are asking me about radio and I am also trying to
11:21:31 15 tell you how communication went on because even a satellite phone
16 is a communication machine. I know that you are talking about
17 radio and I told you that he used to talk to Mr Taylor by radio.
18 He would make his report and send to Mr Taylor, but I did make it
19 clear concerning the radio that the issue of the field report he
11:22:01 20 did not go there himself to talk it over with him, but he will
21 pass the written report, the written documents that he had, to
22 the radio operators and they will decode the messages and then
23 they will send it.

24 Q. Did you ever overhear any conversation on the radio between
11:22:25 25 Sam Bockarie and Charles Taylor?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. How many times?

28 A. Well, I can't recall that now.

29 Q. Well, was it many times?

1 A. I said I can't recall, but I know that they talked.

2 Q. Try, please. No, no, I am asking you, Mr Mongor, before
3 you answer, let me make the question clear in case you have not
4 understood it. I am asking you did you yourself ever overhear
11:23:11 5 Sam Bockarie on the radio to Charles Taylor?

6 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness say that
7 again? It was not clear.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter asks that you
9 repeat your answer, please.

11:23:34 10 THE WITNESS: I said I have listened. I listened to their
11 conversation.

12 MR MUNYARD:

13 Q. How many times? Often, all the time, not very often? Give
14 us a rough idea.

11:23:57 15 A. Well I can't give you any kind of rough idea now, but
16 I know that they used to communicate and that he was making
17 reports concerning RUF positions to Mr Taylor, but I am unable to
18 tell you how many times it has happened. Okay, my Lord?

19 Q. I am asking you how many times you say you overheard them,
11:24:38 20 not how many times they communicated.

21 A. I am unable to give you any specific number of times now.

22 Q. Well, was it more than once?

23 A. That is why I am telling you that I can't give you any
24 number, my Lord.

11:25:08 25 Q. You would know, wouldn't you, whether it was only once, or
26 more than once?

27 A. Well, I wouldn't know. I don't know that. That is why
28 I am saying that I can't recall to say that now.

29 Q. When you were giving your evidence in March, do you

1 remember telling the Court about the events just before the
2 invasion of Sierra Leone when you went to Voinjama?

3 A. Can you repeat that, my Lord?

4 Q. Do you remember, Mr Mongor, when you were first giving your
11:26:06 5 evidence you talked about your visit to Mr Taylor in Voinjama?

6 A. Yes, I talked about that.

7 Q. Do you remember telling the Court that when you got to
8 Voinjama that Foday Sankoh and Mr Taylor were in the house
9 together with some Special Forces and they invited you and you
11:26:39 10 went inside?

11 A. Yes, I recall that.

12 Q. And you said, "Then I was able to talk to Mr Taylor that
13 night." Do you remember saying that?

14 A. Yes.

11:26:56 15 Q. "And when Mr Taylor saw me he thanked me for the job I had
16 done." Do you remember saying that?

17 A. Yes, I recall that I said that.

18 Q. "But he did not just stop there." Do you remember saying
19 that?

11:27:15 20 A. Yes, my Lord.

21 Q. "We still had some other mission that we were to
22 accomplish, so he said we were to come to Sierra Leone to fight
23 and we should make sure that the mission we were to come for
24 should be accomplished. We should keep the ball rolling." Do
11:27:37 25 you remember saying all that?

26 A. I recall that I said that, my Lord.

27 Q. And he said all of this to you directly in the house in
28 this personal conversation with you?

29 A. Yes.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard, I think we are just about out
2 of time.

3 MR MUNYARD: I have a rather different angle on the clock
4 and it looks more like 25-past to me, but I am just saying
11:28:03 5 I can't see it properly from here.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that is one aspect of it, but also
7 I get a notification from the booth how much tape is left.

8 MR MUNYARD: I can stop here.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: If that is convenient, please.

11:28:14 10 MR MUNYARD: Yes, it is.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we are going to take the
12 mid-morning break now. We will resume at 12 o'clock.

13 THE WITNESS: Thank you, my Lord.

14 [Break taken at 11.30 a.m.]

11:57:52 15 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard, please continue.

17 MR MUNYARD: I think Mr Koumjian probably has a brief
18 procedural matter.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: I see. I didn't notice him on his feet.
11:59:22 20 Sorry, Mr Koumjian, please proceed.

21 MR KOUMJIAN: Well, I don't. I believe just counsel might
22 be referring to the appearances. At the moment it's myself, Maja
23 Dimitrova and Nicholas Koumjian for the Prosecution.

24 MR MUNYARD: Yes, that was all.

11:59:40 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: I will record that accordingly. Thank
26 you. Please proceed, Mr Munyard.

27 MR MUNYARD:

28 Q. I just want to be clear about what you are telling the
29 Court about that occasion in Voinjama, just before the invasion

1 of Sierra Leone. You go to a place where Charles Taylor is
2 staying, yes? Is that right?

3 A. Where did I meet him?

4 Q. You tell us, I wasn't there.

12:00:25 5 A. Well, it was Voinjama. That was where I met him.

6 Q. Yes, and there was a meeting held between Mr Taylor and the
7 RUF people, wasn't there, yourself included?

8 A. Yes, my Lord.

9 Q. After that meeting you're saying that Mr Taylor called you
12:01:02 10 into the house, is that right?

11 A. Yes, my Lord.

12 Q. And he had a private conversation with you in the house?

13 A. My Lord, I did not say private. When you say private it
14 means he and I alone, but I mean where he was talking, the RUF
12:01:35 15 leader, that is Foday Sankoh, was also present and I did say that
16 some other Special Forces were present.

17 Q. It wasn't the whole meeting at which he addressed the
18 assembled troops who were about to go off and invade Sierra
19 Leone, it was something different?

12:01:57 20 A. Well, that meeting, or that discussion, in that house was
21 at the time when we came and he was talking to the Special Forces
22 and I and Foday Sankoh were present, together with some other
23 Special Forces.

24 Q. A smaller number than the assembled troops who he had
12:02:25 25 addressed earlier, yes?

26 A. Yes, it was just that group.

27 Q. And Mr Taylor spoke specifically to you yourself, yes?

28 A. Yes, my Lord.

29 Q. He thanked you for the job that you'd done and he said you

1 should keep the ball rolling, yes?

2 A. Yes, my Lord.

3 Q. Tab 14, please. It's page 100194. Do you have that now,
4 Mr Mongor? Madam Court Officer, could you check that he's got
12:03:59 5 the right one. I don't think that's the right one. 100194.

6 That looks more like it from here. Can you confirm you've got
7 the right page there, Mr Mongor?

8 A. Yes, I have it, my Lord.

9 Q. This is additional information that you gave in the course

12:04:23 10 of proofing on 3 and 5 February 2008. It doesn't say who else

11 was present and it does say that, "This material has not been
12 reviewed with the witness or read back to him." Now I want you

13 to go down three main paragraphs. By three main paragraphs I'm
14 missing out the single sentence that appears after the second

12:04:56 15 paragraph. So I want you to go to the third main paragraph that
16 starts, "The witness mentioned in his previous statements". Have
17 you seen that?

18 A. Yes, I've seen it, my Lord.

19 Q. This is how it reads:

12:05:13 20 "The witness mentioned in his previous statements a meeting
21 held in Voinjama just before the invasion of Sierra Leone in
22 1991. Mr Taylor did not talk specifically to the witness during
23 that meeting, but addressed all the commanders who were present.

24 Charles Taylor said that the invasion of Sierra Leone should be
12:05:32 25 relentless, that the troops should not give up and keep the ball
26 rolling. The aim of the invasion was to take over the country."

27 Did you tell the Prosecution that in early February of this
28 year?

29 A. Yes, I said that, my Lord.

1 Q. So why did you tell this Court, just a month later, that
2 Mr Taylor spoke to you yourself and told you that you should keep
3 the ball rolling?

4 A. Yes, the reason why I said that, this one that you are
12:06:24 5 looking at was not the one that I spoke about when I referred to
6 the one that happened in the house when other Special Forces
7 members were there and I was also present there. During this
8 particular case he came to address all of us when he said these
9 words and that was what I said.

12:06:57 10 Q. Mr Mongor, I simply want to know why it was you said to the
11 Prosecution, in early February this year, Mr Taylor did not
12 specifically speak to you during that meeting. Were you not
13 clarifying something that you had said earlier which suggested
14 that he had spoken to you specifically?

12:07:30 15 A. Yes, he had spoken to me during the meeting in the house
16 and after we had come to his house where he was. But this one
17 that I am talking about here, he was addressing everybody present
18 at that time and I said that at that time he did not speak to me
19 particularly, to say that he spoke to me alone. But at that
12:08:07 20 particular time he was addressing all of us who were present.
21 That was what I said.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause, Mr Munyard. Mr Bangura?

23 MR BANGURA: Your Honour --

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: You know what time we resume. If you are
12:08:22 25 going to absent yourself from court please ensure that you take
26 your gown and tabs with you.

27 MR BANGURA: I do apologise, your Honours.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Proceed, Mr Munyard.

29 MR MUNYARD:

1 Q. Mr Mongor, I simply want to understand what it was you were
2 trying to tell the Prosecutors in early February - that Mr Taylor
3 didn't speak to you specifically but that he addressed all the
4 commanders and in the course of that address said to keep the
12:08:56 5 ball rolling - when you told this Court that it was when he
6 brought you personally into the house and spoke to you personally
7 and said "keep the ball rolling"?

8 A. I did say that he talked to me, telling me to keep the ball
9 rolling and I did say again when they were in the parlour talking
12:09:30 10 he spoke to me again and during the time he was addressing all of
11 us again, he said it again.

12 Q. He may have done, but why did you tell the Prosecutors in
13 February that he did not talk specifically to you during the
14 meeting?

12:09:55 15 A. Well, during that particular meeting, when we had all
16 assembled, he did not talk to me personally. That was what I
17 mean.

18 Q. Why did you need to tell them that in February of this year
19 unless you'd said something to the contrary at an earlier stage
12:10:22 20 when you were seeing the Prosecution?

21 A. I want you to know that when I said he spoke to me and then
22 he spoke at the time when other Special Forces members were
23 present and I did say something to the investigators again that
24 at the time when he was talking to us, the next time we were -
12:11:01 25 all of us who were present there, he spoke to all of - he spoke
26 to me in everybody's presence and that was the time we were going
27 for the mission. But after that I was trying to let the
28 investigators understand that at that end now he did not speak to
29 me personally.

1 Q. But your evidence is that he did say exactly the same thing
2 to you personally in the parlour, if I heard you correctly a
3 moment ago. Is that right?

4 A. What did you say, my Lord?

12:11:38 5 Q. Your evidence before the Court is that he did say exactly
6 the same thing about keep the ball rolling to you specifically
7 whilst in the parlour of the house. Have I understood you
8 correctly?

9 A. He said it, that we should keep the ball rolling, and he
12:12:03 10 said it's a mission that we should carry on with and ensure that
11 we get hold of the country.

12 Q. You see, you never met Charles Taylor at Voinjama in March
13 of 1991 before the invasion of Sierra Leone, I suggest?

14 A. I met Charles Taylor in Voinjama and that was where the
12:12:35 15 troop passed the night and the next morning we all moved to Foya
16 to enter Sierra Leone.

17 Q. If we look at the next paragraph on that same page, I'm now
18 moving on to a different topic:

19 "The witness explained that Top 20 was an operation led in
12:13:02 20 Sierra Leone by the Liberian Special Forces against RUF Junior
21 Commandos and Vanguard. Top Final was an operation led by the
22 RUF Junior Commandos and Vanguard against the Liberian Special
23 Forces. After Top Final most of the Liberian Special Forces were
24 chased out of Sierra Leone", yes? Now, were you yourself injured
12:13:33 25 in the course of these Top - I'll just call them Top Operations?

26 A. During the Top and even from the start of the start I had
27 an injury in my head.

28 Q. Can I just correct something that I might have said. Is it
29 Top, or is it Tap? I might have got it wrong.

1 A. Top. Top.

2 Q. Yes, thank you. Well, whatever it is --

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please spell that, Mr Interpreter, for
4 us.

12:14:27 5 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, it's T-O-P. Your Honours,
6 normally when the Liberian refers to T-O-P they call it tap.

7 MR MUNYARD: I just thought maybe I had got it wrong, thank
8 you.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you for that clarification.

12:14:41 10 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Well what is not clear is the answer that
11 he gave to the question that you asked, Mr Munyard.

12 MR MUNYARD: Well, I'll ask the question again:

13 Q. Were you yourself injured in the course of these Top
14 Operations?

12:15:08 15 A. Yes, I was wounded.

16 Q. Yes. You were beaten up and cut with a machete on the top
17 of your head, weren't you?

18 A. Yes, my Lord.

19 Q. Which side were you on in these Top Operations?

12:15:36 20 A. I was on the side of the junior forces.

21 Q. And for the benefit of anyone who doesn't know what that
22 means, are you talking about the RUF or the NPFL?

23 A. It's the RUF.

24 Q. Thank you. You were not only beaten up and cut with a
12:16:02 25 machete on the top of your head by the Liberians, but you were
26 also taken back to Liberia and detained for three weeks, weren't
27 you?

28 A. Yes, my Lord.

29 Q. They were actually trying to get rid of you because of your

1 senior position in the RUF at that time, weren't they?

2 A. Yes, my Lord.

3 Q. And by get rid of you what was it that you thought the
4 Liberians were trying to do to you?

12:16:51 5 A. Well, I think they had wanted to kill me.

6 Q. Yes, hence being chopped on the top of the head with a
7 machete. You thought when they did that they were trying to kill
8 you. That's right, isn't it?

9 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:17:18 10 Q. And although the RUF members regarded you as a Liberian,
11 they knew you were on their side. That's correct, isn't it?

12 A. Pardon me, my Lord?

13 Q. I will break it up into two stages. The RUF fighters
14 regarded you as a Liberian, didn't they?

12:17:42 15 A. Yes, my Lord.

16 Q. But they knew that you were on their side, the RUF's side?

17 A. Yes, they knew I was on their side.

18 Q. And although they knew you were a Liberian they never
19 attacked you, did they, the RUF fighters?

12:18:06 20 A. The RUF men did not attack me. No, they did not attack me.

21 Q. What happened to you in Liberia when you were taken back
22 and detained for three weeks?

23 A. Well, I was in Liberia and they took me and they placed me
24 in a separate tent that was used as a jail. I was there for

12:18:39 25 about three weeks, and from there one day I saw they came and

26 took me out and they took me to the radio room, where the radio

27 men were, and they said they had received an instruction that

28 they should release me. They said Mr Taylor sent an order that

29 they should release me.

1 Q. Let's move on to Foday Sankoh, please. Did you ever have a
2 problem with Foday Sankoh around the early 1990s when you were
3 first involved with the RUF?

4 A. I can't recall now whether I had a problem with him.

12:19:40 5 Q. Well, did Foday Sankoh have you arrested and put in jail
6 for any particular reason in the early period of the conflict?

7 A. Yes, he put me in jail.

8 Q. And what was that for?

9 A. I don't know what actually I did, but Foday Sankoh put me
12:20:25 10 in jail and I was there for some time and then later he released
11 me. But later I discovered that I was loving to a particular
12 woman and Foday Sankoh equally had proposed to that woman and so
13 it was as a result of that woman's issue, because at a point in
14 time he said he had asked the woman and the woman said to him

12:21:22 15 that, "I am in love with one of your commanders", but he told the
16 woman to forget about the issue of the commander that she is in
17 love with.

18 Q. Mr Mongor, I don't want to get bogged down in the personal
19 affairs of you and Mr Sankoh and this woman. The short point is
12:21:50 20 he put you in prison, yes?

21 A. Yes, he put me in jail.

22 Q. Simply because he was interested in the same woman that you
23 were, yes?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:22:03 25 Q. Right. When was that? When was that?

26 A. I think it happened before - I can say it was around late
27 '92 going towards '93, if I am not --

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Have you finished your answer,
29 Mr Witness?

1 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord.

2 MR MUNYARD:

3 Q. In relation to the Top Operations, was it before or after
4 the Top Operations?

12:23:19 5 A. I can say that it happened - he put me in jail before the
6 Top.

7 Q. Right. During the Top Operations we know that you are -
8 there's an attempt made on your life by the Liberians. Are these
9 Liberian NPFL people who you'd previously been with in 1989 and
10 1990?

11 A. Yes, those were some of them.

12 Q. And you told us that it was Mr Taylor who recruited you to
13 join Foday Sankoh in the RUF, didn't you?

14 A. Yes, that was what I said. That was what I said.

12:24:34 15 Q. Now you're telling us that the organisation of which he was
16 head, the NPFL, tried to murder you some time in 1992. Is that
17 right?

18 A. Yes, my Lord. And it was some people, not the whole
19 organisation, my Lord. Some people who were in the NPFL.

12:25:01 20 Q. When you were released from detention in Liberia you go
21 back to Sierra Leone and then you yourself organised Top Final,
22 didn't you?

23 A. Yes, my Lord.

24 Q. And Top Final involved a bloody battle or a series of
12:25:24 25 battles between the RUF and the NPFL, didn't it?

26 A. I was fighting, yes.

27 Q. Top Final involved people on both sides being killed,
28 didn't it?

29 A. Well I know about my own side, the bodies that I conveyed,

1 but I'm aware that anywhere a shoot out of guns took place
2 casualties would be on both sides.

3 Q. And then in '92 you were acting battle group commander,
4 weren't you?

12:26:27 5 A. Yes, I was acting battle group commander, my Lord.

6 Q. And was that the time when Foday Sankoh imprisoned you over
7 a woman?

8 A. No, at that time I was not yet acting battle group.

9 Q. Right. I want to ask you just a little more, please, about
12:27:04 10 something that I talked to you about yesterday: the massacre at
11 Sandiaru. Your Honours, I make it clear I'm asking further
12 questions about this because we were given further disclosure
13 last night by the Prosecution about this matter.

14 Do you remember you admitted yesterday that you were
12:27:25 15 involved in the shooting of civilians in Sandiaru near the border
16 with Guinea? Do you remember that?

17 A. Yes, I recall that, my Lord.

18 Q. And this is the case, is it not, Mr Mongor, that the
19 villagers, the people from the village of Sandiaru, were trying
12:27:51 20 to escape into Guinea because the RUF had entered their area?

21 A. No, my Lord, that was not the time.

22 Q. You gave orders, did you not, to RUF fighters to arrest the
23 people who were trying to run away from them, the civil war
24 combatants?

12:28:19 25 A. What did you say, my Lord? Repeat.

26 Q. You gave orders to your fighters to arrest the people who
27 were trying to escape from the conflict into Guinea?

28 A. It was - they were not people who were escaping from the
29 war to go to Guinea that I gave orders for them to be killed.

1 Q. And that these people were arrested on the border, do you
2 agree?

3 A. I agree, but they were not arrested close to the border.
4 They had left the border area and they were coming towards
12:29:20 5 Sandiaru Town.

6 Q. And there were more than two dozen people who you had
7 executed, do you agree?

8 A. They were not more than two dozen.

9 Q. Now, some of the people in the village of Sandiaru were
12:30:01 10 still allowed to live, weren't they? You didn't kill the whole
11 village, did you?

12 A. I want you to go over that properly.

13 Q. Let me make it clear, Mr Mongor. I am suggesting that you
14 sent your fighters to execute people who were trying to run away
12:30:29 15 from the village of Sandiaru and they were arrested on the border
16 of Guinea, brought back and executed. You understand that, don't
17 you?

18 A. I understand that, but they did not go and arrest them from
19 the border to bring them back to town for them to be killed.
12:30:55 20 That is what I'm saying, my Lord.

21 Q. There were other people still living in the village of
22 Sandiaru, weren't there, who were not shot dead?

23 A. Yes, people were there.

24 Q. And they wanted to bury the bodies of the people who you
12:31:20 25 had executed, didn't they?

26 A. I don't know about that.

27 Q. I want you to think about that answer, please. Are you
28 saying that you do not know what happened to the dead bodies of
29 those who you had shot?

1 A. I can't recall that now.

2 Q. It is the case, is it not, that the local people were
3 instructed that they should not bury the dead bodies, that they
4 should throw them into the bush and that was precisely what they
12:32:13 5 did?

6 A. I don't think we issued such orders that they should take
7 the bodies and throw them into the bush. I can't recall that
8 one, my Lord.

9 Q. You can't recall such an order. Is that what you're
12:32:40 10 telling us?

11 A. Yes, I can't recall that kind of order that we said they
12 should go and throw the people into the bush.

13 Q. Does that mean you might have made that sort of order, but
14 you can't now remember?

12:33:02 15 A. I can't recall that I issued such an order that they should
16 go and throw them into the bush, they shouldn't bury them.

17 Q. I don't think you've answered my question.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: He has, Mr Munyard. I think he's
19 answered it.

12:33:25 20 MR MUNYARD: Well, if your Honour is satisfied, I will move
21 on:

22 Q. What does the nickname Tombolo mean, or Tumbolo?

23 A. I want to know whether it is a name of a place, or
24 somebody's name, my Lord.

12:33:49 25 Q. I will spell it for you and then I will deal with that.

26 T-O-M-B-O-L-O and I might not be pronouncing it correctly, but
27 that's the spelling that we have been supplied with by the
28 Prosecution. Am I pronouncing that word correctly, or should it
29 be Tumbolo?

1 A. I have heard the name that you have called, but I want to
2 know whether it is somebody's name, or the name of a place. That
3 is what I want to know.

4 Q. Somebody's name. Your name, I am suggesting.

12:34:43 5 A. I don't think I have that kind of name.

6 Q. See I asked you yesterday if you had any sort of nickname.
7 Do you remember?

8 A. Yes, you asked me.

9 Q. You told us yesterday that people in Sierra Leone knew and
12:35:01 10 have talked about the massacre at Sandiaru that you were involved
11 in. Do you remember saying that?

12 A. I recall that I said that.

13 Q. And your name, your nickname, was well-known after that
14 massacre in Sierra Leone, wasn't it, the nickname Tombolo?

12:35:35 15 A. I disagree with that, my Lord. I don't think anybody know
16 me by that kind of name.

17 Q. And the name means something along the lines of a person
18 who can destroy a whole family, or words to that effect. Does
19 that name ring any bells with you, Mr Mongor?

12:36:11 20 A. I will tell you that that name is not my name and I have
21 never carried that name before.

22 Q. You were in Giema in 1995, weren't you?

23 A. Where did you say I was, my Lord?

24 Q. Maybe I am not pronouncing that one right either.

12:36:45 25 G-I-E-M-A.

26 A. Yes, my Lord, I was at Giema.

27 Q. And it's right, isn't it, that the RUF fighters there under
28 your command treated the civilians like bush animals. Do you
29 agree with that?

1 A. My Lord, Giema that you are talking about, I was not
2 commander in that place. I only went there because my family was
3 there, my wife and my children were there. Sometimes when I come
4 from the front line I will just go there and spend few, few days
12:37:40 5 and then go back.

6 Q. Are you able to help us with how RUF fighters treated the
7 civilians in Giema?

8 A. Civilians were together with RUF people in Giema and
9 according to what I have told you just now, I told you that
12:38:18 10 myself, my family was there and sometimes when I came from the
11 front line I will go there and spend few days and then return.

12 Q. Are you saying - sorry.

13 A. And the civilians who were in the RUF area there, that
14 particular place that you are talking about, Giema, the RUF used
12:38:53 15 those civilians to work for them.

16 Q. You said to us that civilians were "together with" RUF
17 people in Giema. What did you mean by "together with"? Were you
18 trying to suggest that it was all like one big happy family?

19 A. Well, they were living in the same town, that is what I'm
12:39:32 20 trying to tell you. I was not in their hearts to tell you now
21 that they were happy, or they were not happy, but I said they
22 were there and the RUF normally used them to work for them. That
23 is what I told you, my Lord.

24 Q. So do you agree that the RUF fighters treated the local
12:39:58 25 civilians in Giema like bush animals, beating them up often,
26 unlawfully detaining them in cells and making them work for RUF
27 fighters without pay? Do you agree with that? I'll break it
28 down into individual allegations from this disclosure if you wish
29 me to.

1 A. Well, they were working, but I cannot tell you whether they
2 were paying them. They were working there actually for the RUF,
3 but they were not paid for any of the works that they did.

4 Q. Were they beaten up?

12:40:54 5 A. Well, I was not in the town there at any time for me to see
6 that they beat up civilians. I have told you that I usually came
7 there to spend some time and then return, so I did not meet
8 civilians being beaten up in Giema Town in my presence, my Lord.

9 Q. Different subject now, please, Mr Mongor. Did Foday Sankoh
12:41:32 10 have a name that he called you by?

11 A. Well, the name that I have, which is Isaac, was what Foday
12 Sankoh called me by, but I did not have any other name by which
13 he called me.

14 Q. Did he ever call you anything like Papay, or Uncle?

12:42:15 15 A. No, he never called me Papay or Uncle.

16 Q. Now, moving on to something else, I just want to put some
17 dates to you, please, and see what you have to say about them.

18 In the beginning of your evidence you were talking about how you
19 had been involved in going to Bong Mines when you were a part of
12:42:41 20 the NPFL. Do you remember that?

21 A. I recall it, my Lord.

22 Q. Were Bong Mines first captured by Prince Johnson's part of
23 the NPFL before your part of the NPFL got there?

24 A. No, my Lord.

12:43:05 25 Q. All right. Were Bong Mines captured from your group by
26 Prince Johnson's troops?

27 A. Yes, my Lord.

28 Q. How long after you'd got there did Prince Johnson's group
29 capture them?

1 A. Well, we were there for a long time before Prince Johnson
2 came and pushed us out of there and they captured the place.

3 Q. What do you mean by "a long time"?

4 A. Well what I mean by "long time", I said the NPFL captured
12:43:52 5 the place and they occupied there, they were there and even
6 Mr Taylor went there and spent some time there before he left
7 there. So, the NPFL was there and it was under the NPFL control
8 for some time.

9 Q. Mr Mongor, I wasn't asking you to make a speech about Bong
12:44:16 10 Mines. I was asking you what you mean by the expression "a long
11 time"?

12 A. Well, we stayed there for some time. That is what I am
13 trying to explain. It's not the case that I'm making a speech,
14 my Lord.

12:44:33 15 Q. Are you talking about several days that you were there
16 before Prince Johnson's troops took them from you?

17 A. Yes, my Lord.

18 Q. Right. And to be fair to you several days could be two or
19 three days, or it could be five or ten days. How long do you say
12:44:56 20 it was, roughly?

21 A. Well, I cannot give you a specific date here that I can
22 recall now that this was the time the NPFL spent there before
23 Prince Johnson pushed us out of there. I cannot tell you that
24 now, my Lord.

12:45:20 25 Q. And so it is measured in days, rather than weeks, that you
26 held Bong Mines before Prince Johnson took them from you?

27 A. Even if I count it by week, or this or that, I am saying
28 that I cannot give you a specific date for which the NPFL
29 occupied that area.

1 Q. I'm not asking for a specific date. I'm not asking for a
2 specific date. I'm just asking you to tell the judges roughly
3 how long you mean when you use the expression "a long time". Am
4 I right in assuming that you are talking about a period of days,
12:46:02 5 rather than weeks?

6 A. Well, that is what I am trying to tell you. I can't recall
7 that now.

8 Q. I'll move on. When is it that you say that the NPFL
9 reached the edge of Monrovia and captured the Coca-Cola factory?
12:46:35 10 What month?

11 A. I can't recall the month.

12 Q. Try, please.

13 A. I can't recall the month, my Lord.

14 Q. Well does July of 1990 sound about right to you, the first
12:46:57 15 time the NPFL get to the edge of Monrovia?

16 A. Well, I can't recall that. Maybe that is a time that you
17 are talking about yourself and so I cannot just agree with you
18 saying, yes, that was the time, but I'm saying I cannot recall
19 that now, my Lord.

12:47:29 20 Q. And I should have given you a date for Bong Mines. Does it
21 sound as though - does this date sound as though it's broadly
22 right, that your group of the NPFL would have captured Bong Mines
23 around the beginning of June of 1990, yours as opposed to - your
24 branch as opposed to Prince Johnson's branch?

12:48:01 25 A. Well, I can't recall any month now that you are talking
26 about.

27 Q. Were you involved in the NPFL seizing Buchanan?

28 A. No, my Lord.

29 Q. Right. I'm sorry to jump around, but I'm asking you about

1 matters that you told us about in evidence when prosecuting
2 counsel was taking you through. A different subject now. You've
3 said that a group of people went from the RUF to Charles Taylor
4 in Liberia in 2002 to ask for support and they ended up not
12:49:00 5 getting any support, but getting arrested instead. Do you
6 remember saying - telling us an account of that?

7 A. Yes, my Lord.

8 Q. You were not on that delegation, were you?

9 A. No, my Lord.

12:49:22 10 Q. Were you aware that Charles Taylor gave them - I just want
11 to make sure I've got the amount right, if you'll bear with me
12 for a second. I am sorry about that. I'll start again. Were
13 you aware that Charles Taylor gave the RUF 150,000 US dollars for
14 the 2002 elections?

12:50:01 15 A. I don't know about that.

16 Q. And that nobody from an RUF delegation was arrested when
17 they went to see him in Liberia that year for that purpose?

18 A. I want you to repeat the one you have just said, my Lord.

19 Q. No-one in the RUF delegation was arrested when they got to
12:50:31 20 Liberia in 2002 to ask Charles Taylor for support. I'm
21 suggesting that that is complete nonsense. What do you say about
22 that?

23 A. I disagree with you, my Lord.

24 Q. Another matter you were asked about was child soldiers.
12:50:57 25 Were you aware that the government of President Ahmad Tejan
26 Kabbah recruited child soldiers for the Sierra Leone Army during
27 the 1990s, and I mean the whole of the time that he was in power
28 before and after the junta?

29 A. Well I don't know about that, because I was not in the

1 Sierra Leone Army and so I don't know whether they recruited
2 them.

3 Q. You were fighting against the Sierra Leone Army, weren't
4 you?

12:51:36 5 A. Yes, I was fighting against them, my Lord.

6 Q. And you know perfectly well that they and the Kamajors used
7 child soldiers, don't you?

8 A. Well, I don't know whether Tejan Kabbah recruited child
9 soldiers in his national army. I don't know about that.

12:52:02 10 Q. Is that an honest answer that you do not know that the SLA
11 had child soldiers?

12 MR KOUJIAN: That is a different question.

13 THE WITNESS: Because you are talking about soldiers and
14 the national army, I am telling you that I don't know whether
15 they recruited child soldiers in the national army.

12:52:27

16 MR MUNYARD:

17 Q. When I say President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah recruited them I
18 don't mean he personally went out there and recruited them, but
19 the army of which he was commander in chief recruited child
20 soldiers. Are you saying you didn't know that?

12:52:46

21 A. I don't know because I was not in the national army.

22 Q. Did you never hear the President making public commitments
23 to stop recruiting child soldiers?

24 A. What year are you referring to?

12:53:15 25 Q. On a number of years from his restoration to power by the
26 intervention.

27 A. Well maybe it happened, but I don't know about that because
28 I don't know about the national army and so I don't know how they
29 went on doing their recruitment, so I don't know whether they

1 recruited child soldiers in the national army and so I cannot
2 tell you much about that.

3 Q. Forget about the recruitment. Did you ever see child
4 soldiers in the forces - the national forces - opposing you, the
12:53:56 5 RUF?

6 A. Well, when I was fighting against the national army I did
7 not see a child soldier who was member of the national army that
8 I saw fighting against us.

9 Q. Different subject, please. You've talked about seeing the
12:54:30 10 heads of people who'd been decapitated put on sticks by NPFL, I
11 think you told us. Do you remember that?

12 A. I remember that, my Lord.

13 Q. But that was also something that ULIMO did, isn't it?

14 A. I was not on the ULIMO side, so I don't know about ULIMO
12:55:03 15 affairs.

16 Q. You went to fight ULIMO you told us yesterday and the day
17 before and in the course of your evidence in March. Were you
18 ever aware of ULIMO using human heads on sticks?

19 MR KOUMJIAN: Your Honour, my objection is that this is tu
12:55:23 20 quoque. The fact that crimes are committed by another party is
21 irrelevant to the charges in this case.

22 MR MUNYARD: Well I did do Latin a very long time ago but I
23 don't know what tu quoque means now, but I take it it means
24 something to do with is it relevant to the indictment. I simply
12:55:43 25 want to find out if this witness knows about that being a
26 practice that was common in the region amongst fighting forces.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: I will allow the question.

28 THE WITNESS: I want to tell you that I was not with the
29 ULIMO and so I did not know what they practised. That is what

1 I'm trying to tell you. The ones I was with, it is their own
2 practices that I know about.

3 MR MUNYARD:

12:56:27 4 Q. Mr Mongor, you weren't with ULIMO. We all know that. You
5 were fighting against them, weren't you?

6 A. I was fighting against them, yes, my Lord.

7 Q. And when your troops went into battle against ULIMO, did
8 you ever see any evidence of ULIMO following that same practice
9 of chopping people's heads off and putting them on sticks?

12:56:53 10 A. Well I can't tell, my Lord.

11 Q. Now, in the course of your evidence you've been talking
12 about Charles Taylor being in contact with Foday Sankoh during
13 the period right from the beginning, certainly of the Sierra
14 Leone civil war, right the way through from March 1991 when it
12:57:27 15 starts - and I know you say the contact starts before that, but
16 you say that these two were in contact across all the years,
17 right up to the time when Charles Taylor becomes President of
18 Liberia. Is that what you're maintaining?

19 A. Yes, my Lord.

12:57:52 20 Q. You maintain that they were still in contact despite the
21 bloody battles in the Top operations. Is that what you're
22 saying?

23 A. They were in contact. That was his friend. Where you had
24 two friends and nothing had destroyed the friendship they will
12:58:30 25 still remain as friends, save that he is dead now that the two of
26 them will not talk to each other again.

27 Q. That's your opinion, is it?

28 A. That is my own idea. That is it.

29 Q. I suggest that you are completely wrong about that, that

1 once there was the big fight between the RUF and the NPFL in
2 1992, after that there was a complete lack of communication
3 between Charles Taylor and Foday Sankoh until some time after
4 Mr Taylor becomes President of Liberia. You disagree with that
12:59:15 5 obviously, Mr Mongor, yes?

6 A. I don't agree with that at all, my Lord.

7 Q. Now, in the year 2000 was there a breakdown of
8 communication between the two of them?

9 A. Say again, my Lord.

12:59:51 10 Q. In the year 2000 was there a breakdown of communication
11 between Charles Taylor and Foday Sankoh?

12 A. It was some time in 2000, that I can recall, when they did
13 not have communication, but later they had it.

14 Q. Well, they have communication just around the time that you
13:00:31 15 are arrested and thrown into prison for five years and three
16 months, don't they, just before you're thrown into prison?

17 A. Repeat your statement, my Lord, or your question, my Lord.

18 Q. The contact resumed between those two in the year 2000 just
19 before you get thrown into prison.

13:01:13 20 A. The contact was there before - even before I went to
21 prison, before I was arrested.

22 Q. Yes, that is what I have just said. I think we're both
23 agreed on that. And the contact was renewed because Mr Taylor
24 was asked to send people to try to help release the UN hostages
13:01:33 25 in Sierra Leone, wasn't he?

26 A. Well, I don't know whether they asked Mr Taylor to send
27 people and I don't know who asked Mr Taylor, but I only saw
28 people who came from Liberia who were delegates that came to
29 Foday Sankoh.

1 Q. Yes, and who were the delegates who came to Foday Sankoh
2 from Liberia?

3 A. I have said it was one woman. Well, I don't know her name.
4 I don't want to lie. I don't know her name.

13:02:29 5 Q. If I said she was called Dorothy Musuleng Cooper, does that
6 bring any bells?

7 A. Maybe that's her name but I don't know her name, but I saw
8 the woman.

9 MR MUNYARD: I am going to attempt the spelling of Musuleng
13:02:58 10 and then Cooper. Musuleng is M-U-S-E-L-U-N-G, and Cooper I
11 believe is the traditional spelling, C-O-O-P-E-R:

12 Q. Do you not know who Dorothy Musuleng Cooper was in Liberia?

13 A. I have said I don't know that name, or even whether the
14 woman who came, that was her name. I cannot tell you that now.

13:03:44 15 The people who came, there was only one person amongst them whose
16 name I knew.

17 Q. That was the man you've told us about already, is that
18 correct, Mr Tuah?

19 A. Yes, Joe Tuah.

13:04:02 20 Q. Well, did you not know that the woman who came with him was
21 the former foreign minister of Liberia?

22 A. I did not know that, my Lord.

23 Q. Mr Mongor, is it true that you yourself had anything to do
24 with any efforts to try and free these hostages? Is that a true
13:04:28 25 story that you told us back in March: That you were involved in
26 some effort to free them with a deputy UN commander?

27 A. I went there like I have said, when I said I went with the
28 deputy force commander to try and understand the reason why they
29 had arrested the peacekeepers, so I was one of the

1 representatives that went with the deputy force commander into
2 the RUF controlled areas at that time.

13:05:17 3 Q. Right. Another subject, please. I want to ask you about
4 relations between the AFRC and the RUF right from the beginning
5 of the junta. Do you follow? From May of 1997. It wasn't an
6 easy relationship right from the start, was it?

7 A. What do you mean by it was not easy?

13:05:55 8 Q. Well, which of the words do you want me to define, easy or
9 relationship? There were tensions between both groups right from
10 the start.

11 A. You mean the time in 1997 when the AFRC called on the RUF?
12 Is that what you are referring to, my Lord?

13 Q. That is what I mean when I say right from the start. Do
14 you agree?

13:06:25 15 A. To say that it was not easy between them?

16 Q. Are you agreeing?

17 A. Before I agree or disagree I want to know what went on
18 between them that you are referring to as easy.

13:06:57 19 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, I've just had a spelling
20 correction. I'm afraid I misspelled Mrs Cooper's middle name.
21 It's M-U-S-U-L-E-N-G.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Munyard. Sorry,
23 Mr Koumjian, you are on your feet.

13:07:17 24 MR KOUMJIAN: I'm just taking advantage of the spelling
25 issue to say the "tu quo que" is T-U. The transcript had it
26 T-0-0, which basically means "you too" in Latin.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, do you understand the
28 question that is being asked of you by counsel?

29 THE WITNESS: I don't understand it, my Lord. That is why

1 I'm also trying to ask him to make it clear to me, my Lord.

2 MR MUNYARD:

13:07:53 3 Q. That's why I put it in a different way. Let me try the
4 different way again, Mr Mongor. There was tension between the
5 two organisations right from the beginning of the junta in May of
6 1997. Do you agree with that?

7 A. Well, what I want to know is what was the tension between
8 the two groups like you are saying? That is the area that is
9 confusing me. I have not been able to get it clear as yet.

13:08:30 10 Q. Well, I'm just asking you a general question. Do you agree
11 in general terms that there were problems making the relationship
12 work, making the two organisations work together and see each
13 other as equals? Would you agree with that?

14 A. I did not take notice of that, from the start, when the RUF
13:09:04 15 joined the AFRC, to say that there was that kind of tension
16 existing between the AFRC and the RUF at that time.

17 Q. So did the AFRC high command always treat you in the RUF as
18 equal brothers and, in some of your cases, sisters?

19 A. I can say, yes, the AFRC treated us together with the
13:09:39 20 soldiers and we were all working together.

21 Q. When the junta came together, that's to say the AFRC and
22 the RUF joined together as a governing and military body, were
23 all the military high command of the RUF given military
24 appointments?

13:10:23 25 A. They gave other positions to the RUF and the soldiers were
26 also in their own areas of control.

27 Q. As RUF soldiers as opposed to AFRC soldiers?

28 MR KOUMJIAN: Perhaps it could be made clear that that is a
29 question. I'm not sure that the witness can understand that.

1 MR MUNYARD: Yes:

2 Q. Are you saying the soldiers were also in their own areas of
3 control as RUF soldiers as opposed to AFRC soldiers?

13:11:11

4 THE INTERPRETER: Can counsel go over that slowly, slowly,
5 please.

6 MR MUNYARD:

7 Q. Did the two lots of soldiers have separate command
8 structures: AFRC on the one hand and RUF on the other hand?

13:11:43

9 A. Well, at the time we joined the AFRC, the way I know it we
10 were all together as one body. That is what I know.

11 Q. Were you ever aware of Johnny Paul Koroma claiming that
12 some members of the RUF were planning to overthrow his government
13 during the period that the junta was in power?

13:12:25

14 A. I don't recall Johnny Paul saying that we wanted to
15 overthrow him.

16 Q. You never even heard a rumour to that effect, is that
17 right?

13:12:52

18 A. Well, if I heard a rumour it doesn't mean that it was from
19 Johnny Paul because you are talking about Johnny Paul and I don't
20 recall Johnny Paul telling us that.

21 Q. Did the RUF have its own supplies, that's to say its own
22 materials, arms and ammunition, separate from the AFRC when the
23 two groups joined up together and became the junta?

13:13:27

24 A. We did not get separate supplies and whilst we were
25 fighting the government troops, with which we had marched, they
26 distributed ammunitions to all of us to go and fight.

27 Q. What about at the time of the intervention, Mr Mongor? Can
28 you remember anything around the time of the intervention when
29 the RUF's own supplies were handed over to the AFRC leaders?

1 A. Well, during the intervention I don't think the RUF had any
2 supply that they handed over to the AFRC, but I know that we were
3 all doing things in common at that time.

13:14:36 4 Q. At the time of the intervention did the AFRC leaders
5 abandon you, the RUF fighters, to stand and fight the enemy while
6 they rushed away from Freetown before you were able to?

7 A. Yes, some of them went and those were the bosses, and
8 because we regarded them as the bosses we allowed them to go.

13:15:13 9 Q. No, I think you do appreciate, don't you, I'm asking you
10 about disagreements between the RUF and the AFRC. Is it right
11 that the RUF, or people within the RUF, were angry that the AFRC
12 leaders left the city whilst leaving the RUF and its leaders to
13 carry on fighting the forces of the intervention?

13:15:59 14 A. I don't think the RUF went angry saying that the AFRC had
15 run away and left us alone in the town, because in the town we
16 did not have separate AFRC leader and separate RUF leader. We
17 were all under Johnny Paul Koroma's command and he was the head
18 of the junta at that time.

13:16:24 19 Q. You may all have been under Johnny Paul Koroma's command,
20 but you all knew which group you originally belonged to, didn't
21 you?

22 A. We knew that we belonged to groups. I knew that I was RUF,
23 but I had now come and joined the AFRC, so we all became one and
24 we considered ourselves to be rebels, so I did not make any
13:16:54 25 difference to say that I do not belong to this group, I belong to
26 this other group. I don't think I personally did something like
27 that.

28 Q. When you joined the AFRC you were no longer rebels, you
29 were the government, weren't you?

1 A. We were rebels. I can say that still, because it was both
2 the RUF rebels and the AFRC that had participated in the coup and
3 even when we were there, fighting was still going on.

13:17:50

4 Q. But you were the government now, not the rebels, weren't
5 you?

6 A. Yes, we were in government and we were the government.

7 Q. Yes. In any of your conversations with Sam Bockarie,
8 during the time of the junta or after the junta, did he ever
9 express a word of dissatisfaction about the AFRC to you?

13:18:23

10 A. He did not tell me that at any time that he was not
11 satisfied with the AFRC.

12 Q. Are you sure?

13 A. I can't recall that now, whether he said that to me. Maybe
14 it has escaped my mind, but I can't recall that he told me that
15 he was not satisfied.

13:18:50

16 Q. I want you to think a little more about that, please. At
17 any time during the period of the junta, or after the junta, did
18 Sam Bockarie complain to you about the way in which the AFRC
19 treated the RUF?

13:19:21

20 A. My Lord, this is something that has taken a long time, so
21 my - I can't recall that now, this particular subject that you
22 are talking about.

23 Q. The marriage, if I can call it that, between the AFRC and
24 the RUF was the most significant thing to happen to the RUF
25 throughout the whole of the civil war, wasn't it, because it
26 brought the RUF into power? Do you agree it was the most
27 important thing that ever happened to the RUF throughout the
28 civil war?

13:19:50

29 A. Yes, my Lord.

1 Q. Indeed, if it hadn't been for you being invited by the AFRC
2 to join them you never would have got a look in at governing the
3 country at all, would you?

13:20:42

4 A. I will not agree because we were still fighting and the
5 fighting had not yet ended.

6 Q. Mr Mongor, before the AFRC invited you to government you
7 had been fighting for six years, hadn't you?

8 A. Yes, we were fighting.

13:21:06

9 Q. And the RUF had completely failed to gain power in those
10 six years, hadn't it?

11 A. Yes, but we still existed as an organisation and still
12 fighting. We did not give up the fighting.

13 Q. You existed as a failed organisation in the sense that you
14 had failed to do what you had set out to do in 1991, hadn't you?

13:21:34

15 A. We did not fail, because the mission had not yet ended at
16 that time, we were still on it, and the fighting was still going
17 on. It was not - we did not fail, my Lord.

18 Q. You only got into government because the AFRC invited you
19 to join them, do you agree?

13:22:00

20 A. Yes, we entered the government when the AFRC called on us.

21 Q. And only because the AFRC invited you to join them, yes?

22 A. Not just because the AFRC invited us, but we were also
23 fighting to be the government.

13:22:35

24 Q. Right. You finally get into power at the invitation of the
25 AFRC. Did Sam Bockarie at any time during your few months in
26 power as part of the government, or in the years following that,
27 following the intervention when you're thrown out of Freetown
28 again, did he ever express a single comment to you about how he
29 felt the relationship was between the RUF and the AFRC?

1 A. Well, I was not staying in the same place with Sam
2 Bockarie, so I cannot recall that at any time I sat down together
3 with him to discuss about the things that the AFRC was doing,
4 because he was also part of the AFRC.

13:23:41 5 Q. After the intervention, after you were all thrown out of
6 Freetown, did Sam Bockarie become hostile to the AFRC, or
7 particular individuals within the AFRC?

8 A. My Lord, I was not in the same place with the man, so his
9 actions and attitude towards the AFRC I cannot tell you about
13:24:20 10 now, these things that you are talking about, my Lord.

11 Q. Mr Mongor, you have given evidence over quite some days in
12 which you've told us many times what Sam Bockarie did and said to
13 other people when you weren't present that he had told you about,
14 or that you'd listened into somehow. Now I'm asking you about
13:24:47 15 things he directly told you about his own views concerning the
16 AFRC, or certain members of the AFRC. For the last time, did he
17 ever talk to you about the AFRC, or any of its members?

18 A. Well, my Lord, I can't recall now, because I have said so
19 many things and I have not been able to recall that one now, but
13:25:31 20 as time rolls on if I recall that Sam Bockarie did say something
21 about a specific person in the AFRC, or about the AFRC, then I
22 will come up to tell you, my Lord.

23 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, I'm moving not away from
24 this, but forward from it, but I see the time and I'm going on to
13:25:51 25 a bigger picture now. I don't imagine you want me to start two
26 minutes worth of a bigger picture when we're going to have a
27 weekend break.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. In the light of what you say,
29 Mr Munyard, I think this might be an appropriate time to adjourn.

1 I will remind the witness of his oath.

2 Mr Witness, as I've told you on previous occasions we are
3 finishing now because we do other work on Friday afternoon. We
4 will not be back in court until Monday morning at 9.30. Between
13:26:28 5 now and the time that you have finished all your evidence you
6 should not discuss your evidence with anyone. Do you understand?

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, my Lord.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: We'll now adjourn until 9.30 on Monday.
9 Please adjourn court.

13:26:51 10 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 1.28 p.m.
11 to be reconvened on Monday, 7 April 2008 at
12 9.30 a.m.]

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WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:

TF1-532 6627

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR MUNYARD 6627