



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

FRIDAY, 11 JULY 2008
9.30 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Mr Simon Meisenberg
Ms Doreen Kiggundu

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis
Mr Mohamed A Bangura
Mr Alain Werner
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC
Mr Terry Munyard

1 Friday, 11 July 2008

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:30:48 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. Mr Bangura, I see some
6 change of appearance.

7 MR BANGURA: Good morning, Madam President. Good morning,
8 your Honours. Good morning, counsel opposite. Your Honours, for
9 the Prosecution this morning Ms Brenda J Hollis; myself, Mohamed
09:31:07 10 A Bangura; Mr Alain Werner; and Ms Maja Dimitrova. Thank you,
11 your Honours.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Bangura. Mr Munyard, you
13 appear as before, I think.

14 MR MUNYARD: Good morning, Madam President, your Honours,
09:31:19 15 counsel opposite. We are as before: Courtenay Griffiths QC;
16 myself, Terry Munyard; and Scott Schaeffer.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Munyard. If there are no
18 other preliminary matters I will remind the witness of his oath.
19 Mr Witness, I again remind you this morning that you have taken
09:31:35 20 the oath to tell the truth in this court and that oath continues
21 to be binding on you. You must answer questions truthfully. Do
22 you understand?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. Mr Bangura, please proceed.

09:31:49 25 WITNESS: TF1-388 [On former oath]

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

27 Q. Good morning, Mr Witness.

28 A. Good morning, sir.

29 Q. We shall continue with your testimony this morning. We

1 will pick up from where we left off yesterday with photographs.
2 May I ask that the witness be provided with the photographs, or
3 the particular one that he was looking at just before the break
4 yesterday and this was P0005004. Mr Witness, you recall being
09:33:19 5 shown this photograph yesterday? Do you recall?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. And you were asked to indicate on it the Sierra Leoneans
8 who took part in the training for the platoon commanders course.
9 Is that correct?

09:33:44 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. And do you recall making the markings on it that we have
12 now?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. Were these all the Sierra Leoneans who took part in the
09:33:59 15 course?

16 A. No, sir.

17 Q. Are there others who took part in the course that are not
18 featured in the photograph?

19 A. Yes, sir.

09:34:22 20 Q. Who are they?

21 A. Babah Tarawally is not in this photograph and Mohamed
22 Barrie is also not in this picture.

23 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, I don't recall, did the
24 witness read the names of these people into the record, or did he
09:34:47 25 just write.

26 MR BANGURA: No, he did not, your Honour, to my
27 recollection.

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I think we should have them read.

29 MR BANGURA: Thank you:

1 Q. Mr Witness, can you indicate, or tell the Court, from what
2 you have marked who the persons are that took part in the
3 training from what you have marked on the photograph and just
4 give a description of where the positions are of these persons
09:35:16 5 that you've marked. Maybe you should start with yourself.

6 A. Yes, sir. The first one here is myself. The second --

7 Q. Just pause, Mr Witness. When you say "The first one here",
8 where are you in the photograph? Are you in the first row, the
9 second row or the third row?

09:35:48 10 A. From the right on the picture it's the first row. That's
11 my photo.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, could I put on record that
13 the witness is using a pen to indicate the person who is at the
14 extreme right on the front row.

09:36:04 15 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour:

16 Q. Can you give - can you tell us who the others are, the next
17 person marked there?

18 A. Yes, sir, the third person in the second row from the right
19 is Davison Conteh.

09:36:31 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: I will record that the witness used a pen
21 to indicate the person who is third from the right in the middle
22 or second row of the photograph.

23 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour.

24 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: And of course the spelling appropriately
09:36:44 25 is D-A-V-I-S-O-N.

26 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour, that is the --

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: It is not spelt that way on the
28 transcript.

29 MR BANGURA: That is the witness's version:

1 Q. And who is the next person there?

2 A. Next to Davison Conteh to his right in the middle row is
3 Kemokai Kallon.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Again, I will put on record that the
09:37:23 5 witness is using a pen to indicate the fourth person from the
6 right on the middle or second row of the group in the photograph.

7 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour:

8 Q. Mr Witness, if I recall you did say yesterday that this
9 photograph was taken at some location in Monrovia. Is that
09:37:48 10 correct?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. In your earlier testimony you said that the training you
13 underwent for this course was at CARI, a facility called CARI, at
14 Suakoko Bong County. Do you recall that?

09:38:10 15 A. Yes, sir.

16 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, Kemokai is K-E-M-O-K-A-I
17 according to the witness.

18 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour.

19 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: I am sorry to keep interrupting, but it
09:38:21 20 is important to get the spellings in the record.

21 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour:

22 Q. Why was this photograph taken at a different location from
23 where you undertook the training?

24 A. After our graduation all the official officers that
09:38:59 25 graduated decided to come together to have a party at one of the
26 hotels at Old Road called Kailondo, so only a few of us were
27 present for this particular photo. We just came together for
28 remembrance to have one of these photos.

29 Q. Now after that training, was any official ceremony held

1 apart from this party that you've mentioned? Was any official
2 ceremony held at all for you, the graduates?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. What was that ceremony?

09:39:52 5 A. We had a meeting with President Taylor in his residence,
6 sir.

7 Q. Who had this meeting with President Taylor?

8 A. We, the officers who graduated from this course, had this
9 meeting with President Taylor.

09:40:13 10 Q. And when you say at his residence, where are you referring
11 to?

12 A. I am referring to his living quarters, I mean White Flower,
13 in his living room.

14 Q. Were you led by anyone to this meeting with President
09:40:44 15 Taylor?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, my attention is being called to
18 what came up in the translation from the witness's answer about
19 where the meeting took place. It's in the living room.

09:41:13 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm fairly sure I heard the interpreter
21 say "living room", no?

22 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour. Perhaps "living room" and
23 another word before "living room".

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: I see. Maybe in the circumstances
09:41:27 25 clarify it with the witness.

26 MR BANGURA:

27 Q. Mr Witness, you said in the living room was where you met
28 with Mr Taylor, in the living room of his residence at White
29 House. Is that correct?

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: White Flower.

2 MR BANGURA: At White Flower.

3 THE WITNESS: No, sir, I said his living quarters. When I
4 talked about his quarters I was referring to his house.

09:41:53 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: What is a parlour?

6 MR BANGURA: As far as I understand it parlour, that is
7 right.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Witness, what did you mean by parlour?
9 You used the word "parlour", isn't it?

09:42:10 10 THE WITNESS: This is the official area in his house where
11 he held meetings with officers.

12 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, we will leave it there:

13 Q. I had asked you, Mr Witness, whether you were led by anyone
14 to this meeting with Mr Taylor.

09:42:31 15 A. Yes, sir.

16 Q. Who led you to the meeting?

17 A. At this time, sir, General Momoh Gibba, who was the head of
18 the ATU, led us to that meeting, sir.

19 Q. And about what time was this?

09:43:03 20 A. That was after our graduation from this course, sir.

21 Q. When I say what time, I'm asking about year and month?

22 A. This time it was in late 2000.

23 Q. Thank you. During that meeting do you recall what
24 happened?

09:43:32 25 A. Yes, sir.

26 Q. Please tell the Court.

27 A. As we were told, they said this meeting was the usual
28 routine, you know, by Charles Taylor with the officers who
29 graduated from this course. They said even the first batch that

1 graduated before us also had a meeting with him, you know? So
2 when we had the meeting he welcomed us and appreciated our
3 efforts, but on that day he just expressed more concern about the
4 indiscipline he said he was hearing about the ATU soldiers that
09:44:19 5 were on deployment. He said he regretted the kind of courses the
6 white instructors were giving to us. He was surprised, I mean,
7 to hear that the ATU who have graduated from this course were
8 still causing problems on the street, so he started asking the
9 officers to really bring forward reasons for this indiscipline.

09:44:48 10 To cut matters short on that day individual officers
11 brought up their own reasons and suggestions, but all the blame
12 went to Bulldog for being responsible for all those. I can
13 remember my own point on that day. When I rose up in the meeting
14 I said one of the points that was responsible for this was that -
09:45:17 15 was the idea that there was no "I" in the team.

16 Q. Mr Witness, if you would go a bit slower. I believe the
17 interpreter is finding it difficult to follow your testimony.

18 A. Yes, sir. Can I continue, sir?

19 Q. Yes.

09:45:53 20 A. Well, from the meeting on that day I rose up and brought up
21 my own point. I said there was one point that was causing the
22 indiscipline among the soldiers in the ATU at that time. I said
23 the slogan that we always went with was, "There is no 'I' in
24 team." I said that was causing a serious problem. I said where
09:46:25 25 a group of soldiers were assigned, when one soldier causes a
26 problem all the rest of the soldiers are punished because of that
27 individual's behaviour. I said some of our friend soldiers were
28 taking advantage of this to do it because they were not going to
29 be bear the consequences alone, so I suggested that whenever a

1 soldier causes a problem that individual should bear the penalty
2 for that particular behaviour. So I can remember that being my
3 own point on that day in that meeting.

09:47:10 4 MR BANGURA: Thank you, Mr Witness. Your Honours, may I at
5 this point move that the photograph be marked for identification.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is a photograph showing a group of
7 male persons in three rows, I think there's one female person in
8 the midst of them, and it becomes MFI-4, is it, Madam Court
9 Attendant?

09:47:29 10 MS IRURA: That is correct, your Honour.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: MFI-4.

12 MR BANGURA: Thank you:

13 Q. Mr Witness, in your testimony yesterday you also talked
14 about going through the platoon commanders course which prepared
09:47:45 15 you or after which you earned the rank of a captain. Do you
16 recall that?

17 A. Yes, sir.

18 Q. I'm sorry, I meant company commander. Company commander.
19 Company commanders course. We just dealt with platoon commander
09:48:08 20 course. Do you recall that?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. And that prepared you for promotion to the rank of captain.
23 Do you recall that?

24 A. Yes, sir.

09:48:22 25 Q. At the end of that course, did you take any photograph for
26 remembrance?

27 A. Yes, sir.

28 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, may the witness be shown
29 photograph number P0005005:

1 Q. Mr Witness, you've seen the photograph put up on the
2 projector there?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. What photograph is that?

09:49:36 5 A. This is one of the photographs we took during - after our
6 graduation from the company commander course at Camp Schefflein,
7 sir.

8 Q. About what time was this photograph taken?

9 A. This photograph was taken in early 2002.

09:50:06 10 Q. Now, in your testimony yesterday you did say that on this
11 course also you had Sierra Leoneans from the RUF who took part in
12 it. Do you recall that?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. Now can you say who you recognise in this photograph who
09:50:32 15 were Sierra Leoneans and former members of the RUF?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. Please just indicate for now and then I shall ask you to do
18 something else later.

19 A. From the photograph, the first row here, from the right of
09:51:09 20 the first row in the picture, the second person is me.

21 Q. Yes. Do you recognise any other person there who is Sierra
22 Leonean and a member of the RUF?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. Please go on and identify that person.

09:51:38 25 A. The first person in the second row - I mean the middle row
26 is Babah Tarawally.

27 Q. And who else?

28 A. The seventh person from the right from the back row is
29 Davison Conteh.

1 Q. Are they the only ones you recognise?

2 A. The 11th person in the back row from the right is Kemokai
3 Kallon.

4 Q. Can I ask you, like you did with the other photograph, to
09:52:58 5 use your pen and circle the head of the persons you have
6 identified in the photograph and then draw a line from that and
7 write their names.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, whilst the witness is doing
9 that perhaps you could check the spellings on the record,
09:55:06 10 especially the name of Babah Tarawally. Please have it spelt
11 properly.

12 MR BANGURA: The witness has spelt Tarawally with a "Y" at
13 the end. Babah is B-A-B-A-H.

14 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: The witness has spelt it with an "H" at
09:56:15 15 the end.

16 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, if I understand you rightly, the
17 versions of spelling which the witness has used is what the Court
18 wishes that we should have on the record. That's it:

19 Q. Mr Witness, are you done with this exercise? Have you
09:57:14 20 written the names against the persons that you recognise?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. Can you just, for the record, say who are the persons you
23 have identified in the photograph?

24 A. Yes, sir.

09:57:36 25 Q. Go on, please.

26 A. The people I have just marked here were all those from
27 Sierra Leone who crossed with Sam Bockarie to Liberia and joined
28 the ATU.

29 Q. Just go on, Mr Witness, and say who is the first person

1 there you've marked, starting with yourself, and then to the end.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: He's already given the names, Mr Bangura.
3 There's no need to repeat them.

4 MR BANGURA: I take the point, your Honour. If the records
09:58:18 5 already reflect those markings, your Honour, may I move that the
6 photograph be marked for identification.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. This is a photograph as marked and
8 identified by the witness. It shows male persons and one female
9 person in three rows. It becomes MFI-5.

09:58:51 10 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, there are two more photographs
11 to deal with. May the witness be shown photograph ending 006:

12 Q. Mr Witness, do you see the photograph which has been shown
13 to you?

14 A. Yes, sir.

09:59:35 15 Q. Who do you recognise in that photograph?

16 A. This is my photo, sir, during - at the time that I
17 graduated as a captain, sir.

18 Q. Where was this photograph taken?

19 A. This photograph was taken right in front of the Executive
10:00:06 20 Mansion, at the intersection facing the University of Liberia.

21 Q. Did you have something to do in this area that you took the
22 photograph at that time?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. What affairs did you have to do in this particular area at
10:00:33 25 that time?

26 A. This was the time that I was assigned at the 1st Battalion
27 headquarters as a company commander to protect the surroundings
28 of the Executive Mansion, sir.

29 Q. Can you describe the outfit that you are wearing in this

1 photograph?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. What is that outfit?

4 A. This uniform was an ATU official uniform, a tiger stripe.

10:01:31 5 Q. Could you just write your name against that photograph.

6 Your Honours, may I move that the photograph marked P0005006 --

7 MR MUNYARD: I wonder if my learned friend could give us a
8 time frame for that particular photograph.

9 MR BANGURA:

10:02:26 10 Q. Mr Witness, you have said that this was after your
11 graduation as a captain. Can you be precise about the time
12 exactly that you took this photograph?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. Can you tell us?

10:02:37 15 A. This was in late 2002, sir, when I was withdrawn from
16 fighting at the Bopolu target.

17 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I again move that the photograph
18 marked P0005006 be marked for identification.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is a photograph showing one
10:03:17 20 individual who the witness has identified and marked with his own
21 name as himself, it becomes MFI-6.

22 MR BANGURA: Can the witness be shown 007, a photograph
23 ending 007:

24 Q. Now, do you see that photograph that is being shown to you?

10:03:59 25 A. Yes, sir.

26 Q. Who do you recognise in the photograph?

27 A. I recognise myself and the ATU 1st Battalion at that time
28 was in control during the armed forces parade.

29 Q. Now, just to be clear, you say you recognise yourself and

1 you say "and the ATU 1st Battalion". What do you mean?

2 A. This was one of the companies in the 1st Battalion that I
3 and my company commander at that time were controlling when we
4 went for special drill exercise to participate in the armed
10:04:54 5 forces parade.

6 Q. Now, in this picture what occasion was this that it
7 depicts? What occasion was this?

8 A. This occasion was the day of the armed forces parade.
9 Armed forces day, I mean, the Republic of Liberia.

10:05:27 10 Q. What date was that?

11 A. Well, the date we took this picture I am seeing here was on
12 12 February 2001.

13 Q. And the outfit you're wearing there, what outfit is that?

14 A. This uniform, the tiger stripe suit I'm wearing, was the
10:06:04 15 official uniform for the ATU in Liberia at that time.

16 Q. And what are you carrying in the photograph?

17 A. I am carrying one of the flags for the ATU.

18 MR BANGURA: Thank you. Your Honours, I respectfully move
19 that this photograph be - well, just before that:

10:06:46 20 Q. Mr Witness, you have said that this is your photograph.
21 Can you indicate - write your name by the photograph, please.

22 Your Honours, may I respectfully move that the photograph
23 be marked for identification?

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is a photograph showing a male
10:07:26 25 person holding a flag with several other people in the
26 background. The witness has marked and identified it as himself
27 in the foreground. It becomes MFI-7.

28 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour:

29 Q. Mr Witness, I will just take you through a few issues that

1 we discussed in your testimony yesterday before we pick up fully
2 from where we left off. Now yesterday in your testimony you said
3 that Joe Tuah, or rather let me put it another way. You said
4 that you were asked by Sam Bockarie at one time during 1998 to
10:08:29 5 take to him a satellite phone, do you recall that, at Dawa?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. Now, I will just read for you from the transcript what came
8 out in your testimony. Your Honours, I'm reading from page
9 13476, lines 19 through to 29. The question at line 19 was,
10:09:10 10 "When was it that you met him at Dawa?", and your answer was:

11 "At one time Sam Bockarie left to go to Dawa and he left
12 one of his satellite phones. There was a satellite phone that
13 opens like a laptop computer. Then he called me to carry it on a
14 motorbike and I did so. That was when I met him with Sam
10:09:43 15 Bockarie, so I believe that that was the second time of seeing
16 him in Monrovia at that time."

17 Then I asked you, "Do you recall what year this was?", and
18 then you say, "When he came finally we asked him to tell us
19 exactly what was going on and he tried to convince us." I think
10:10:15 20 I asked you further to tell the year and you said that it was
21 between '98 and '99. Now about the satellite phone itself, when
22 you took it to Sam Bockarie do you know whether he did anything
23 with it?

24 A. No, sir, I only carried it and returned to my assignment
10:10:42 25 area.

26 Q. Do you know why Joe Tuah had come to Dawa where he was with
27 Sam Bockarie at the time you took the satellite phone?

28 A. No, sir.

29 Q. Also in your testimony yesterday you said that Sam Bockarie

1 was seen most times with Charles Taylor and you gave an example
2 like when he was visiting his village at Arthington. Do you
3 recall that?

4 A. Yes, sir.

10:11:37 5 Q. Do you know why he was most times with Sam Bockarie -
6 sorry, with Charles Taylor?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. Why was he with Charles Taylor at those times?

9 A. The only point I knew at that time was that he was in
10:12:06 10 Liberia in the care of Charles Taylor.

11 Q. When you say "in the care of Charles Taylor", can you
12 explain that further?

13 A. Yes, sir. Before we could even enter Monrovia in late
14 1999, you know, he also expressed that if they were going to
10:12:40 15 Charles Taylor - that they were going to Charles Taylor, he and
16 Foday Sankoh, to talk over matters. I believed that his presence
17 in Monrovia at that time his host was Charles Taylor.

18 Q. Do you know whether he had any duties during those times
19 that he was with Charles Taylor?

10:13:05 20 A. I knew about no official duty at that time, sir.

21 Q. Thank you. Now, you mentioned that there was another batch
22 of Sierra Leoneans who were of the RUF who got trained at Gbatala
23 after your group. Do you recall that?

24 A. Yes, sir.

10:13:32 25 Q. Are you able to tell us the number of Sierra Leoneans who
26 were in that second group that got trained at Gbatala?

27 A. No, sir.

28 Q. Now Gbatala base itself, were you quite familiar with its
29 surroundings?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. Are you able to give this Court some description of what
3 the base looked like?

4 A. Yes, sir.

10:14:14 5 Q. Please do.

6 A. First of all this Gbatala base, the name Gbatala base, the
7 name on one of the villages close to where the base was opened,
8 the name Gbatala. The base was on the highway leading from
9 Monrovia to Gbarnga, and when you were travelling on this highway
10 from Gbarnga to Monrovia on your left-hand side after the village
11 Gbatala you had the Gbatala base on the left-hand side on top of
12 a hill. On the Gbatala base itself, we generally called at that
13 time, it was divided into three areas.

14 Q. What were these three areas?

10:15:30 15 A. The first area of the base which was almost close to the
16 highway of Monrovia - Gbarnga-Monrovia Highway, it was there that
17 they had good buildings, I mean the living quarters. It was
18 there that the administration of the base was run. And behind
19 the hill there was a forest between the living quarters and
10:16:04 20 another part of the base, you know, where they had one - the
21 shooting range where we practised firing and they had a detention
22 area there, a jail that was made of a hole. Then beyond the
23 second area that I have just mentioned, about almost a mile
24 distance towards another mountain in the forest, they had a small
10:16:41 25 settlement which at that time we called Up the Mount. You know,
26 in Liberian English it meant up the mountain. We also had
27 activities there concerning the base.

28 Q. Mr Witness, you have said that the - in the second part
29 that you described you talked about a hole. You said they would

1 have some - they had detention there which was like a hole. Can
2 you describe that further?

3 A. Yes, sir, this detention that I'm referring to here was not
4 like any normal jailhouse. There were holes that were dug in the
10:17:37 5 ground approximately about five to six feet. They had a wire
6 fence, a steel rod gate fixed to close it and over the holes they
7 had a small hut built around the jailhouse.

8 Q. In which part of these three areas were you based during
9 your training?

10:18:16 10 A. All these areas were used during the training, but to make
11 it clear to you when we entered on the base initially the area I
12 described about a mile distance from the area where this
13 detention area was was where they first took us for almost two
14 weeks. This area was more or less they said an introductory part
10:18:52 15 of the training that, you know, whenever you were strong enough
16 to recover from that particular area then you were fit enough to
17 go to the white instructors for training. This area I'm
18 referring to was mainly controlled by the Liberian instructors,
19 who were assistant instructors to these white instructors.

10:19:24 20 There was no proper administration run here. Everything
21 here was like a serious punishment. They said they wanted you to
22 be able to withstand endurance. They called it at the time zero.
23 They said they want to zero you. When you were lucky you will
24 survive it, then they will bring you back to where I mentioned as
10:19:49 25 the area of administration. That was the quarters close to the
26 highway where they had the houses. That was where the
27 administration was run. Feeding and sleeping quarters,
28 everything was there.

29 The second area where they had this hole that I'm talking

1 about as one of the detention areas, this area was used mainly
2 for our trainings, especially practising combat tactics, shooting
3 exercises. These were the areas, you know? This area was used
4 for that.

10:20:30 5 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. Now yesterday in your testimony you
6 said that you were met by Joe Tuah, do you recall, and he said to
7 you that you were to go - instead of going to Gbarnga, where all
8 the other Sierra Leoneans were supposed to go, you and your group
9 were to go somewhere else. Do you recall?

10:20:58 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. And that place was where?

12 A. Ivory Coast, sir.

13 Q. And your testimony is that you boarded an aircraft at the
14 RIA, that's the Roberts International Airfield, which took you to
10:21:18 15 Ouagadougou, is that correct?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. Now, how many of you boarded this flight to go to
18 Ouagadougou?

19 A. On that particular trip we were 21 including Joe Tuah
10:21:43 20 himself, sir.

21 Q. Did Joe Tuah tell you on whose instructions you were going
22 on this flight to Ouagadougou?

23 A. He only referred to Benjamin Yeaten at that time, sir.

24 Q. And did he say exactly where you were going to?

10:22:15 25 A. Yes, sir.

26 Q. Where did he say you were going to?

27 A. He said Sam Bockarie was already in Ivory Coast and that
28 some other people from Liberia had already joined him in Ivory
29 Coast, so he was also expecting us and more people to join him in

1 Ivory Coast.

2 Q. Can you describe what happened when you arrived at

3 Ouagadougou?

4 A. Yes, sir.

10:22:56 5 Q. Please go on.

6 A. After almost an hour's flight, when we finally landed at

7 the airport I never knew where we landed at that time, but we

8 left on the plane - because only 21 of us were at the back of the

9 plane, with the exception of the pilots who were piloting the

10:23:31 10 plane. So Joe Tuah alighted from the plane and the pilot also.

11 I was looking through the window of the plane and they walked to

12 the securities who were in uniform standing. They were

13 discussing something I did not know, but while we were looking at

14 the sign boards along the airport I saw the spelling of

10:23:56 15 Ouagadougou airport, so I knew that we were in Burkina Faso.

16 So a few minutes later Joe Tuah returned to the plane and

17 said that they were waiting for a bus to come and we will get

18 into the bus, and within that period a bus came with only the

19 driver in it. When we alighted from the plane, about two steps

10:24:27 20 from the plane we were in the bus. We all got into the bus and

21 Joe Tuah stayed behind. Then the driver drove us through

22 Ouagadougou until we finally continued our journey throughout the

23 day until midnight. We crossed the border. According to the

24 description that was made to us later, we crossed closer to the

10:24:59 25 Mali-Burkina-Ivory Coast borders. One of the big towns along the

26 border that night that we stopped at was Korhogo.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, before we go further into

28 this description the answer to the question about "on whose

29 instructions you were sent", the witness said, "He only referred

1 to Benjamin Yeaten." I don't know whether the reference is an
2 instruction, or what it means, "referred to". Please clarify
3 that.

4 MR BANGURA:

10:25:35

5 Q. Mr Witness, I asked you earlier whether you knew on whose
6 instructions you were being sent to Ouagadougou and the answer
7 you gave is not very clear. Can you say again whose instructions
8 Joe Tuah was acting on?

10:26:02

9 A. Yes, sir. As I told you, you know, the name mentioned on
10 that particular operation on that day, directly from Joe Tuah,
11 was that he said chief Benjamin Yeaten. At that particular time
12 instructions like those do not personally come from Benjamin
13 Yeaten at that time. It must be approved by Charles Taylor,
14 especially in terms of our group, our group's movement, because
15 over two weeks when that order was published that we should go to
16 Gbarnga, we were getting these rumours of that war in the Ivory
17 Coast, of Sam Bockarie's involvement, but officially at that time
18 we had not - I was not officially informed by an officer like
19 this that this was what was going to happen.

10:26:56

20 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: It doesn't answer the question, but it
21 appears that the witness doesn't know the answer to your question
22 perhaps.

23 MR BANGURA: I will move on, your Honour:

10:27:15

24 Q. Mr Witness, just before we go on to describe what happened
25 along the journey, how did you travel from RIA in Liberia to
26 Burkina Faso on this flight? Was this a normal travel where you
27 packed and prepared to leave like you travel normally?

28 A. No, sir.

29 Q. Exactly how did you travel?

1 A. Well, our preparation was like, you know, like the way when
2 they say we were going to fight somewhere. The preparation was
3 like that because we were not officially dressed like travellers.
4 We were just like, you know, those days when rebels were going to
10:28:16 5 fight somewhere. That was the sort of preparation. I mean that
6 was the sort of situation we were in, because we were not even
7 prepared for the trip at that particular time.

8 Q. You yourself, did you pack any things that you were
9 carrying with you?

10:28:33 10 A. No, sir.

11 Q. You said that you travelled through Burkina Faso from the
12 airport to a point where you went close to the border, the Mali
13 border. Is that correct?

14 A. Yes, sir.

10:28:57 15 Q. And where did you enter?

16 A. Well, when we crossed the border where the rebel leaders of
17 the Ivorians, the way they identified themselves to us at that
18 time - when they received us, the big town we slept that
19 particular night was Korhogo, Korhogo.

10:29:31 20 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Bangura, does the witness know this
21 himself, or did somebody else tell him? I notice that earlier he
22 used these words, "We crossed the border. According to the
23 description that was made to us later". Now, did somebody
24 describe where he crossed, or does he remember crossing at a
10:30:00 25 certain point himself? And I'd be interested to know who gave
26 that description to him of where he crossed the border.

27 MR BANGURA: I will get the witness to say, your Honour:

28 Q. Mr Witness, in talking about the locations where you went
29 through on your journey from the airport, you have mentioned two

1 names already and you said in the case of one of them you knew -
2 your Honour, I'm trying to find --

3 JUDGE LUSSICK: I'll give you the reference from which I
4 was quoting. At least on my computer it's page 22, from line 18
10:30:47 5 to line 22.

6 MR BANGURA:

7 Q. Mr Witness, you have said that during the course of the
8 journey, in your own words, you said, "Then the driver drove us
9 through Ouagadougou until we finally" - crossed the border --

10:31:21 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. "We continued on the journey throughout the day until
12 midnight. We crossed the border. According to the description
13 that was made to us later, we crossed closer to the
14 Mali-Burkina-Ivory Coast border. One of the big towns along the
10:31:43 15 border that night we stopped was", and you gave a name. What's
16 the name of that big town?

17 A. The big town in Ivory Coast where we slept and that morning
18 where we slept until daybreak, because we travelled throughout
19 the night, was Korhogo.

10:32:12 20 MR MUNYARD: Could we have a spelling, please, for that
21 town.

22 MR BANGURA: Yes, I am just trying to give the spelling and
23 then get to the point that Justice Lussick raised.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Perhaps the witness knows how to spell
10:32:40 25 it. Can you spell the name of the town, Mr Witness?

26 THE WITNESS: I don't know the actual spelling. It's a
27 French word.

28 MR BANGURA: It's K-O-R-H-O-G-O:

29 Q. Now, Mr Witness, how did you know the name of this town?

1 A. When we arrived there we spent two nights and amongst the
2 commanders of the Ivorian rebels that we met there was one among
3 them who took care of our affairs for that two nights. He was
4 speaking English, so he described the area to us and even in
10:33:45 5 Korhogo, the area where we were kept for those two nights, was a
6 kind of restaurant, so we saw some of the descriptions on the
7 houses as Korhogo.

8 Q. Mr Witness, when you crossed into the Ivory Coast at this
9 time were you received by anybody?

10:34:12 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Were you received by anybody?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. Who received you?

14 A. As I told you, that night when we had driven for the whole
10:34:48 15 day up to that point, we met with the rebels of that particular
16 area, the Ivorians, as they were introduced to us. They received
17 us into Ivory Coast where we finally arrived at Korhogo.

18 Q. Where did they receive you?

19 A. When we stopped at the point, they described the area as
10:35:20 20 being the border between Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast.

21 Q. And the question is where did they receive you?

22 A. I cannot remember the name of the town that night actually
23 because I was not informed about the name of the town, but I can
24 only remember where we finally slept until morning.

10:35:49 25 Q. And was that the point that you were met by the rebels from
26 the Ivory Coast?

27 A. The Ivorian rebels, we met with them right at the border of
28 Ivory Coast. They took us to this Korhogo that I'm referring to.

29 Q. You said you spent a couple of days at Korhogo.

1 A. Yes, sir, we spent just two nights in Korhogo.

2 Q. And after that did anything happen?

3 A. Yes, sir. That morning when we arrived, you know, I was
4 connected to Sam Bockarie through a Thuraya phone so as to talk
10:36:49 5 to Sam Bockarie for him to build confidence that he was in Ivory
6 Coast.

7 Q. It's not clear what you mean. You said you were connected
8 on some phone to talk to Sam Bockarie to build confidence. It's
9 not very clear. Can you explain that again?

10:37:07 10 A. Yes, sir. One of the rebel commanders who was taking care
11 of us in the hotel where we were based, he brought his Thuraya
12 phone and he said Sam Bockarie wanted to talk to those who came
13 from Liberia. So we spoke to him on the Thuraya phone.

14 Q. What is a Thuraya phone?

10:37:39 15 A. Well, the - a Thuraya phone could be described as a kind of
16 satellite phone with a long antenna at that time and that was
17 what was brought to us. The size was almost like a walkie-talkie
18 Motorola communication set.

19 Q. What discussions did you have with Sam Bockarie?

10:38:10 20 A. Well at that particular point he just welcomed us and gave
21 us confidence that he was there and that he was expecting us to
22 meet him that time at Seguela, because he was in one of the towns
23 at that time called Seguela.

24 Q. Are you able to spell Seguela?

10:38:39 25 A. No, sir, I don't know the actual spelling of that town.

26 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, Seguela is S-E-G-U-E-L-A.

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Did you say G-U-E-L-A?

28 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour.

29 MR MUNYARD: Your Honours, before we move on I'm intrigued

1 to know that Mr Bangura can spell this town Seguela. Unless I
2 have missed something there is nothing at all in the disclosure
3 about this, where they went in Burkina Faso, where they went in
4 Cote d'Ivoire. There's a very small amount indeed of
10:39:37 5 information.

6 Now it appears on the face of it that my learned friend -
7 unless I've missed it and I accept that I'm fallible and might
8 have done. It appears on the face of it that there is more
9 material that this witness has - information this witness has
10:39:51 10 given to the Prosecution that we have not been given any advanced
11 indication of at all and I wonder if my assumption is correct.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, you have heard Mr Munyard on
13 a question of disclosure.

14 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, there is certainly material
10:40:12 15 provided to the Defence about the fact that the witness along
16 with others went to Ivory Coast and they were involved in
17 activities in Ivory Coast. Your Honours, the extent of the
18 movement in the Ivory Coast is not specifically laid out in the
19 material provided, but there is indeed material which indicates
10:40:38 20 that they were in the Ivory Coast over a certain period and I am
21 just going to go back to what we have provided to the Defence.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard seems to be saying that, if
23 you have sufficient detail to be able to spell these places, then
24 you must have that information before you and he's suggesting
10:40:57 25 that that has not been disclosed.

26 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I'm merely being - I'm merely
27 referring to spellings on a map which has been provided already
28 to the Court and to Defence and this is a map which the witness
29 will in due course be making indications on.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Munyard, first of all counsel for the
2 Prosecution speaks of a map and some information given to you.
3 Does that satisfy the question you have raised? Do you (a) have
4 the map and (b) the information he is referring to?

10:41:38 5 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, I'll look to see if in the big
6 map book that the Prosecution themselves were so reluctant to use
7 the other day does in fact have these towns on it, but if they do
8 then clearly this witness on the face of it has been taken
9 through the map. Why else is my learned friend able to go
10:41:58 10 straight to these towns and so on and so forth unless this has
11 been gone through with this witness? There's a handful of
12 paragraphs - a handful might be an exaggeration - about what this
13 witness was doing in Cote d'Ivoire and indeed Burkina Faso.
14 Burkina Faso amounts to a handful of lines, not even paragraphs.

10:42:17 15 I'm simply enquiring at this stage, in the light of the way
16 this examination-in-chief is proceeding, as to whether or not
17 there is more detail that the Prosecution have obtained prior to
18 this testimony from this witness that they haven't yet disclosed
19 to us. In the meantime, I'm happy for it to proceed and I will
10:42:39 20 dig out the map book and no doubt my learned friend will give us
21 the reference to the map that he's talking about. I don't want
22 to hold things up, but I am putting down a marker.

23 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, if I may ask, I personally am
24 curious one for the relevance of this line of evidence, but what
10:42:58 25 might assist us to understand and appreciate better is giving us
26 time frames when were they in Burkina, when were they in
27 Ouagadougou, et cetera. We are looking at the indictment in
28 terms of time frames and it helps us to appreciate the relevance
29 of your evidence when it's put in context. We are having to

1 remind you every now and then "Give us time frames" and we
2 shouldn't need to do that.

3 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I will get the witness to help
4 us with the time that some of these events occurred.

10:43:36 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: I agree with Justice Sebutinde that this
6 time is necessary. However, we have not completely disposed of
7 Mr Munyard's matter. It's now on hold whilst counsel for the
8 Prosecution checks their records and compares it to what has been
9 disclosed, but please proceed with the examination-in-chief.

10:44:01 10 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, my learned friend asked about
11 the map that I was referring to and this map is M7 in the map
12 book.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well.

14 MR BANGURA: M7 in the map book. That's the map I'm
10:44:24 15 looking at.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please continue and deal with the time
17 matter as well, Mr Bangura.

18 MR BANGURA:

19 Q. Mr Witness, when did you leave RIA, Liberia, for
10:44:36 20 Ouagadougou on this flight?

21 A. I can remember that it was in December 2002.

22 Q. And at the time when you entered into Ivory Coast, when was
23 that?

24 A. Are you talking about the hours, sir?

10:45:15 25 Q. Was it still in December when you entered into Ivory Coast?
26 When you said December 2002, that's a little wide.

27 A. Yes, sir.

28 Q. Was it still in December 2002 when you entered into the
29 Ivory Coast?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. Thank you.

3 MR MUNYARD: I'm sorry to interrupt again. I really don't
4 want to hold things up, but I've been referred to a map M7 which
10:45:41 5 is Cote d'Ivoire and I can't see Seguela marked anywhere near the
6 Burkina Faso-Mali-Cote d'Ivoire border. I'm wondering --

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: The place near the border was Korhogo.

8 MR MUNYARD: He's referred to Seguela. That's when I rose
9 and made the objection.

10 PRESIDING JUDGE: And then subsequently Seguela.

11 MR MUNYARD: Yes.

12 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, Seguela is on that map and it's a
13 little way down. It's more towards the west.

14 MR MUNYARD: Oh, yes, I've got it now. I'm sorry, I was
10:46:19 15 working on the basis this was on the border. It's a long way
16 down. I've seen it now. I'm grateful.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Proceed, Mr Bangura.

18 MR BANGURA:

19 Q. Mr Witness, without going into too much detail, are you
10:46:39 20 able to tell the Court what particular areas you were at in the
21 Ivory Coast during this period? Well just before that, you said
22 you had a conversation with Sam Bockarie on the phone and you -
23 and the purport of that conversation was that you would meet him
24 at Seguela when you arrived there. Is that correct?

10:47:05 25 A. Yes, sir.

26 Q. Did you go to Seguela?

27 A. Yes, sir.

28 Q. And did you meet Sam Bockarie there?

29 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. How long after the conversation with Sam Bockarie on the
2 phone did you go to Seguela?

3 A. We left Korhogo the following day to join Sam Bockarie in
4 Seguela.

10:47:37 5 Q. And at this time are we still within December of 2002?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. Now, when you got to Seguela did anything happen there?

8 A. Yes, sir, we were welcomed by Sam Bockarie and the others
9 whom we had met earlier.

10:48:08 10 Q. When you say the others whom you had met earlier, who were
11 these others that you had met earlier?

12 A. At that time I came to know that some other military
13 personnel from the Charles Taylor government had been there
14 before with Sam Bockarie.

10:48:35 15 Q. Who were these military personnel that you talk about?

16 A. I can remember one T Zimmi. I think he was a Gio man.
17 That is a Gio name. We used to pronounce it T Zimmi. He said he
18 was an MP commander in the Armed Forces of Liberia.

19 Q. Are you able to spell that name for the Court?

10:49:06 20 A. Yes, sir. Even - I don't even know whether I was accurate
21 in pronouncing it. I only pronounced it because it's a Gio name,
22 but it was pronounced T Zimmi. They said he was the MP commander
23 for the Armed Forces of Liberia.

24 Q. You said you were going to spell it for the Court. Can you
10:49:28 25 still spell it?

26 A. Really I don't know how to spell it, sir.

27 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, we would live with the spelling
28 that has come up:

29 Q. Do you know what Sam Bockarie was doing at this time in

1 Seguela?

2 A. He was preparing at that time to contribute to the fighting
3 in Ivory Coast - I mean, the rebel war. On the side of the
4 rebels, I mean.

10:50:09 5 Q. Now what sort of fighting was going on in the Ivory Coast,
6 if you remember?

7 A. Well, at that point in time I was made to understand that
8 some disgruntled government soldiers of the Ivory Coast attempted
9 a coup but failed, so they decided to continue their
10 disgruntledness in the form of a rebellion against the government
11 at that particular time.

12 Q. And what was Sam Bockarie doing in relation to this
13 rebellion?

14 A. The whole thing was that he told me, together with others
10:51:17 15 in the gathering, that he was instructed by President
16 Charles Taylor for him to join the other people in Ivory Coast, I
17 mean the rebels, to fight and he said he cannot only fight
18 amongst the Ivorians to whom he was not used, except that his
19 brothers, that is he was now referring to us, to come and join
10:51:50 20 him so that he could effectively fight. So he said that was why
21 they brought us to join him.

22 Q. Did you take part in any fighting in Ivory Coast?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. Where did you fight?

10:52:13 25 A. Well, at that time, from my observation and from where we
26 passed through, almost after a week when we left from Seguela we
27 used a dirt road to cross a river towards a big town that was
28 called Man, because Man was a main target at that time, but there
29 was a defensive for the government along that river. It was

1 there that we started the fighting until we entered into Man and
2 captured Man and then we started moving towards Bangolo.

3 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, the spelling for Man, according
4 to the map, is M-A-N. The witness has just mentioned another
10:53:19 5 name, Bangolo, and that is B-A-N-G-O-L-O.

6 THE WITNESS: L-O. Bangolo.

7 MR BANGURA:

8 Q. Who did you fight alongside with during this operation?

9 A. Well, this particular operation I'm referring to in this
10:53:52 10 case, we fought along the Ivorians.

11 Q. And when you say "we", yourselves, who were you that fought
12 alongside the Ivorians?

13 A. I am referring to those of us who came from Liberia and
14 joined Sam Bockarie and Sam Bockarie himself, together with some
10:54:19 15 other authorities. I can remember one Pa Sheku that I had made
16 mention of before, he was also with Sam Bockarie there.

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, who were they fighting
18 against?

19 MR BANGURA: I am getting to that, your Honour:

10:54:38 20 Q. Who were you fighting against, Mr Witness?

21 A. We were fighting against the government of Ivory Coast at
22 that time. I mean the Gbagbo government.

23 Q. When you say Gbagbo, can you give the full name of the
24 person you're referring to?

10:55:04 25 A. I only used to hear about President Gbagbo, the President
26 of Ivory Coast.

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Have you supplied a time frame for this
28 whole exercise? We don't want to have to deduce.

29 MR BANGURA: No, not yet, your Honour:

1 Q. At the time that you went on the operation and captured
2 Man, can you tell the Court when this was?

3 A. Yes, sir. This was still in December 2002, sir.

4 Q. And did you go beyond Man at any point?

10:56:21 5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. Where did you go?

7 A. This first operation I'm referring to here, at that time we
8 went almost close to Bangolo and there was an airstrip that we
9 met there and there we met with stiff resistance from the French
10:56:47 10 troops and later we received communication from Sam Bockarie and
11 others that we should give way to the troop that we are fighting
12 against because they were fighting us using helicopter gunships
13 and armoured cars. They said those troops that we were attacking
14 at that particular time, at that particular location close to
10:57:16 15 Bangolo, were the French troops that came to evacuate their
16 citizens from Man. So that resulted to our withdrawal from that
17 point to Man.

18 Q. And after that did you go anywhere else?

19 A. Yes, sir.

10:57:36 20 Q. Where did you go?

21 A. After our withdrawal for the French troops to collect their
22 citizens it was a kind of double game played. The government
23 soldiers were behind us trying to occupy Man, but because of the
24 difficulties that we had experienced in that advance in trying to
10:58:09 25 communicate with the other Ivorian fighters and their method of
26 fighting, we decided to leave the central part of where we were
27 fighting to join the other brothers, I mean the other Liberians,
28 who had crossed around the Danane way, because we had heard that
29 they had already captured Danane, so that we would join them

1 there to fight so as to get much more understanding with them
2 there in terms of communication, sir.

3 Q. You said that you withdrew from this position and you were
4 going to join your other brothers. Where was Danane?

10:58:53 5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. Where was Danane?

7 A. Danane was one of the big towns along the Liberian - close
8 to the Liberian border.

9 Q. And you said you were going to join the other brothers
10 there?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Who were these other brothers that you were going to join
13 along that point?

14 A. Later when we arrived there I understood that the brothers
10:59:33 15 were most of the Sierra Leonean brothers whom they had been
16 transporting to Gbarnga before we left Monrovia, in combination
17 with some Liberian fighters led by one Felix Doe - they used to
18 call him Andre again and they said he was at one time a bodyguard
19 to one of the generals in Ivory Coast, General Robert Gaye -
11:00:13 20 together with Sampson that I had made mention of before who used
21 to carry escort supply to Buedu and also Mike that used to go to
22 Buedu. All of them were amongst the group that entered Danane.

23 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, Andrew is actually Andre, the
24 French way of pronouncing it. It is spelt A-N-D-R-E:

11:00:50 25 Q. How long overall were you in the Ivory Coast, Mr Witness?
26 Just before you answer that, when did you join the other brothers
27 as you described them, the other brothers at Danane?

28 A. Well, it was almost about - after our withdrawal it was
29 within a week that we joined our brothers in Danane.

1 Q. How long were you in the Ivory Coast for all together?

2 A. I stayed in Ivory Coast until early May, early May 2003.

3 Q. And during that time, apart from Sam Bockarie and you've
4 mentioned Sampson, you said you met him along with other Liberian
11:01:59 5 officials at Danane, were there any other Liberian officials that
6 came to the Ivory Coast while you were there?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. Who were they?

9 A. In Danane one of the SSS representatives was there by the
11:02:26 10 name of Kemoh. We had another - we had some other Liberian
11 commanders who were also controlling some other targets in Ivory
12 Coast at that time along the borderline in Ivory Coast, like the
13 one that was called Israel, General Israel, and then we had some
14 others like General Idi Amin.

11:03:08 15 Q. Can you help the Court, you said Kemoh, one of the SSS
16 representatives, can you spell that?

17 A. The way we pronounce it, it was K-E-M-O-H.

18 Q. And you called another name, Israel. Can you give that
19 full name?

11:03:33 20 A. No, sir, that was the common name we all knew him by at
21 that time.

22 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I would spell Israel as in the
23 name of the country.

24 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: And was that ED Amin, as in the initials
11:03:50 25 E-D, or Idi Amin?

26 MR BANGURA:

27 Q. Mr Witness, you called another name, Idi Amin, are you able
28 to spell that?

29 A. That was just a nickname that took after the Ugandan

1 President before, so he took the nickname so we all knew him by
2 that nickname.

3 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I will spell it I-D-I and not
4 the initials I-D:

11:04:34 5 Q. Did you, during your period in the Ivory Coast, receive
6 instructions from anybody in Liberia?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. Who did you receive any instructions from?

9 A. Most of the instructions at that time that came were always
11:04:58 10 from Benjamin Yeaten at that time.

11 Q. How did you know this?

12 A. Before the recapture of Man from Danane when we had all
13 joined forces, we captured some anti-aircraft weapons. So when
14 we brought those to Danane, Sampson and some other delegates went
11:05:34 15 into Liberia and they said Benjamin Yeaten requested for those
16 weapons. He said they wanted to go and use them as the rebels
17 were closing in on Monrovia.

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the last bit of the
19 witness's testimony was not clear to the interpreter.

11:05:58 20 MR BANGURA:

21 Q. Mr Witness, you said "as the rebels were closing in on
22 Monrovia" and you said something else which is not clear. Can
23 you repeat what you said?

24 A. Yes, sir. At that point that I am talking about when we
11:06:23 25 were in Ivory Coast there was also serious fighting going on in
26 Liberia against - the rebels were fighting against Charles Taylor
27 government at that time. So at one time I remember the request
28 came for that weapon that we had, that four barrel anti-aircraft
29 weapon that we had, to be taken over so that it will give more

1 fire support to the fighters at that time in Liberia.

2 Q. Mr Witness, who were you receiving supplies from in Liberia
3 during the course of your stay there? In Ivory Coast, I'm sorry,
4 your Honours.

11:07:18 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Please put the question again properly.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Also that was a leading question,
7 Mr Bangura.

8 MR BANGURA:

9 Q. How did you get on with your operations in Liberia in terms
11:07:34 10 of supplies?

11 JUDGE LUSSICK: Do you mean Liberia, or Ivory Coast?

12 MR BANGURA: I'm sorry, your Honour:

13 Q. How did you get on with supplies in the Ivory Coast?

14 A. We used to receive supplies from the rebel leaders in Ivory
11:08:05 15 Coast through Sam Bockarie.

16 Q. And where was Sam Bockarie getting these supplies from?

17 A. The other rebel commanders used to bring the supplies to
18 him.

19 Q. And when you say "other rebel commanders", which ones were
11:08:25 20 they?

21 A. At that time I was in Ivory Coast I knew of one Adams who
22 was a rebel commander also for one of the faction called the MPGO
23 and Andre was also heading that, he was another commander, and
24 they used to travel between Ivory Coast and Burkina Faso, because
11:08:57 25 Burkina Faso was the main place that they used to call most
26 often, or that they used to travel in between.

27 Q. Mr Witness, you mentioned a word "MP go". Can you be very
28 clear about what it is. Is it a name, or it is an acronym?

29 A. Well, it is an acronym, sir, for the various rebel factions

1 that were fighting in Ivory Coast at that time.

2 Q. And can you give us the exact letters that form that name?

3 A. M-P-G-O, M-P-G-O, something like that. So we used to call
4 it "MP go", MPGO.

11:09:51 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, the answer to that previous
6 question was Sam Bockarie would get his supplies from the rebel
7 commanders in the Ivory Coast. Would I be correct?

8 MR BANGURA:

9 Q. Mr Witness, can you be clear again about where Sam Bockarie
11:10:12 10 got his supplies from?

11 A. Yes, sir. As I told you, we used to see the rebel
12 commanders bring supplies to Sam Bockarie at that time he was
13 with us during this fighting, sir.

14 Q. And which rebel commanders were they?

11:10:39 15 A. I think I have made mention of one Adams.

16 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Witness, they were rebel commanders of
17 where, or what group?

18 THE WITNESS: Well, I made you to understand that the MPGO
19 was one of the factions and the faction I'm referring to here now
11:11:01 20 was where the Adams and Andre were and they were Ivorian
21 commanders and we heard of another which was MPC I and what we
22 heard about them was that they were occupying the Bouake area.
23 So the other areas towards the Liberian border, the MPGOs
24 occupied those areas, but the commanders I'm referring to, like
11:11:31 25 Adams and Andre, they were around the MPGO area.

26 Q. MPC I, is it an acronym?

27 A. Yes, sir.

28 MR MUNYARD: I wonder could the witness try to explain what
29 the acronyms stand for. He was asked a while ago, but he went

1 from "NPO" to "MPGO", but we've never actually had the letters
2 spelt out if he knows what they stand for.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think first of all, Mr Witness, these
4 two acronyms you've used, do you know what they stand for?

11:12:08 5 THE WITNESS: No, ma'am.

6 MR BANGURA:

7 Q. Did Sam Bockarie stay in the Ivory Coast all of the period
8 that you were there?

9 A. No, sir.

11:12:26 10 Q. Did he go anywhere during that time that you were there?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Where did he go?

13 A. He later left Ivory Coast and went back to Burkina Faso and
14 we later understood that he was there for a long time before we
11:12:52 15 went.

16 Q. Do you know when he left Ivory Coast to go to Burkina Faso?

17 A. That was some time in early 2003 after we had regrouped and
18 captured Man and we advanced our offensive as far as Bangolo and
19 all the way to Duekoue area.

11:13:34 20 Q. And all the way to what area? Can you give the name of
21 that place again?

22 A. Yes, sir. One of the big towns after Man was Bangolo and
23 we had Duekoue.

24 Q. Are you able to spell that?

11:13:56 25 A. Except for Bangolo, but Duekoue, those were all French
26 names. I cannot recall to spell them. I cannot accurately spell
27 them for you, sir.

28 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I've just found a spelling,
29 D-U-E-K-O-U-E. There are two "E"s there, they both carry an

1 accent.

2 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: These are locations where, Mr Bangura?

3 These are locations in which country?

4 MR BANGURA: I will get the witness to say:

11:14:34 5 Q. Mr Witness, at this point where are we talking about, which
6 country?

7 A. These areas are in the Ivory Coast, towards the western
8 part of Ivory Coast, going towards the Liberian border.

9 Q. Now, just to be clear, in your earlier testimony you talked
11:15:03 10 about attacking Man and then you also mentioned moving towards
11 Bangolo and then just a short while ago you mentioned that after
12 you regrouped you had captured Man and you mentioned Bangolo
13 again. Are you talking about the same operation that you
14 mentioned before?

11:15:29 15 A. No, sir. That was when we withdrew because of the
16 difficulties we had in communication and we joined our brothers
17 in Danane and later we came together as a force to retake Man and
18 to advance further, sir.

19 Q. Where were you when Sam Bockarie left to go to --

11:15:54 20 MR MUNYARD: He hasn't said that he knows when it was that
21 Sam Bockarie left. All he's said is, "We learned later that he'd
22 gone to Burkina Faso and had been there for a long time." He
23 hasn't even said who "we" is and how they learned later, or when
24 later was.

11:16:14 25 MR BANGURA:

26 Q. Mr Witness, I had asked you earlier about when Sam Bockarie
27 left to go to Burkina Faso. When did he leave?

28 A. That was in early 2003 after we had retaken the areas I
29 have just made mention of in the Ivory Coast.

1 Q. And where were you based at this time?

2 A. After we had established a defensive at that time, because
3 there was a ceasefire, I came back to Danane where I was and I
4 was there temporarily at that time.

11:17:01 5 Q. And was that where you were when Sam Bockarie went to
6 Burkina Faso?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. Do you know why he went to Burkina Faso?

9 A. I know some of the reasons but not all, sir.

11:17:27 10 Q. Without being very detailed can you just tell the Court why
11 you [sic] went to Burkina Faso?

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: I haven't ascertained that the witness
13 went to Burkina Faso. You asked him, "Can you just tell the
14 Court why you went to Burkina Faso?"

11:17:54 15 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I believe it's come up
16 completely differently from the question I asked. I was asking
17 about Sam Bockarie.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please put the question, but before you
19 do let me deal with what Mr Munyard was going to say.

11:18:06 20 MR MUNYARD: We haven't yet established how it is that this
21 witness knows when Sam Bockarie went and indeed how he could know
22 some of the reasons why he went.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: This goes back to a much earlier answer,
24 Mr Bangura, where the witness said he had learnt. We don't know
11:18:32 25 where he learnt it from and what exactly he learnt.

26 MR BANGURA: I will get the witness to say, your Honour:

27 Q. Mr Witness, you said at the time that Sam Bockarie went to
28 Burkina Faso you were at Danane, is that correct? You had come
29 and were based at Danane?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. How did you know that Sam Bockarie left Ivory Coast to go
3 to Burkina Faso?

11:19:08

4 A. Before he left he called some of us, I and some other
5 senior members in that particular movement at that time, to
6 explain to us that he will be leaving and that he was going to
7 make some appointments before he would leave for Burkina Faso at
8 that time.

9 Q. And where did he call you, or where did you meet with him?

11:19:30

10 A. In Danane. When we went there he had his own base where we
11 used to call Mosquito Ground at that time. So that was where he
12 called us and gave us the message, sir.

13 Q. And you were going to tell the Court why he went to Burkina
14 Faso. Why did he?

11:20:03

15 A. One of the reasons that I knew at that time was that at the
16 time we had already established more territories at that time
17 there were a series of misunderstandings between his forces and -
18 I mean the Liberian brothers who came and even the Sierra
19 Leoneans and those of the Ivorians that we met. And whenever
20 there was that conflict they always made mention of him, that
21 these are Sam Bockarie's - I mean Mosquito's men and even across
22 the border there had earlier been some misunderstanding with some
23 authorities like Benjamin Yeaten which caused some kind of
24 infighting between him and Andre and later --

11:20:57

25 Q. Mr Witness, before you continue you have given us three
26 different groups and you talked about misunderstanding. You
27 talked about Liberians, you talked about Sierra Leoneans and you
28 even talked about the Ivorians. So amongst which of these groups
29 were such misunderstandings, as you have described?

1 A. The misunderstanding here, let me just take a typical
2 example, sir, between Sam Bockarie and the Liberian authorities.
3 There came a point in time whilst we were on ceasefire, one of
4 the bodyguards of Benjamin Yeaten whom they described as a close
11:21:49 5 relative to him was killed on the front line and they said Sam
6 Bockarie was accused of masterminding his death.

7 So Benjamin Yeaten sent Andre with a delegation amongst
8 which I recognised one of my fellow Sierra Leoneans as a high
9 command in that group. They went there, as they said, to
11:22:17 10 investigate, but at that point there arose a misunderstanding
11 wherein the bodyguards of Sam Bockarie at that almost exchanged
12 fire with - against Andre and those that came from Benjamin
13 Yeaten to conduct this investigation. So there was the alarm
14 that Sam Bockarie was at that time particular time in Ivory
11:22:45 15 Coast.

16 Q. The last point of your answer is just not clear. "There
17 was the alarm". You said, "There was the alarm that Sam Bockarie
18 was at that particular time in the Ivory Coast". What do you
19 mean?

11:23:00 20 A. Well, as I have described the activities and when it
21 happened there were journalists in our midst and even a lady who
22 was very close to Sam Bockarie at that time, I understood later
23 that she was a reporter for a certain press. So it was not too
24 long that we later monitored on the international media, even the
11:23:40 25 Radio France Internationale which said at one time that they had
26 known that the notorious Sam Bockarie Mosquito who was in Sierra
27 Leone is presently behind rebel lines in Ivory Coast.

28 So his movement to Burkina Faso that I was just trying to
29 tell you about, like he said, it was engineered by some of those

1 authorities and they said if Sam Bockarie had remained there that
2 was going to cause a serious problem with their war, so he went.

3 Q. Now when you said it was engineered by those authorities,
4 what do you mean precisely?

11:24:17 5 A. When I mentioned engineered, I said the misunderstandings
6 that happened caused the authorities - I mean the Ivorian
7 authorities who suggested that he should go to Burkina Faso and
8 stay there for some time, because they were expecting more
9 international media to come and investigate about the matter.

11:24:51 10 Q. Now how did you learn all of this, Mr Witness?

11 A. Before Sam Bockarie left he called us in Danane at his
12 residence where he expressed most of these points that I have
13 made mention of into details, the causes of his leaving, and it
14 was there that he even advised that when we stay we should

11:25:30 15 maintain discipline because he said people were monitoring to
16 know about our presence and he said the Liberian and Sierra
17 Leonean fighters who were within the rebellion in Ivory Coast.

18 Q. Earlier in your answers you mentioned that somebody was
19 killed in Ivory Coast who was close to Benjamin Yeaten and Yeaten
11:25:56 20 sent some people to come and investigate the incident. Among
21 them you said you recognised one of your Sierra Leonean brothers,
22 do you recall?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. It's not clear what the name of this Sierra Leonean brother
11:26:14 25 was. Can you just say again who this person was?

26 A. I can remember that High Command was amongst the delegation
27 that came to investigate about the death of Busy Boy. That was
28 the name of the brother who died and he was a bodyguard and a
29 relative to Benjamin Yeaten.

1 Q. How long was Sam Bockarie away in Burkina Faso, do you
2 know?

3 A. I cannot remember the exact time he spent in Burkina Faso,
4 but when he left at this time that I have just explained about
11:27:14 5 here he remained in Burkina Faso until early May when he came and
6 said that he has been called by Charles Taylor to go back to
7 Liberia and contribute to defending his government as he was
8 under pressure from various rebel attacks.

9 Q. Now you said he was called by - he said he was called by
11:27:47 10 Charles Taylor and he said to defend his - whose government?

11 A. I am referring to the Charles Taylor government at that
12 time.

13 Q. How did you know that this was what happened, that Mosquito
14 had been called by Charles Taylor?

11:28:11 15 A. How can I say this? As a close ally or, I mean, one of the
16 trusted soldiers to him at that time, when he came he called me
17 over the table and that evening he and I spoke lengthily on some
18 other issues, but he concluded by saying that all of us are
19 finally going to leave because Charles Taylor had called him
11:28:46 20 finally to go back and contribute to the fighting that was going
21 on in Liberia at that time.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, I think we're up to our time
23 limit. We've already been alerted and some time has elapsed, so
24 I hope this is convenient to take the mid-morning adjournment.

11:29:07 25 MR BANGURA: Very well, your Honour.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, we are now going to take the
27 mid-morning adjournment. We are going to adjourn for half an
28 hour and we will resume court again at 12 o'clock. Please
29 adjourn court until 12.

1 [Break taken at 11.30 a.m.]

2 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed, Mr Bangura.

4 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour:

12:00:13 5 Q. Mr Witness, we will briefly go back to a few issues came up
6 before and after that we will continue with your testimony from
7 where we left off. Now, in your earlier testimony this morning
8 in describing your journey from the airport in Ouagadougou to
9 Ivory Coast you said that you crossed the border according to the
12:00:52 10 description that was made to you later. These were your words:

11 "We crossed the border according to the description that was made
12 to us later". Justice Lussick wanted to find out whether you
13 knew yourself later that you had crossed the border or somebody
14 told you. It appears that that question was not answered. Now,
12:01:19 15 when you say you crossed the border according to the description
16 which you were given later, what did you mean?

17 A. The description I referred to here in this case was not
18 given to me by somebody at that point when I arrived at the
19 border, although it was during the night hours, but I saw sign
12:02:00 20 boards at the area where these rebel commanders came to receive
21 us boldly written "La Cote d'Ivoire" which is in Ivory Coast.
22 And on the other side when we were coming I saw this "Burkina
23 Faso" on most of the sign boards along - I mean on the other side
24 of the border where they received us. So it was like a very big
12:02:26 25 custom. It was there that I knew that we were now in the Ivory
26 Coast.

27 Q. So when you said according to description that was made
28 later, you actually learnt about the name of the country Ivory
29 Coast at the point you crossed. Is that what you're saying?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. And not later that you learnt that you were in the Ivory
3 Coast?

4 A. No, sir, I knew that --

12:02:58 5 MR MUNYARD: Is my learned friend examining-in-chief or
6 cross-examining? I know he is rehashing evidence that has
7 already been given yet again, but it is coming close to
8 cross-examination rather than examination-in-chief.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: It is, Mr Bangura, and I think Justice
12:03:16 10 Lussick's, subject to my learned colleague's intervention - but I
11 think that question has been dealt with.

12 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour. I just felt it was
13 not clearly dealt with, but I take the point:

14 Q. You talked about an order which was given to you, the
12:03:44 15 Sierra Leoneans, who were from the RUF and you said this was an
16 order which had been given for you to go to Gbarnga. Do you
17 recall that order?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. You actually talked about that yesterday and you mentioned
12:04:05 20 it in your testimony again today. Do you recall?

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, without wishing to interrupt
22 you, what period are we talking about now?

23 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, we are talking about - I am
24 going back to the witness's testimony and about an order which he
12:04:20 25 said was made - he mentioned the order today and in his testimony
26 yesterday that same - that came up again. I just wanted to
27 clarify it.

28 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: But we are still not sure. Instead of
29 leaving us guessing, just tell us what time frame is this, this

1 order that you're referring to?

2 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, this is the order that the
3 witness says was given in 2002, late 2002, from the ATU
4 headquarters.

12:04:52 5 MR MUNYARD: If we are now going backwards, which we seem
6 to be, could we please have references to what part of the
7 witness's testimony earlier today and what part of the witness's
8 testimony yesterday we are now going to reconsider yet again.

9 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, yesterday's reference, I have
12:05:18 10 only the reference at this point of the LiveNote version of the
11 transcript.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, that's better than nothing.

13 MR BANGURA: That's page 29, line 8 to 10.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Of yesterday?

12:05:36 15 MR BANGURA: Yes, yesterday. Sorry, that is today's
16 reference, I'm sorry, your Honour. Today's reference is page 29,
17 lines 8 to 19 and yesterday's reference is page 13 - okay, I have
18 got it. We have the transcript reference for yesterday, your
19 Honour, and the transcript reference is page 13473, lines 18 to
12:06:08 20 27.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please proceed, Mr Bangura.

22 MR BANGURA: Are we there? I am asking my learned friend
23 --

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please put the question. If Mr Munyard
12:06:45 25 needs time he will tell us.

26 MR BANGURA:

27 Q. Mr Witness, simply the question is what kind of order was
28 this that you referred to? The order which was given at the ATU
29 headquarters for you to go to Gbarnga, what kind of order was

1 that?

2 A. At that point in time we referred to that order as an
3 executive order which meant that it was an order directly from
4 Charles Taylor, sir.

12:07:21 5 Q. Thank you. Now, you in your testimony today mentioned that
6 a number of Liberian commanders came to Danane and you met them
7 there. Do you recall? And specifically you mentioned the names
8 Felix Doe, Sampson, Mike. Felix Doe, Sampson and Mike. Do you
9 recall that?

12:08:04 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 MR MUNYARD: I am not trying to be difficult, but my page
12 29 and 28 and 30 on my font don't seem to cover this point at
13 all.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: We are on to a new subject.

12:08:19 15 JUDGE LUSSICK: You are referring to the previous
16 references supplied. I checked those too, Mr Munyard, I couldn't
17 find any connecting words to the subject matter.

18 MR MUNYARD: Your Honour, I am prepared to let it go.

19 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I need to correct the reference
12:08:38 20 I gave. I actually gave a wrong reference. Page 23. The page
21 number is 23 and the lines are 8 to 18.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: For purposes of clarity, we have moved
23 away from the order at Gbarnga and we are now back into Ivory
24 Coast, are we?

12:09:21 25 MR BANGURA: That is correct, your Honour.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. Please put your question.

27 MR BANGURA:

28 Q. Mr Witness, the question was about the brothers you said
29 that joined you and these were Liberian fighters that joined you

1 at Danane and you mentioned Felix Doe, Sampson and Mike. Do you
2 recall?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. Why did they join you at Danane at that time?

12:09:57 5 A. Please, sir, if you can remember what I said, we joined
6 them at Danane. They had captured Danane before from Liberia and
7 we left Seguela and joined them, sir.

8 Q. And when you joined them at Danane, do you know why they
9 had come there?

12:10:24 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Why?

12 A. First of all, the order published earlier as we referred to
13 it as at the ATU headquarters concerning us, the Sierra Leonean
14 brothers, to come to Gbarnga, you know, at that time it was the
12:10:52 15 same order that - it was the same mission that we met
16 Sam Bockarie on. It was the same mission that they too brought
17 from that side of the country at that time, sir.

18 Q. When you say it was the same mission that they too brought
19 from that side of the country, what exactly do you mean?

12:11:18 20 A. They were also contributing directly to the rebel fighting
21 in the Ivory Coast.

22 Q. And where had they come from when they got to Danane?

23 A. According to them, after we had met them, they crossed -
24 some of them crossed in three fronts in major crossing areas they
12:11:44 25 called to us. Some led by Israel, General Israel and Idi Amin,
26 some of them crossed along the Butuo border area into Ivory Coast
27 from Liberia. Some crossed through along the Loguato crossing
28 areas from Liberia into Ivory Coast.

29 Q. Thank you.

1 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, there is a lot of script that
2 doesn't make sense that has just been recorded and frankly I
3 didn't make sense of exactly what it is the witness said. For
4 instance, where the witness said, "Some of them crossed on three
12:12:27 5 fronts in major crossing areas, they called", and then there is
6 something that doesn't make sense. Do you see that?

7 MR BANGURA: I take your point.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Et cetera and then Butuo and then some
9 other spellings. This doesn't make sense.

12:12:43 10 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour:

11 Q. Mr Witness, let us be clearer in the position that you have
12 just described, the situation that you have just described. How
13 did these different Liberian brothers, as you call them, come
14 into the Ivory Coast at Danane where you found them?

12:13:15 15 A. As I was saying, Sampson and Andre, who is Felix Doe, and
16 others crossed from Loguato border in Liberia into Ivory Coast to
17 capture Danane. Then General Israel that I mentioned before,
18 that was also a Liberian operating in the Ivory Coast at that
19 time, they crossed from Butuo border and they were in Gbankoi in
12:13:49 20 Ivory Coast. This was exactly the picture I was trying to bring
21 out, sir.

22 Q. I believe you mentioned three different crossings earlier,
23 is that right?

24 A. Yes, sir.

12:14:07 25 Q. What we have now is a description of two of those
26 crossings.

27 A. Please, sir, you know, to be specific the third area was
28 not too - I was not too familiar with, but we heard of other
29 brothers who I later recognised and even had communication with,

1 such as a Sierra Leonean brother at that time with Benjamin
2 Yeaten by the name of Rashid Foday. They also crossed around,
3 you know, the Maryland area to attack --

12:14:56

4 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he repeat the name of
5 the place.

6 THE WITNESS: Toloplea in Ivory Coast.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, did you get the name?

8 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, I did. He said Toloplea in the
9 Ivory Coast.

12:15:06

10 PRESIDING JUDGE: No more interruption, Mr Witness. You
11 continue with your answer if you have not finished it.

12 MR BANGURA:

13 Q. Mr Witness, you mentioned one of the crossings from the
14 Liberian border as Loguato. Are you able to spell that?

12:15:30

15 A. Really I cannot promise the actual spelling, but it is
16 spelled as Loguato.

17 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, L-O-G-U-A-T-O:

18 Q. You also mentioned a place Toloplea. Are you able to spell
19 that?

12:16:13

20 A. As I pronounced it, it is a French town in the Ivory Coast
21 but it is like T-O-L-O-P-L-E-A, Toloplea, something like that.

22 Q. Now, you mentioned a Sierra Leonean. You said Rashid
23 Foday, do you recall?

24 A. Yes, sir.

12:16:44

25 Q. Who was he?

26 A. I can remember, you know, when I spoke of the RUF
27 guesthouse in Monrovia before, this was one of the bodyguards
28 that was assigned with Sankoh that was taking care of this
29 guesthouse, but at that moment of that operation he was working

1 with Benjamin Yeaten.

2 Q. Earlier you --

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just pause, Mr Bangura. Could we have a
4 problem with this piece of evidence given a previous witness?

12:17:38 5 Nobody has raised it, so let it go.

6 MR BANGURA: As it is immediately, your Honour:

7 Q. You also mentioned High Command. Who was he? This was in
8 your earlier testimony this morning you mentioned that High
9 Command was someone who came to investigate the death of some
10 relative of Benjamin Yeaten. Do you recall that?

12:18:10

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Who was High Command?

13 A. High Command, I came to know him in person in Monrovia and
14 in late 2002 before this operation and - but I was hearing his

12:18:35

15 name behind the rebel lines in Sierra Leone as one of the

16 bodyguards to Superman. In Monrovia, at that time that I am

17 referring to in 2002, he came to my house with my little brother

18 that was staying with me with whom they were like fighting

19 colleagues at that time with Superman. He introduced him as a

12:18:58

20 bodyguard to Superman before, but at the moment that he was

21 speaking to me he identified himself as one of the bodyguards to

22 Benjamin Yeaten at that time in Liberia after the death of

23 Superman, sir.

24 Q. Thank you. Now, let us continue with where we left off

12:19:21

25 just before the break. You said that Sam Bockarie came back from

26 Burkina Faso to Danane and he told you in a meeting that he had

27 been called by Charles Taylor to go and assist with fighting in

28 Liberia. Do you recall that?

29 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. Do you know what fighting was going on in Liberia at this
2 time?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. What fighting was this?

12:20:01 5 A. At this point there were two rebel groups fighting against
6 the Charles Taylor government at that time and they had the LURD
7 rebels, which was also an acronym, LURD, they crossed in from
8 Guinea and they were closing in on Monrovia from the Tubmanburg,
9 the Bomi Hill Highway and at that time Sam Bockarie was talking
12:20:32 10 to us that these LURD rebels had also captured Ganta from Guinea
11 into Liberia and also they had another rebel group which was also
12 fighting against Charles Taylor's government at that time from
13 the Ivory Coast. They called them the MODEL, which was also an
14 acronym for their movement. I don't really know the actual name,
12:21:03 15 but it was commonly known as MODEL. It was an acronym. They had
16 already crossed in that Nimba County area fighting. So he said
17 he had been called upon for us to go and help with the situation.

18 Q. Did Sam Bockarie leave Ivory Coast at any point?

19 A. Please come back with that question, sir. It is not too
12:21:36 20 clear to me.

21 Q. Following this request that Sam Bockarie said had been made
22 of him by Charles Taylor to go into Liberia and assist with the
23 fighting, did he leave Ivory Coast?

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: I thought he was in Burkina Faso at some
12:21:59 25 point. He had left Ivory Coast and was in Burkina Faso at some
26 point.

27 MR BANGURA: We have the witness already on record as
28 testifying that he, Sam Bockarie, came to Danane.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Oh, yes.

1 MR BANGURA: It was at Danane that they had the meeting.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then he explained his new orders, yes.

3 MR BANGURA:

4 Q. Just to be clear, Mr Witness, where did you have the
12:22:22 5 meeting with Sam Bockarie where he told you about the request
6 from Mr Charles Taylor for him to go to Liberia and assist with
7 the fighting? Where was this meeting?

8 A. He said this to me in the evening when I came from the
9 front line in Danane, at the residence of one of the SSS
12:22:53 10 representatives that was in Danane at that time, Kemoh.

11 Q. This was in the Ivory Coast?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. Following this request, did Sam Bockarie leave Ivory Coast?

14 A. Yes, sir.

12:23:18 15 Q. When did he leave Ivory Coast?

16 A. After he had spoken to us that evening, the following
17 morning all the Liberians and Sierra Leonean fighters that were
18 in Ivory Coast at that time were ordered to withdraw immediately
19 across the border and we started moving.

12:23:41 20 Q. About what time was this?

21 A. This was I think early - in early May 2003.

22 Q. And where did you go from Danane?

23 A. Those of us who were in the Danane area, Danane, Bangolo,
24 in that region that I have mentioned, we all withdrew through the
12:24:24 25 Loguato border.

26 Q. And at Loguato border where are you? Which country is
27 that?

28 A. Loguato is the customs town on the side of Liberia. On the
29 side of Liberia.

1 Q. Did anything happen when you got to Loguato?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. What happened?

4 A. Upon our arrival at the border we met the presence of more
12:25:05 5 security reinforcements of the Liberian securities, including the
6 ATUs at the customs at Loguato.

7 MR BANGURA: Just before we move on to Liberia, I would
8 like to have the witness shown a map.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: What is the number, please, Mr Bangura?

10 MR BANGURA: Just one moment, your Honour. It is not one
11 of the maps in the --

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is it the one you referred to earlier as
13 something 7?

14 MR BANGURA: Yes, M7, your Honour. I understand it is
12:26:31 15 already an exhibit of the court as P-6.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: I see.

17 MR BANGURA: Can the witness be shown the map:

18 Q. Can you move over to the projector, please. Mr Witness,
19 you have been shown a map?

12:28:04 20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. And what does it say? What country does that map feature?

22 A. I can see a map of Ivory Coast, sir.

23 Q. Are you able to identify the locations of some of the towns
24 that you mentioned in your testimony in the Ivory Coast, the
12:28:36 25 places that you were during the period you were in the Ivory
26 Coast?

27 A. Yes, sir.

28 Q. Now, can I ask you to first of all indicate the area where
29 you entered the Ivory Coast?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. By using an arrow pointing into the Ivory Coast from where
3 you came from. Using a pen, can you draw an arrow showing the
4 area on the map where you entered into the Ivory Coast?

12:29:28 5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. Please do that. Perhaps you could do a few more arrows in
7 the same area. Now, do you recognise the places where you stayed
8 in the Ivory Coast on the map?

9 A. Yes, sir.

12:30:18 10 Q. Which ones do you recognise?

11 A. I recognise Korhogo.

12 Q. And can you just put a circle around Korhogo. Where else
13 do you recognise?

14 A. I recognise Seguela.

12:31:02 15 Q. Can you put a circle around Seguela. Where else do you
16 recognise?

17 A. I recognise Man.

18 Q. Please do the same. Anywhere else that you recognise?

19 A. I recognise Bangolo.

12:31:50 20 Q. Please proceed to do the same thing. Do a circle?

21 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, as we go along if you
22 recognise that some of these spellings are not properly spelt on
23 the transcript it is incumbent upon you to correct that, please.

24 MR BANGURA: I take the point, your Honour:

12:32:14 25 Q. Where else do you recognise?

26 A. I recognise Danane.

27 Q. Please do the same for Danane. Anywhere else?

28 A. I recognise Bi ankouma.

29 Q. Can you do the same thing. Your Honours, just to clarify

1 the question of spellings, I had been providing spellings during
2 the witness's earlier testimony and they were spellings from the
3 map. If they have come up differently now what we have on the
4 record earlier should prevail, your Honour.

12:33:23 5 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Did you spell Bi ankouma before?

6 MR BANGURA: Not Bi ankouma. I will spell that. It is
7 B-I-A-N-K-O-U-M-A:

8 Q. Mr Witness, you said you left Danane and crossed into
9 Liberia through the border at Loguato. Are you able to locate

12:33:51 10 that area on the map, the area where you exited Ivory Coast into
11 Liberia?

12 A. Yes, sir, I can locate it by arrow here, sir.

13 Q. Please go ahead and do so. Thank you, Mr Witness. Your
14 Honours, may I respectfully move that this document be marked for
12:34:46 15 identification?

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, before we do that, there is
17 two places without names on the map and the procedure as I recall
18 adopted by the Prosecution before was to give them some sort of a
19 number to indicate what they were. We have got a point of entry
12:35:01 20 and a point of exit that are unnamed. I just want to properly
21 put it on the --

22 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour. The witness has indicated a
23 position north of Ivory Coast on the border point with Burkina
24 Faso to be the point at which he entered or they entered Ivory
12:35:37 25 Coast from Burkina Faso.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, very well. And there is an exit
27 point.

28 MR BANGURA: And the witness has also indicated with two
29 arrows a point on the border between Ivory Coast and Liberia just

1 close to Danane as the area where they exited from Ivory Coast
2 into Liberia.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Very well. Then that is a map on which
4 the witness has marked several towns - identified several towns
12:36:19 5 and an entry and an exit point and it becomes MFI-8.

6 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, can we have the witness mark
7 those points by just putting a number, perhaps number 1 and
8 number 2.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: The point of entry is number 1 and the
12:36:41 10 point of exit is number 2. Is that what you [microphone not
11 activated]

12 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please ask the witness to mark that. I
14 note my microphone was off. I asked the witness mark the map as
12:37:04 15 he has already himself indicated.

16 Mr Witness, what we would like you to do is to put a number
17 1 at the place you came into Ivory Coast and a number 2 at the
18 point you say you left Ivory Coast.

19 MR BANGURA: Thank you, Mr Witness.

12:37:51 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: For purposes of record we will note that
21 MFI-8 is a map of the Ivory Coast. The unmarked version is a
22 Prosecution exhibit P-6 and as marked by this witness it will
23 become MFI-8.

24 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour:

12:38:18 25 Q. Mr Witness, you were describing events at Loguato, that is
26 the border crossing point into Liberia, do you recall?

27 A. Yes, sir.

28 Q. What happened when you arrived there?

29 A. When we arrived at the Loguato crossing point, we met an

1 increasing number of the Liberian security forces, mostly the
2 ATU, and there was an order that they said Benjamin Yeaten gave
3 instruction that all of us who were coming from the Ivory Coast
4 at that time should be disarmed and made to wait at the border
12:39:25 5 until he comes to meet Sam Bockarie for his reassignment - for
6 his new assignment, sir.

7 Q. Mr Witness, you said that there was an order and you go on
8 to say that - I believe you said you were told. How did you
9 learn of this order from Benjamin Yeaten?

12:39:54 10 A. Upon our arrival at the border, before we crossed into
11 Loguato on the side of the Ivorian side, they call the village
12 Gbinta which is the custom post of the Ivorians, it was there
13 that Sam Bockarie spoke to some of us who he felt were officers.
14 He said now that we were there we should not resist the order
12:40:27 15 that we met, that is a disarmament, because we suggested to him
16 that since they had said that he was going for a new assignment
17 for us to fight, why have we been asked to disarm here now. He
18 said that instruction came through Benjamin Yeaten. He said he
19 himself is expected to come and meet him. He advised that he,
12:40:54 20 Sam Bockarie, should stay at Gbinta so that the other people, the
21 civilians around that area, wouldn't notice that he had returned
22 to Liberia, and that we should obey all orders that we met on the
23 border, sir.

24 Q. You just mentioned twice the name of the place where
12:41:16 25 Sam Bockarie discussed with you the order that came from Benjamin
26 Yeaten. What is the name of that place again?

27 A. The area Sam Bockarie spoke to us at the border was inside
28 the Ivory Coast. They called the place Gbinta. Gbinta,
29 G-B-I-N-T-A. Gbinta.

1 Q. Did you comply with the order to disarm at the border?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. Were you met at the border by anybody at this time?

4 A. Yes, sir.

12:42:08 5 Q. Who met you there?

6 A. I can remember after we had disarmed in Loguato we left all
7 our belongings across the border. Some of us returned to
8 Sam Bockarie at Gbinta. Gbinta was like - it was like a river
9 dividing Loguato and Gbinta, so we were with him when Dopoe

12:42:44 10 Menkarzon came. Dopoe Menkarzon, at that time I had known him.
11 He said he had been sent to know exactly what had happened to
12 Sam Bockarie when he was in Burkina Faso. Then he started
13 explaining some stories, sir.

14 Q. Just before we go on, you said you had known Dopoe

12:43:12 15 Menkarzon. Where did you know him before?

16 A. I knew this Dopoe Menkarzon during the early stages in the
17 rebellion in Sierra Leone when he served as one of the battle
18 group commanders for the NPFL fighters who conducted the Top 20
19 in Sierra Leone.

12:43:46 20 Q. Now, after this meeting with Dopoe Menkarzon, did anything
21 happen after Bockarie's meeting with Dopoe Menkarzon?

22 A. Later on, I think about two days later, whilst Sam Bockarie
23 was still in Gbinta he was taken to Cocopa, a rubber plantation
24 company in Nimba County.

12:44:25 25 Q. Now, you said just a short while ago that during the
26 meeting with Dopoe Menkarzon Sam Bockarie started explaining
27 stories. You said, "He started explaining stories." Who was
28 explaining stories?

29 A. Sam Bockarie was explaining some incidents that occurred

1 when he returned to Burkina Faso while we were in Ivory Coast.

2 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, Cocopa is spelt one word. I

3 just need to confirm the spelling. It is C-O-C-O-P-A:

4 Q. You said that Bockarie was moved to Cocopa by whom?

12:45:38 5 A. At the time that they came to receive him to go to Cocopa I
6 was not around him and I never knew who really took him to Cocopa
7 at that time.

8 Q. And where was Cocopa?

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: He said Nimba County.

12:46:13 10 MR BANGURA: Yes, your Honour, but I want to be more
11 specific:

12 Q. You said in Nimba County. Whereabouts in Nimba County was
13 Cocopa?

14 A. I came to know this Cocopa area when we entered Saclepea
12:46:32 15 and I was trying to go to Ganta and the area is between Saclepea
16 when going to Ganta.

17 Q. You said you went there when Sam Bockarie was taken to
18 Cocopa. Did you learn who took him to Cocopa?

19 A. No, sir.

12:46:57 20 Q. Yourself did you leave this Loguato where you had disarmed
21 at the border?

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. Where did you go to?

24 A. After we had learnt that they had taken Sam Bockarie to
12:47:22 25 Cocopa, an order came from the ATU commander at that time, who
26 was at Loguato, that they have ordered - because the order was
27 passing through Benjamin Yeaten always. They said it was from
28 Benjamin Yeaten that we have been ordered to move to Saclepea.
29 All of us who had come to Liberia along with Sam Bockarie were to

1 move to Saclepea.

2 Q. Did you comply with this order?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. What happened at Saclepea?

12:48:09 5 A. We travelled in a long convoy and when we arrived there we
6 met Benjamin Yeaten at Saclepea that morning, that morning of the
7 9th. Benjamin Yeaten further instructed us to go to one of the
8 villages from Saclepea going towards Tapita. They called the
9 village Gbankoi. It was there that we went and were camped in a
12:48:45 10 very big school compound that morning.

11 Q. Mr Witness, are you able to provide the Court with the
12 spelling for this village where you went to?

13 A. The way the village was pronounced I can rightly spell it
14 as G-B-A-N-K-O-I, something like Gbankoi.

12:49:16 15 Q. Did anything happen at Gbankoi?

16 A. Yes, sir. When we arrived there that morning Benjamin
17 Yeaten came the next day and called for a formation, that is we
18 the soldiers were to gather together, and he asked for all the
19 officers - I mean the senior commanders, those of us who
12:49:51 20 recognised ourselves, to get to one of the classrooms and that he
21 wanted to have a meeting with us. When we got there he asked if
22 everybody had come from the border and we said, no, some people
23 have had their cars broken down on the way and so we were
24 expecting them to come. He only said that whilst we were there
12:50:22 25 he wanted nobody to go anywhere, he will be coming the next day
26 and he will take Sam Bockarie and all of us who were there to a
27 new assignment and on that assignment those who had families with
28 them, or properties, would be asked to go to Monrovia, but for
29 now we have to wait for that assignment. Then he left that

1 afternoon, sir.

12:51:05 2 Q. Now, can you tell the Court who were in this group that you
3 were with at Gbankoi? Which forces were in this group? You have
4 been talking about the Sierra Leonean RUF as well as Liberians,
5 which ones were in the group?

6 A. Well, at Gbankoi at this moment the group comprised
7 different people, but we were largely the Sierra Leoneans who
8 came who had crossed with Sam Bockarie into Liberia. Then among
9 those of the ATUs we had another group who also followed us to
12:51:40 10 Ivory Coast that were just fighting - I mean fighting RUF, some
11 RUF fighters who when they later heard of Sam Bockarie later
12 followed us to Ivory Coast. We also had some other people who
13 were not fighters, but because of maybe their closeness - close
14 relation with some other people behind Sam Bockarie at that time
12:52:11 15 were with us. We also had among these civilian groups some who
16 were professional engineers, technicians and some of us were also
17 having our wives and children among this group. Even the
18 Ivorians, the Ivory Coast that we were coming from, some fighters
19 came with some Ivorian wives, some of them came with some Ivorian
12:52:43 20 brothers as bodyguards, or just friends, or drivers. So it was a
21 very large group, mixed.

22 Q. Mr Witness, how long did you stay at Gbankoi?

23 A. I spent just two days at Gbankoi.

24 Q. After two days in Gbankoi, did you go anywhere?

12:53:12 25 A. Yes, sir.

26 Q. Where did you go?

27 A. After Benjamin Yeaten had come the next day and spoken to
28 us, I learnt from some of his bodyguards that came along with
29 him, like Colonel Jungle whom I had met before, he said he was in

1 charge of the defensive position at Ganta and that there was
2 going to be a general attack the next day on Ganta. He called
3 some of my friends in the ATU who had come to also contribute, so
4 I decided to be part of that operation. That was where I went in

12:54:00

5 Ganta.

6 Q. You said, Mr Witness, that you learnt from some of the
7 bodyguards of Benjamin Yeaten that there was going to be this
8 attack, or there was going to be some activity in Ganta,
9 fighting. How did you learn this? How did you get in touch with
10 these bodyguards?

12:54:43

11 A. As I told you, sir, when Benjamin Yeaten came to see us at
12 Gbankoi these bodyguards came along with him and I had the
13 opportunity to speak with some of them as my old friends.

14 Q. Now, how far away was Ganta from this Gbankoi where you
15 were?

12:55:12

16 A. Approximately it was about two miles, or one and a half
17 miles, something like that.

18 Q. Did you go to Ganta?

19 A. Yes, sir.

12:55:38

20 Q. And how long were you at Ganta?

21 A. For the first time that I went that evening, we had an
22 attack the next day. Then late in the evening most of these
23 commanders had withdrawn to those villages like Saclepea and Bahn
24 ^ around the area. That evening I was called by High Command
25 whom I had recognised before in Monrovia as a friend to my
26 younger brother. He said, "Jabaty, you know, your effort was
27 really appreciated and the people spoke of your efforts even when
28 you were in Ivory Coast concerning certain operation in Tolopea
29 to resist the entrance of MODEL to Liberia". So he suggested

12:56:18

1 that I should go and move my relatives and friends from Gbankoi
2 to come and stay with them for good recommendation tomorrow.

3 That notwithstanding, on that particular day I did not
4 resist what he said, so he and I drove in my car and we went. We
12:57:16 5 picked up my friends and relatives to come back and we based at
6 Ganta until our reassignment that they were talking about takes
7 place.

8 Q. So when you got back to Gbankoi, did anything happen?

9 A. Yes, sir, when we arrived at Gbankoi that night we - the
12:57:44 10 whole area was quiet when we got there. Only a few soldiers like
11 those who were wounded or sick and some nursing mothers, they
12 were all sitting down in that sad mood. When I asked them about
13 the whereabouts of everybody they said they were there that
14 afternoon when a long convoy came and Master was among that

12:58:14 15 convoy. That was Mosquito and his wife. They said they were
16 going to show the new assignment to Mosquito towards Tapita and
17 they asked for more men and at the end of the day they said they
18 would deploy them to start the assignment straightaway. So --

19 Q. Mr Witness, can I pause you. You said that you were told
12:58:39 20 that a convoy had come to Gbankoi that afternoon and you said
21 that they told the - whoever was giving you this information said
22 that they - who were they that said to them that they were going
23 to show the fighters their new assignment? You have said they,
24 they, they. Who spoke to these people at Gbankoi from the convoy
12:59:09 25 that came?

26 A. They said Benjamin Yeaten spoke to them and also they said
27 that Mosquito - I mean Sam Bockarie himself spoke to them on the
28 same issue. So that evening I left and went back to Ganta
29 together with High Command who was with me.

1 Q. So based on the information which you gathered at Gbankoi,
2 were you told where exactly these people had gone to, your
3 colleagues who you left behind before?

4 A. No, sir. They only showed me the direction that they took
13:00:00 5 towards Tapita.

6 Q. And yourself, after you learnt about this, what did you do?

7 A. Well, that night my mission was to go and join the other
8 colleagues in Ganta for the operation, because I had some friends
9 in the ATU and even amongst most of the boys around Sam Bockarie
13:00:37 10 at that particular time, they were all in different companies.

11 So most of the people that came to fight in Ganta at that time
12 were like colleagues of mine with whom I was in the same company
13 within the ATU. So later when I went I made a follow up later
14 about where those people went and where Sam Bockarie and others
13:01:05 15 went.

16 Q. What did you learn in the follow up that you made?

17 A. When we returned to Ganta that night very early in the
18 morning there was a village almost at the outskirts of Ganta
19 Town. The village was called Togleawen where Dr Magona who was
13:01:27 20 at one time the chief medic for Sam Bockarie at that time, he was
21 working with Benjamin Yeaten on the front line and he was based
22 there.

23 So that morning a group of fighters assigned on the ground
24 there on Benjamin Yeaten's base came and picked up the jeep that
13:01:54 25 I was using and they forcibly drove it to go to where Benjamin
26 Yeaten used to base in Ganta and when I woke up I was annoyed and
27 I wanted to resist, but High Command said, "Look, don't worry.
28 Let's follow them to the base and see why they have done that".
29 Then he said, "Do not just take any action like that", because

1 something was going on. So High Command and I, we road his
2 motorbike and went there. So when we got to the base we met a
3 man that I recognised and they introduced as a former Liberian
4 ambassador at one time in Guinea by the name of Tiagen Wantee.

13:02:56 5 He was on the ground as a representative for Benjamin Yeaten in
6 his absence.

7 Q. Mr Witness, can I pause you at this point. You mentioned a
8 name earlier of a place?

9 A. Togleawen.

13:03:13 10 Q. Are you able to spell that for the Court?

11 A. Those were all - that was actually a strange town in terms
12 of pronunciation for me, but should I try it is
13 T-O-G-L-E-A-W-E-N. Something like that. Togleawen.

14 MR MUNYARD: Madam President, while we are on spellings
13:03:40 15 could we have the spelling of the name of the former Liberian
16 ambassador to Guinea, please.

17 MR BANGURA:

18 Q. Mr Witness, you called the name of a former ambassador of
19 Liberia to Guinea who you said was on the ground where you went
13:03:56 20 and was representing Yeaten. What's the name of this person
21 again?

22 A. They called him Tiagen One, something like that. I didn't
23 know whether it was a nickname or a Gio name, but they used to
24 call him Tiagen One.

13:04:18 25 Q. Are you able to provide the Court with a spelling?

26 A. I don't know the actual spelling for that name, sir, but it
27 was pronounced Tiagen One.

28 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, we would accept the spelling that
29 has come up. I have T-I-A-G-E-N and One as in the number. That

1 is on page 79, line 2, on my screen. I can't see exactly what
2 font this is.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Proceed, Mr Bangura, please.

4 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour:

13:05:34 5 Q. Mr Witness, you were describing the situation as you found
6 it when you arrived at this point where your jeep had been taken
7 to. What happened when you arrived there?

8 A. When I reported the matter to Tiagen One who was introduced
9 to me as Benjamin Yeaten's representative, he said that they were
10 looking for me that evening to send me to somewhere, but he never
11 knew where I went to. So he said I will take my jeep, but that
12 he said he had an assignment for me. He said I should go to the
13 S4 at that time based on the ground to give me rice, a bag of
14 rice, and a bag of salt to take it to the other target on the
13:06:44 15 Gbarnga Highway which was one of the defensives for Ganta to the
16 commander at that time called Christopher Varmoh who was also
17 known as Mosquito.

18 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. You mentioned the name S4. You
19 said Tiagen One said he had an assignment for you and he sent you
13:07:08 20 to go to the S4. Who was the S4, or what does S4 mean?

21 A. That was the person responsible for the food supplies to
22 the front line at that time.

23 Q. Was this a title?

24 A. Yes, sir. That was the title, sir.

13:07:31 25 Q. Did you get on to this mission that you were assigned to?

26 A. Yes, sir, I received this supply and I was assigned with
27 another armed men who were to go with me, but the four of us whom
28 I went with from to Togleawen, we drove my own jeep and we
29 arrived at a junction at a road leading from Saclepea going to

1 Palala and the other road coming from Ganta. That was an
2 intersection where they had a very dangerous checkpoint at that
3 time known as Make It Red. So we arrived there that morning and
4 we met a heavy convoy coming from the Saclepea direction and
13:08:35 5 going towards --

6 Q. Mr Witness, just finish where they were going towards and I
7 will just pause you after that.

8 A. And as I told you when we were going and we arrived at that
9 checkpoint that I described we met a long convoy coming from
13:09:00 10 Saclepea - from the Saclepea direction and going towards
11 Monrovia.

12 Q. You mentioned a name. You said at that intersection - you
13 said the area there was commonly called and you mentioned a name.
14 Can you repeat that name?

13:09:25 15 A. We used to call the place Make It Red. It was a rail track
16 - a railway track that crossed over the road, but they used to
17 call the place in Liberian English Make It Red.

18 Q. Are you able to spell that, please?

19 A. The understanding that I got from that pronunciation in
13:09:52 20 Liberian English was that "make it red". That is M-A-K-E, make,
21 it, I-T, and R-E-D, red. But they said "mek it rey" [phon], it
22 was like make it red. So that is what I understood from that
23 pronunciation.

24 Q. Thank you. Did anything happen when you came across this
13:10:15 25 convoy?

26 A. I stopped my vehicle and I asked everybody in the vehicle
27 to get down and salute the convoy, as I recognised that Benjamin
28 Yeaten's pick-up was amongst the convoy, some SS jeep were
29 amongst the convoy, I mean the Special Security Unit that were

1 under Charles Taylor, and the jeep was in the convoy and I knew
2 that the convoy that they were talking about that took
3 Sam Bockarie along, that might have been the convoy. So we
4 saluted them and Benjamin Yeaten, who knew me before, stopped and
13:11:05 5 I saluted him especially and he signaled to me to approach him.
6 When I walked closer to him he asked me where I was coming from
7 and I said I was coming from the combat camp, and he asked where
8 I was going to and I explained to him that I was sent by Tiagen
9 One and he just waved to me, something like asking me to go back.
13:11:32 10 When I turned round to go to my jeep one of his close allies at
11 that time, who was also a Sierra Leonean that crossed with us at
12 that time with Sam Bockarie, by the name of Salami, drove closer
13 to my vehicle and he ordered all the men in my vehicle with the
14 exception of the one armed man assigned to me by Tiagen One to be
13:12:05 15 disarmed and without resisting any orders we gave all our weapons
16 that we had on us from the combat camp to him. From that point
17 he too assigned some other armed men into my vehicle and they
18 were threatening that the orders that had been given to them
19 should not be taken lightly and they asked me to drive and join
13:12:34 20 the convoy as they were moving ahead towards Monrovia Highway.

21 Q. Where did this convoy lead to?

22 A. When we left that point at the Make It Red, for about two
23 miles ahead there was a logging company which was called CNC and
24 there the convoy that had passed before I met them all parked in
13:13:07 25 a big fence and so I also went and parked my own vehicle, but I
26 was still in the vehicle, but the area was somehow quiet and
27 everybody looked serious and not too long --

28 Q. Mr Witness, before you continue can I just pause you. Just
29 to be clear, you said you moved to a place where there was a

1 Logging company. What is the name of that company?

2 A. I used to hear the pronunciation, they said CNC. I think
3 it was something like an acronym for that company. They said
4 CNC, but it was a logging company area.

13:13:56 5 Q. Thank you. Now, when you came across this convoy where
6 Benjamin Yeaten was, did you notice anything within the convoy
7 that caught your attention?

8 A. I noticed two things that were actually of concern to me
9 and minus the changes I saw in the vehicles, like some vehicles
13:14:28 10 we brought from Ivory Coast were controlled by some of our men
11 that came from Ivory Coast, but I saw different drivers in the
12 vehicles and I didn't see any of the former men in the vehicle,
13 and in one of the pick-ups that we brought one of my Sierra
14 Leonean brothers was tied up, naked and tied up, and he was
13:15:01 15 crying and he said they were going to kill him too. So at that
16 particular point I saw that the pick-up went somewhere towards
17 the Monrovia Highway, towards Palala Highway and I heard some
18 gunshots later.

19 Q. Mr Witness, my question was whether you noticed anything
13:15:27 20 that caught your attention and you explained that there were two
21 things. One of them you talked about vehicles and that is not
22 very clear.

23 A. What I was trying to say is that I saw some of the vehicles
24 like the one Sam Bockarie himself was driving from Ivory Coast
13:15:55 25 into Liberia. I saw that different people were in the vehicles,
26 so that was one of the changes I saw. It was as though I thought
27 that they had maybe seized those vehicles from them and also the
28 brother I had spoken about, we used to call him Van Damme, and he
29 was tied up in one of the pick-ups and he was crying. So those

1 were two indications that proved to me that something different
2 was going on.

3 Q. And you went on to say that you saw - can you help the
4 Court with the spelling of Van Damme, please?

13:16:48 5 A. Van Damme was a nickname, a name from one of the movie
6 makers really. We used to refer to him in that way.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Do you know how to spell it? That is the
8 question. If you do not know how to spell it, say so.

9 THE WITNESS: No, I don't know. That is why I am giving
13:17:12 10 that description.

11 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, the spelling came up. We will
12 live with that:

13 Q. You have also said - this was explaining from the convoy
14 that you met and where you saw this brother, Van Damme, tied.

13:17:44 15 You said that then the convoy moved to along the Monrovia Highway
16 and they got into an area where you heard gunshots. Was it
17 immediately after you had seen this convoy that this incident
18 occurred?

19 MR MUNYARD: He has already given evidence that he heard
13:18:07 20 gunshots later.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes.

22 MR MUNYARD: So I don't think that he should be - I don't
23 think this should be gone over again. My learned friend ought to
24 rest with the answer that he got in evidence-in-chief, rather
13:18:19 25 than effectively try to cross-examine him on this point.

26 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, the clarification I am seeking
27 is definitely not an effort in cross-examining, as my learned
28 friend puts it. I will get the witness to clarify in some other
29 way if that amounts to cross-examining the witness.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: The witness has mentioned a place already
2 on the Monrovia Highway where he heard gunshots.

3 MR BANGURA:

4 Q. At what point did you hear the gunshots, Mr Witness?

13:19:02 5 A. That was at the point I arrived at the CNC and I was parked
6 there waiting for further instruction when I saw the vehicle move
7 from amongst the other vehicles and it moved towards that highway
8 and when I later heard the gunshots.

9 Q. Thank you. You yourself, did anything happen to you while
13:19:27 10 you were at the CNC?

11 A. Yes, sir, a few minutes later Salami came back to me and
12 asked me to leave my vehicle to join his own vehicle, you know?
13 Then I started asking him some questions about what was actually
14 going on. I said because I had been sent by the representative
13:19:58 15 of - I mean Benjamin Yeaten from the ground and now they have
16 disarmed me and stopped me and he is asking me again to get into
17 his own vehicle. So I did not know what was going on, but he was
18 still trying to even stop or - I mean cut short what I was trying
19 to say and to cut matters short, within the next moment of
13:20:29 20 argument he tried to resist what - I tried to resist what he was
21 telling me, so he asked his bodyguards that were around him to
22 force me into his pick-up at the back of his pick-up.

23 Q. And did you go anywhere once you got into the back of his
24 pick-up? Did he take you anywhere?

13:20:51 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: He said they tried to force him. Has he
26 actually got into the back of the pick-up?

27 MR BANGURA:

28 Q. Did you get into the back of the pick-up, Mr Witness?

29 A. Yes, sir, I got into the back of his pick-up and I was

1 asked whether I had any other weapon on me, but I told them that
2 I only had a pistol which was in my trousers. I took it out and
3 gave it to them and we drove from the CNC, about a few yards of
4 the CNC, towards the route leading to Palala, and towards the
13:21:31 5 left-hand side the pick-up bent in and there was another convoy
6 of men behind us led by one Nyaday who was also a Sierra Leonean
7 assigned with Benjamin Yeaten at that time. So when we moved off
8 the road for some distance, in a small open field I was asked
9 there to get down from the pick up and I was ordered to be
13:21:59 10 undressed and tied.

11 At that moment, the moment they were stripping me naked, I
12 saw - I recognised some corpses lying on the ground and I
13 recognised someone like Van Damme who was just at that time
14 crying, lying on the ground. So I was tied up and my face was
13:22:27 15 tied as well, so at that moment I was crying for help, but at the
16 time they were tying the other boy, who was also a Sierra Leonean
17 and was with me in the car, and another car came from the back,
18 somebody was calling. He said they should stop, they shouldn't
19 kill him - kill me at that time.

13:22:50 20 Q. Now, Mr Witness, just before we move on to events that
21 occurred after that, you mentioned first of all the name of a
22 Sierra Leonean who you said was among those who took you to this
23 point. Nyaday is the name that I heard. Are you able to give us
24 a spelling for that name?

13:23:22 25 A. From my way of pronunciation Nyaday is N-Y-A-D-A-Y,
26 something like that. Nyaday.

27 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Bangura, what does the witness mean
28 when he said "my face was tied as well"?

29 MR BANGURA:

1 Q. Mr Witness, what did you mean when you said your face was
2 tied as well?

3 A. That was the time they moved me from the pick-up, they
4 stripped me naked and they tied me, they put my hands on my back
13:24:04 5 and tied me up and they blindfolded me with a piece of cloth.
6 That is what I mean and that was what happened at the time.

7 Q. Mr Witness, you said that at the time that this was
8 happening you saw corpses lying and you said you recognised Van
9 Damme, but it is not clear whether at that time Van Damme was
13:24:29 10 crying, or lying down. Can you say exactly what you recognised
11 at that time?

12 A. To be clear enough, at that time, you know, he was killed
13 really.

14 Q. Thank you. You said as you were being tied and blindfolded
13:25:00 15 --

16 MR MUNYARD: I am sorry, before we move off Van Damme,
17 unless the transcription is wrong, on my LiveNote page 86, line
18 22 it says that, "Van Damme was crying, lying on the ground" and
19 that made perfect sense. There is nothing illogical in that and
13:25:25 20 that's what I believe I heard this witness say.

21 I have to say I have been listening to this witness without
22 headphones because he is answering everything in perfect English
23 and that was the English that I understood him to use on that
24 occasion. We are now going over again, as it were correcting the
13:25:46 25 witness's account.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is true, Mr Bangura. The answer was
27 given by the witness. You are verging continuously on
28 cross-examining your own witness.

29 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, the witness has a tendency of

1 speaking pretty fast and the Prosecution has to lead the witness
2 through the evidence which it intends to adduce in court.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am aware of that, Mr Bangura, but if he
4 is speaking too fast for your records he is your witness and you
13:26:22 5 must control him.

6 MR BANGURA: I am making an effort to do so, your Honour,
7 but where the evidence does not come out quite clearly the
8 Prosecution has the responsibility to ensure that it is very
9 clear.

13:26:34 10 JUDGE LUSSICK: Mr Bangura, I think Mr Munyard's point,
11 with which I agree, was that the original evidence was very clear
12 that this Van Damme was crying, lying on the ground. Now you
13 have virtually cross-examined him into saying that that's not
14 correct, he was dead, he was killed. Mr Munyard was saying that
13:27:03 15 once the witness gives a clear answer surely the Prosecution
16 should be content with that, rather than get him to change his
17 evidence.

18 MR BANGURA: I take the point, your Honour:

19 Q. Mr Witness, you said that you saw corpses on the ground.

13:27:32 20 Do you recall that?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. Did you recognise these corpses?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. Who did you recognise amongst these corpses?

13:27:49 25 A. I recognised the body of Van Damme.

26 Q. So when you say that Van Damme was lying down crying and
27 now you said you recognised one of the corpses as that of Van
28 Damme, which is the correct version of your evidence?

29 A. I don't remember saying that at the time he was lying on

1 the ground he was crying, but what I did say was that the first
2 time I saw him in the pick-up in the convoy he was crying, but
3 here when I am speaking about his lying down on the ground he was
4 now a dead body.

13:28:44 5 MR BANGURA: Thank you. Your Honours, I look at the time,
6 I am not sure whether we are that close --

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: If this is a convenient point to adjourn,
8 Mr Bangura, we should do so as it is 1.30. Mr Witness, as today
9 is Friday the Court adjourns at 1.30 as we have other work to do
10 on Friday afternoons. We will be resuming again on Monday
11 morning. I again remind you as I have done before that you are
12 under oath and you should not discuss your evidence and testimony
13 with any other person. Do you understand?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

13:29:20 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Please adjourn court until
16 9.30 on Monday morning.

17 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 1.30 p.m.
18 to be reconvened on Monday, 14 July 2008 at
19 9.30 a.m.]

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WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:

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