



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2009
9.30 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Ms Erica Bussey
Ms Sidney Thompson

For the Registry:

Ms Advera Nsiima Kamuzora
Ms Rachel Irura
Mr Benedict Williams

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis
Mr Mohamed A Bangura
Mr Christopher Santora
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:

Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC
Mr Morris Anyah

1 Wednesday, 30 September 2009

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:30:35 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. We'll take appearances,
6 please.

7 MS HOLLIS: Good morning, Mr President, your Honours,
8 opposing counsel. This morning for the Prosecution, Brenda J
9 Hollis, Mohamed A Bangura, Christopher Santora and our case
09:30:50 10 manager, Maja Dimitrova.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Ms Hollis. Yes, Mr Griffiths.

12 MR GRIFFITHS: Good morning, Mr President, your Honours,
13 counsel opposite. For the Defence today myself Courtenay
14 Griffiths, with me Mr Morris Anyah of counsel.

09:31:02 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Griffiths. Mr Taylor, it's
16 probably not necessary to remind you but you're still bound by
17 your oath.

18 DANKPANNAH DR CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR:

19 [On former affirmation]

09:31:19 20 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR GRIFFITHS: [Continued]

21 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, do you recall that yesterday when we had
22 concluded for the day we had looked at some of the evidence of
23 Zigzag Marzah, yes?

24 A. Yes.

09:31:30 25 Q. In particular, evidence he gave regarding meeting a Russian
26 cargo plane at Roberts International Airport, unloading it, and
27 taking the contents via White Flower to Sierra Leone, yes?

28 A. Yes, that is correct.

29 Q. And then later we looked at testimony he gave regarding

1 executions carried out by him on your instructions, yes?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. He also told the Court this, Mr Taylor, in relation to the
4 transport of arms to Sierra Leone. Page 5911 of the transcript
09:32:11 5 of 12 March 2008:

6 "Q. That shipment at the Roberts International Airport,
7 you said, 'It was the following night that we took off,
8 because we couldn't have left during the day.' Can you
9 explain to the judges why you couldn't have travelled
09:32:29 10 during the day?

11 A. Thank you. My chief, Charles Taylor, told me that
12 operations done in the day will be monitored through
13 satellite, so for that reason we couldn't move during the
14 day."

09:32:47 15 What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

16 A. I never told this man - never talked to Marzah. That's a
17 lie. As if satellites do not take photos at night. As though
18 you don't have photo imagery at night. This shows who this man
19 is. I never talked to this man. It's a lie.

09:33:11 20 Q. And he also went on in this vein on the same topic. Page
21 5912, line 11:

22 "Q. Can you explain what you mean when you say there would
23 be no embarrassment through Charles Taylor's directive?

24 A. Thank you. I will say the truth and nothing but the
09:33:37 25 truth. When I was moving with those trucks, there will be
26 ammos in the trucks and any time they saw me" - this is at
27 checkpoints - "and if they were ordinary officers, they
28 still stop the vehicle to check what was in the vehicle.
29 But any time they saw me they would know that I am the

1 chief of operations and they knew that I was moving
2 directly by Charles Taylor's orders. So nobody would stop
3 me to check my convoy. Have you got me?

09:34:16

4 Q. Yes, I believe - I thought I heard you, Mr Witness, use
5 the word 'checkpoints'. Were you referring to checkpoints
6 on the road?

09:34:32

7 A. On the various roads to move from Monrovia as far as
8 Foya, the checkpoint that were there. At any time they saw
9 me in the vehicle with those cars behind me no officer will
10 check inside my car because they knew that I was moving on
11 our President's, Charles Taylor's, orders."

12 What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

13 A. Total nonsense. Total nonsense. That's not true. Totally
14 untrue.

09:34:51

15 Q. Now, I'm moving to another topic now raised by this
16 witness. The witness was asked about ULIMO-J and in that context
17 he was asked this, page 5913:

09:35:26

18 "Q. I am asking you if you have heard that name before,
19 the word - the faction name ULIMO-J. Have you heard that
20 term?

21 A. Yes, when we were fighting against ULIMO in Gbarnga."

22 Note: "When we were fighting against ULIMO in Gbarnga".

23 Then this:

09:35:52

24 "Q. Thank you. I want to go and ask you whether you
25 recall a woman from ULIMO J, if anything happened to her?

26 A. It was not from ULIMO-J per se. I'll repeat my
27 statement. I told you in '85 that there was a ceremony at
28 the time they had the interim government at the Executive
29 Mansion. A lady was arrested as a ceremony for

1 Charles Taylor right behind his house. That is the old
2 White Flower which was close to the Nigerian house.

3 Q. Do you recall what year it was that you were talking
4 about?

09:36:33 5 A. It was '95 upon our arrival in Monrovia with
6 Charles Taylor, during the period of the interim
7 government. That was the time our President was serving at
8 the mansion. At that time he sent us to get a pregnant
9 woman for a ceremony.

09:36:54 10 Q. Did you say the President was serving at the mansion,
11 or who did you say was serving at the mansion?

12 A. When Charles Taylor was serving at the mansion during
13 the period of the interim government. It was the - there
14 were six Presidents in the Executive Mansion serving as
15 one. At that time we entered in Monrovia.

09:37:14 16 Q. What happened to the pregnant woman? Tell us slowly
17 and clearly.

18 A. It happened one time when George Boley and so many
19 other people, Kennedy, was at the mansion serving the
09:37:38 20 interim government. That was the time he ordered us to go
21 and hunt out for a pregnant woman from central Monrovia.

22 At that time he was living at the old White Flower, close
23 to the Nigerian house in '95. The woman - the lady was
24 used as a ceremony in this way. After the pregnant woman -
09:38:03 25 I think the pregnancy was about six to seven months when we
26 took her. About six or seven months' pregnancy. By
27 Charles Taylor's orders I went along with Benjamin Yeaten,
28 including some bodyguards. We arrested this woman and we
29 put her in a car with tinted glasses. Nobody could see

1 through. Ben took the woman to Charles Taylor's farm,
2 Charles Taylor's fence by the White Flower. That is the
3 old White Flower that was by the Nigerian house. We took
4 her there. After two days, the third day for the woman, I
09:38:43 5 saw Ben with a white sheep and he brought it into the
6 fence. At that time there was a six-man council at the
7 Executive Mansion. When we took the woman, the third day
8 we went to the beach. At that time some of the bodyguards
9 had already dug a pit and we placed two empty drums into
09:39:04 10 the pit. Are you getting me clear? Two empty drums were
11 placed in the pit and we stripped the woman naked and put -
12 and we put the woman from the fence - she had clothes on -
13 but when we reached where the pit was we placed her in the
14 pit. He was standing, Ben was there, Peter Saikpedeh, Joe
09:39:27 15 Tuah, they were all Special Forces, they were all there,
16 including some bodyguards. I cannot recall all of them.
17 They were standing by. Then we placed the woman in the
18 pit. We were all standing there and then the woman was
19 pleading with him, and from there he said, 'Forget it, they
09:39:43 20 are not going to do anything to you.' They left the woman
21 there standing. I'm talking about Charles Taylor. The
22 woman was directly pleading with Charles Taylor whilst she
23 was standing straight in the pit, showing up her hands and
24 then he told the woman, saying 'Put your hands together'
09:40:06 25 and then we will take her from there. After the woman
26 straightened her hands we put the sand over her and then
27 until the sand covered her up to this area, and at that
28 time the woman was crying. Myself, I was present there. I
29 am talking about '95. That was the time we entered

1 Monrovia. So when the woman was completely covered with
2 the dirt, they brought the white sheep from
3 Charles Taylor's fence and we took it to where this woman
4 was covered with the dirt and then he held the sheep, the
09:40:43 5 then we were all fighting over the sheep, and then we
6 divided the sheep amongst us and that was the ceremony for
7 his government. From there when we were ready to go to the
8 mansion, some of the council members would be afraid. They
9 will be afraid to go to the mansion. So that is the
09:41:00 10 ceremony that I'm talking about. Do you get me? We
11 covered her with the sand, with the same sand, the sand
12 that we dug up from the pit. That was the same place that
13 they took the white sheep to and that was where we were
14 fighting over the sheep. So even before you could get a
09:41:16 15 small piece of it, it was not something that we - it was a
16 ceremony. It was a sacrifice. Do you get me?
17 The sand stopped the woman and she was covered and it was
18 equal to the ground level as though you were burying
19 somebody. She was covered with the sand and it was equal
09:41:34 20 to the level of the ground and she remained under the sand
21 and they brought the sheep. We all fought over the sheep
22 and the whole place was covered. You get me clear? What
23 I'm saying - let me show you the example. There was a deep
24 hole and we placed empty drums inside the pit and the level
09:41:53 25 of the ground was equal to the level of the drum and it was
26 from inside the same pit that we placed the woman and the
27 woman was standing straight in the hole. Do you understand
28 me? She was standing in the hole and then his close
29 bodyguard, Momoh Jibba, Joe Tuah, Peter Saikpedeh, they

1 went. We were all standing and then they covered - the
2 sand that was dug from the hole, they put the sand over the
3 woman, it was equal to the level of the ground, the same
4 way. Do you understand me? And from there they brought
09:42:26 5 the woman - they brought a white sheep where the woman was
6 covered with the sand and he himself held the sheep by the
7 horn and then we all rushed to the sheep. We fought over
8 the sheep. Each and every one of us carried pieces of the
9 sheep and that was a ceremony for Charles Taylor's
09:42:45 10 government. That is what I'm saying. Do you understand
11 me?
12 It was under the ground and the hole was over her head and
13 her head was below the level of the hole, so that the pit
14 was as high as like that window.
09:43:01 15 Q. You are saying the woman was buried alive; is that
16 correct?
17 A. Yes.
18 Q. Where was Charles Taylor as the sand was being put in
19 the pit?
09:43:09 20 A. He was the first person to take the sand and put it
21 over inside the hole before the boys could send the sand
22 over the woman. He himself was the first person that took
23 some sand with his hand and put it in the hole before we
24 started sending the sand into the hole."
09:43:29 25 Mr Taylor, it is being suggested by this Prosecution that
26 you're nothing but a primitive, bloodthirsty, sadistic African,
27 do you get it?
28 A. Yes, I do.
29 Q. That is why evidence of this type has been put before the

1 Court.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis?

3 MS HOLLIS: I'm going to object to that characterisation.

09:43:54

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I think that could be one of the
5 obvious interpretations, but it's not part of the evidence,
6 Mr Griffiths.

7 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, it's part of the evidence called by
8 the Prosecution, Mr President.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, that's your interpretation.

09:44:04

10 MR GRIFFITHS:

11 Q. What do you say to that suggestion, Mr Taylor, that you
12 were involved in this barbaric act in order to secure and
13 maintain power and become President of Liberia, a witness was
14 called against you who said you behaved in this way? What do you
15 say about that?

09:44:24

16 A. To answer your question, it is not true. But, you know,
17 there is something deeper. As I listen to this witness's
18 testimony, there is something deeper to this whole thing that I
19 have been reflecting on. As the Prosecution starts off with this
20 particular series where he says, Nick Koumjian, "Take it easy.
21 Be slow," it's a set up. Look, this - I don't care what the
22 Prosecution says about the suggestion. This is racist. I can
23 say it. It is as racist as it ever gets.

09:44:48

24 David Crane goes before the US House of Representatives and
09:45:13 25 is saying, the best way to get to an African leader is through
26 his pocket. All the murderous regimes of Europe throughout World
27 War II coming on, nobody is eating human beings and burying
28 pregnant women and being as sadistic as this. It's an African -
29 this is as racist as it gets and that's how I feel about it.

1 This is more than just talking.

2 You go to Liberia and you bring four uneducated people that
3 never even went to the 9th grade. Moses Blah never went through
4 the 9th grade. Varmuyan Sherif hardly went to school. Abu Keita
09:45:52 5 hardly. And this other one that never entered a classroom.

6 Never. Cannot read. Cannot write. And you bring him here and
7 you have a leader eating people, burying pregnant women, and it's
8 not racist? It is. This is beyond racism. And I tell you - I
9 mean, it's beyond how - I don't think I can sufficiently, you
09:46:13 10 know, without being rude before this Court, which I would never
11 be, I cannot express myself. This is as racist as it gets. As
12 racist as it gets. And they bring people here with this thing
13 before this Court.

14 So why your characterisation may not be accepted? Well, I
09:46:34 15 am the man who is being tried. I say that the characterisation
16 is right. It is racist. It shows bigotry and that's what this
17 case is all about. That's what's it's all about and that's why
18 I'm sitting here with this man talking this - this sick, sick
19 puppy that is talking this nonsense that never happened. And
09:46:53 20 when it gets to this part, he's advised, "Well, go slowly, take
21 your time and explain it." A complete set-up. He was programmed
22 to this.

23 Q. Now, the witness went on, Mr Taylor, in the same breath,
24 same page, page 5919:

09:47:14 25 "Q. Do you know Camp Carter?

26 A. Carter Camp. Carter Camp in Harbel. Carter Camp in
27 Harbel. About '90 Carter Camp massacre was done by
28 Charles Taylor directly through the Special Forces chief
29 security commander, Benjamin Yeaten. Benjamin Yeaten went

1 to me behind - and he said that there were some civilians
2 in Carter Camp, they were in collaboration with the
3 soldiers who were in Camp Schefflein. He said they will
4 pass through the bushes to go and relay information to the
09:47:49 5 AFL at Camp Schefflein, so he gave instruction that none
6 of those people should leave there, all of them should be
7 executed. At the time Ben went to my residence at
8 Schefflein Highway I was sick and then I think he and his
9 driver, Peter Saikpedeh, and his Special Forces too, they
09:48:10 10 led some groups at that time and then people said at that
11 time that Mosquito, Christopher Varmoh, he was a small boy,
12 they were assigned at 15 Gate. At that time Mosquito was
13 not brave against human being, so they went there along
14 with Joe Tuah and they carried out the execution and when
09:48:29 15 he left there he came to my area where Paul Weah was my
16 former commander - he is not late. He came to talk to me.
17 He went there and said all the people who were there have
18 been executed and then Paul Weah said, 'Why didn't you
19 bring some of the children?' Then he said, 'You know what
09:48:49 20 Charles Taylor's orders are. If he tell you something, you
21 go and don't do that, it will not be nice for you.' The
22 people that we killed were more than 600 at Carter Camp."
23 Not only did you bury a pregnant woman alive, this man is
24 also telling this Court you were responsible for the Carter Camp
09:49:15 25 massacre, Mr Taylor. What do you say about that?

26 A. That's not true. As a matter of fact, the Carter Camp
27 massacre did occur in Liberia. It became a very serious issue.
28 At that particular time even it was strongly alleged that it been
29 done by the NPFL. The United Nations Security Council authorised

1 one of the most extensive investigations. Experts, pathologists,
2 you name them, went into Liberia. They did a thorough
3 investigation of the issue and it's under I think it's Beco -
4 Beco, I may be calling it right, B-E-C-O, Beco was former
09:50:10 5 Attorney General of Kenya - that headed the Security Council
6 investigation in Liberia. A report was published and the NPFL
7 and myself and all individuals were cleared. That report is a
8 part of the exhibits of this Defence, the Beco report, as
9 published by the Security Council of the United Nations. So this
09:50:29 10 man is lying. Who set him up to this? I don't think he knows
11 better. But that report is a public United Nations Security
12 Council report.

13 Q. In fact, we looked at it on 27 August of this year in this
14 very courtroom.

09:50:42 15 A. Exactly. The names of individuals that were responsible
16 from the Armed Forces of Liberia were all named in the report.
17 I, Charles Taylor, had nothing to do with it. Nothing.

18 Q. Mr Taylor, was there an incident - a notorious incident at
19 Dupo, D-U-P-O, Road?

09:51:06 20 A. Dupo Road. I don't quite recall. I don't quite recall.

21 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Griffiths, sorry to interrupt. The
22 document by the Security Council, the report, did we MFI?

23 MR GRIFFITHS: It's MFI-197.

24 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Thank you.

09:51:38 25 MR GRIFFITHS:

26 Q. Mr Taylor, do you know of a massacre at Dupo Road?

27 A. No, not to my knowledge. I don't recall it right now, no.

28 Q. Well, in the same breath, the third allegation made - it's
29 spelt D-U-P-O, I think, road.

1 A. Yes, I know Dupo Road.

2 Q. In the same breath, the witness said, having accused you of
3 being responsible for the Carter Camp massacre, in the very next
4 paragraph he continues:

09:52:06 5 "The same thing happened at Dupo Road. At Dupo Road it was
6 Sam Larto and the same Maduna Bwua who carried out the massacre
7 again ..."

8 A. No. No. The only action that I know that Sam Larto was
9 involved in, and this was the basis for his trial and execution,
09:52:36 10 Sam Larto was a Special Force, there was an incident that was
11 reported in, I think, Maryland County where Sam Larto was alleged
12 to have killed some individuals down there. While that issue was
13 being investigated for the authenticity of the report, Sam Larto
14 shot and killed an individual near Monrovia who he alleged had
09:53:11 15 stolen a television. He was arrested. He was a Special Force.

16 He was court-martialed. He was tried and he was executed for the
17 killing of the people in Maryland and the individual that he
18 cold-bloodedly killed near Monrovia. That's the Sam Larto issue.

19 The individual that he keeps trying to call here, Maduna
09:53:39 20 Bwua, there is a McDonald Boam who is a Special Force who was
21 never involved in combat. In fact, McDonald Boam chaired
22 court-martial board for the National Patriotic Front at the time.
23 And maybe one of - I don't know, maybe one of his relatives may
24 have fallen at this board, but McDonald Boam was not involved in
09:54:12 25 combat. And the Sam Larto case was in Maryland and was tried,
26 found guilty and the recommendation was carried out. So, again,
27 he has misled this Court as he's characterised what happened.

28 As a matter of fact, if I remind this Court, in fact, one
29 of the Prosecution witnesses, Moses Blah, testified in this Court

1 about the incident in Maryland involving Sam Larto. So that's
2 not true.

3 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, for completeness, I wonder if you could
4 spell McDonald Boam for the record please.

09:54:44 5 A. McDonald, as normal, it's Mc, M-A-C or M-C. Donald,
6 D-O-N-A-L-D. Donald. I'm just upset now, I'm sorry. Boam, I
7 think it's B-O-W-A-N [sic]; Boam.

8 Q. Now, a fourth act attributed to you by this witness,
9 Mr Taylor, was this: Remember, we've got the pregnant woman on
09:55:13 10 the beach, yes? We've got the Carter Camp massacre. We've got
11 the Dupo Road massacre. The next accusation was this -

12 I'm helpfully assisted, McDonald, M-C-D-O-N-A-L-D; Boam,
13 B-O-A-M.

14 Now, the fourth accusation he made, apart from the general
09:55:43 15 massacres that he carried out, including the 70 or 76 in the four
16 cars, he also said this, page 5926:

17 "Q. Mr Witness, you recently mentioned the name of
18 Superman. Who was Superman?

19 A. Superman, he was a little boy, Liberian, from Margibi
09:56:05 20 County, but when we entered Freetown in Sierra Leone for
21 the second phase they were there as senior commander there.

22 Q. Do you know what happened to Superman? What was his
23 ultimate fate?

24 A. At the end it happened when we were transporting the
09:56:21 25 weapons from Freetown after the UN had been disarmed. We
26 were transporting the weapons from Sierra Leone to Vahun.
27 Then my assignment was there. Morris Kallon, FOC, Issa and
28 some other RUF staff, they went that day with 103 barrel,
29 106 barrel with weapons. When they went they took a paper

1 and gave it to Ben and they said the paper was from the
2 internet, that Superman had gone to Guinea and connived
3 with Lansana Conte. The way he came here was to convince
4 those men to overthrow. From then on Ben told me that he
09:57:13 5 received an order from Charles Taylor. That one happened
6 when Issa was in control of the RUF. They took a paper and
7 gave it to Ben.

8 Q. Who gave the paper to Ben.

9 A. It was Issa. That day Issa, Morris Kallon, FOC, Al
09:57:29 10 CO Junior, they were the ones who took the document and
11 showed it to Ben. They said they got it from the internet.

12 Q. After they gave the document to Ben, what happened?

13 A. When they gave this document to Ben we were in Vahun.
14 Super, Abu Keita, we were operating together. We changed
09:57:49 15 underclothes and did everything together, but one evening
16 Ben called me. He called Shy Shooter and some of his
17 bodyguards, along with Dr Magona. He is a Sierra Leonean,
18 a professional doctor. All of us boarded Dr Magona's jeep
19 and some of the men went into the calibre pick-up and we
09:58:14 20 left all Superman's bodyguards in Vahun, like High Command,
21 Salami, the King Junior and some others. We left them in
22 Vahun. When we were going in this jeep, Superman was
23 having one other doctor that was assigned with him. Whilst
24 we were moving, before approaching Bah, going towards Bomi
09:58:37 25 Hills, Ben went in front and called me. He said 'That man
26 Taylor says we should execute him, but after his execution
27 we should be highly protected. We should take his hand -
28 his hand for him as FOC.' I told you the hand. Okay,
29 Superman, this part of his finger, the centre one here. He

1 used it for juju. So he had on a certain ring on them. So
2 afterwards Ben told us that when we execute Superman,
3 Charles Taylor says we should make sure that Charles Taylor
4 - that Superman does not die. We should carry that arm to
09:59:21 5 make - so that he can see and make sure. That is what we
6 call FOC. The order was to kill Superman and take his arm
7 to him, and that was for our ceremony in Ben's seat. When
8 we talk about FOC in Liberian English, for instance, this
9 table in front of me you say, 'Zigzag, go and make way to
09:59:46 10 bust that table', at least something that you can use to
11 identify this table. You would tell me that when you go
12 and bust that table, that mark that is there, or the thing
13 that is on that table, that I can use to know that I really
14 destroyed it. So when I carried it to you, then that is
10:00:06 15 the FOC.

16 Q. Was Superman killed?

17 A. Yes. Superman, when we were going we were all in the
18 jeep along with Shy Shooter. After we got on the road, we
19 went to toilet and he called me. He said, 'When I get
10:00:24 20 down - when I shoot in the bush when I get down I will say,
21 "Oh, I have killed a monkey. I have killed a monkey."
22 There are many - people will come and when he gets there we
23 will be able to fire after him.' When he said that, I and
24 Shy Shooter were in the same car.

10:00:47 25 While we and Superman we were moving, at Tagbah, going
26 towards Bomi Hills in the car, Ben stopped the jeep. He
27 went into the bush and shot two single-barrel rounds and he
28 said, 'Oh, this monkey looks like a real baboon. I have
29 shot it, but it's not coming down. You people come. You

1 people come before it gets away.' I got down and Superman
2 got down for us to rush. Shy Shooter opened one magazine
3 shot at the back of Superman and he dropped, including the
4 doctor that was assigned with him. Then we went to make
10:01:24 5 sure for Charles Taylor to make sure that Superman has
6 actually died. We cut off his arm that he had requested
7 for and we severed it. We took off his head. We opened
8 his chest. We took out his liver. The liver was for our
9 ceremony in Ben's yard at the banana bush where we were
10:01:46 10 with Dogolea. We took it from there. From there I and Ben
11 entered under to the fence and he left me there and entered
12 into Charles Taylor's house with Superman's hand wrapped in
13 a tissue, but he did not come outside with it. After he
14 came back and we went back to the banana bush to go and
10:02:17 15 cook the liver of Superman before he gave us \$200 US. He
16 said that was our secret money that Charles Taylor has
17 given us. We went and bought some drinks and things, and
18 after we had finished eating Superman's liver we dispersed
19 from there. That is what they call FOC.

10:02:33 20 Q. You said that you cut off his arm and you were
21 pointing, I believe, to your wrist. Is that the point
22 where you cut off the hand?

23 A. Yes, right here for him. To know that that was
24 Superman, the ring was on his finger. On his two fingers.
10:02:53 25 I said the head, the head of Superman, we severed it, but
26 we did not take it to town to destroy the evidence. So
27 took the head and drove in the car for 10 or 15 minutes.
28 We walked in the bush for a little distance and abandoned
29 the head there, and we came back into the car and carried

1 the arm, yes.

2 Q. You indicated that you cut open the chest and you took
3 out what you called the liver and took that for a ceremony
4 at Ben's house.

10:03:24 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And you were pointing to the centre of your chest.
7 What do you mean by the 'liver'?

8 A. The heart. The heart. The heart. The human heart.
9 The human heart, yes.

10:03:38 10 Q. You say, 'We ate it'. Who ate the heart of Superman?

11 A. I took part, we ate it, Ben ate some, all of us who
12 were on that mission, because of some kind of reason when
13 we do it we have to eat it at all cost.

14 Q. Who gave you the \$200?

10:04:02 15 A. Ben. He said it was Charles Taylor who gave it to him.
16 At that time that he had deposited Superman's arm in
17 Charles Taylor's house, he came out with the money and
18 distributed it among us.

19 What happened with Superman's hand which was taken to your
10:04:25 20 house and left there, Mr Taylor?

21 A. There was no arm, no hand, no nothing taken to my house.
22 The Superman case, we have heard so many versions before this
23 Court. We heard somebody else that said Superman was killed
24 because he was supposed to be going the American embassy to give
10:04:47 25 information. That's what another witness says. He says here
26 Superman is killed because he went to Guinea and was supposed to,
27 quote unquote, connive with Lansana Conte. We had another
28 witness here that said that while Superman was fighting in and
29 around Voinjama he was called and taken out and killed. None of

1 this happened. I'm not aware of how Superman got killed, when or
2 how. It's just not true. It's not true.

3 Q. Now, that's the fourth accusation he makes - specific
4 accusation. The fifth is this, same page, following straight on
10:05:41 5 from that accusation, line 17:

6 "Q. Now you indicated, when beginning to tell us about the
7 killing of Superman, that just before you, Abu Keita and
8 Superman were together in operations?

9 A. Yes.

10:06:05 10 Q. At that time, who were you fighting against?

11 A. At that time we were fighting against LURD. We were
12 fighting against LURD rebels that were based in Kolahun,
13 yes.

14 Q. Now, earlier in your testimony, Mr Witness, you
10:06:24 15 mentioned the name of Jungle you identified as Daniel
16 Tamba. Do you know the fate of Jungle?

17 A. Yes. I know what happened to Jungle. Jungle, he was
18 one of the key men operating under me from the directive of
19 Charles Taylor. He used to transport the ammo and arms to
10:06:50 20 Freetown, but the execution of Mosquito - then when Ganta
21 fell they sent for Jungle for him to go and attack Ganta.
22 When he went there, Ben ordered Calaba Nyande - he's from
23 Freetown. He's a Sierra Leonean boy. When Jungle was
24 engaging the enemies, Ben give instructions for Calaba
10:07:20 25 Nyande to open the calibre behind Jungle. They said, 'Oh,
26 that is jungle going there.' Daniel Tamba, I call him
27 Jungle. He said, 'That is jungle going there.' He said,
28 'I told you to open the calibre.' And then they opened the
29 calibre and he entered the back of the boy's head and it

1 opened his skull and it dropped. That is how he died.

2 Q. Were you present or did someone tell you?

3 A. You see, Sam Bockarie, Abu Keita, Superman, I, Jungle,
4 we were in the same group. The bodyguards, we used to

10:08:08 5 exchange them. I got to know about the death of Jungle

6 when Ben sent for me from Sinje. He said, 'An enemy has

7 killed Jungle, so they want you to go there.' Then the

8 superintendent of Nimba County announced over the radio

9 that enemies were advancing in Vahun. I was worried. When

10:08:29 10 I went to see him, Charles Taylor said, 'If an enemy is

11 advancing, you cannot be a hero and then the enemy will

12 destroy your country.' Then I said, 'Old man, I am willing

13 to go there.' So he gave me a green Isuzu pick-up with

14 ammo. I took some of my bodyguards to go and attack Ganta.

10:08:53 15 Q. I am just trying to get a little clarity. My question

16 was just: Were you present when Jungle was killed, or did

17 someone tell you about it? I understand you to be saying

18 someone told you?

19 A. No, I was not there, but I was informed by one of our

10:09:10 20 bodyguards.

21 Q. What was the name of the bodyguard that told you about

22 the killing of jungle?

23 A. They called him CO Pepe. CO Pepe. I have forgotten

24 his real name.

10:09:26 25 Q. Okay. Did CO Pepe indicate how he knew about the

26 killing of Jungle? Was he there?

27 A. Yes, at the time that jungle was released to Lofa

28 Bridge he was assigned to me. Jungle said Pepe should go

29 along with him, so I gave him half of the men that were

1 with me for them to go with Jungle on that Ganta attack."

2 Mr Taylor, did you order the killing of Jungle?

3 A. No, I didn't even know Jungle was dead, and the areas that
4 the - the names that this man has called, if you look at it, to
10:10:05 5 get a clear picture for this Court, when he mentions that he's in
6 Sinje, Sinje is in Cape Mount County near the Sierra Leonean
7 border. Ganta is another 300, 400 miles away eastward in
8 Liberia. If you look on the map, Sinje is in Cape Mount County
9 and Ganta is on the other side of the country. This is Superman

10:10:32 10 who now, as in superhuman, who is the only one. He's way in
11 Sinje. Somebody must go and tell him, "Come, go to Ganta to go."
12 I have no idea that this ever happened as this man explained it.

13 I doubt very much if it happened this way. But I don't even know
14 the details of this, and I don't believe what he has said here;

10:10:57 15 that he is in Sinje and somebody will send for him in Ganta, and
16 the superintendent of Nimba County will announce, and he is in
17 Vahun - Vahun again is on the Sierra Leonean border, and Nimba
18 County is all the way on the other side of Liberia. So I don't
19 know what this man is talking about. It's just one of the things

10:11:24 20 that - while I'm not familiar with the details, but knowing this
21 man and what he's said, this cannot be true that he will be
22 called 300, 400 miles across from the country as one individual
23 to go all the way. I never - surely never met this man to tell
24 him anything, so it is not true. It is not true.

10:11:44 25 Q. Well, on the basis of what he told this Court, Mr Taylor,
26 he was in regular contact directly with you?

27 A. Never. Never. Zigzag Marzah in contact with me? Never.

28 Q. On a regular basis?

29 A. Never.

1 Q. A regular visitor to your house?

2 A. Never.

3 Q. In regular contact with you on the radio or on the
4 satellite phone?

10:12:07 5 A. Never. Satellite phone with Charles Taylor? Never. In
6 fact, Benjamin Yeaten, who is the director of the Secret Service,
7 could have never called me on the satellite phone. What would
8 his orderly be doing calling me? That's why this - we've got our
9 defence. There will be senior people that will come here that
10 will tell - Zigzag Marzah never entered my fence. Never. Didn't
11 know this boy until I saw him sitting down here. Didn't know
12 him.

13 Q. Now, what he says about this Jungle is, firstly, page
14 5931 --

10:12:44 15 A. You see, Jungle is working for him.

16 Q. -- that one of the key men operating under him and that
17 that group included Sam Bockarie, Abu Keita, Superman, Zigzag
18 Marzah and Jungle. They were the key players, it would appear,
19 in taking arms and ammunition to Sierra Leone.

10:13:09 20 Now, let's just pause for a moment and remind ourselves of
21 what this Court was told about Jungle. Testimony of 8 April
22 2008, TF1-516, beginning at page 6913, line 25:

23 "Q. You mentioned also the name of somebody called Sallay?

24 A. Sallay Duwor.

10:13:55 25 Q. Now, who sent Sallay Duwor to Sam Bockarie? You said
26 he was sent to Sam Bockarie at one point.

27 A. He came from Liberia. He was just a Liberian.

28 Q. Yes, but, you know, how did he come to Sam Bockarie?

29 A. During the time the ULIMO-K had cut off, they cut off

1 the link between the RUF and the NPFL, Sallay Duwor
2 together with Jungle were left in a cut off in the jungle
3 around Foya, so when ECOMOG came to disarm the NPFL and the
4 ULIMO-K fighters they crossed into Sierra Leone and stayed
10:14:32 5 with Sam Bockarie.

6 Q. You mentioned something about Duwor coming to help with
7 communication because of the problem with dialect?

8 A. Yes, sir.

9 Q. Is that correct?

10:14:49 10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Was it Duwor's intention to come and help only or was
12 he assigned?

13 A. He was assigned.

14 Q. Who assigned him?

10:15:00 15 A. They came to Buedu. You know, the NPFL and the RUF had
16 the same command chain. They had that chain of command.

17 Q. So are you able to say then who assigned him
18 specifically?

19 A. This man Jungle was superior to Duwor. He was once the
10:15:17 20 radio operator with them in the jungle, so when they came
21 to Buedu to Sam Bockarie he was assigned to stay with Sam
22 Bockarie to enhance smooth communication with the other
23 side.

24 Q. Now, you have mentioned the name of a man called
10:15:35 25 Jungle. Is that his real name?

26 A. Jungle was a man called Daniel Tamba, alias Jungle."
27 Now, what do you know about that, Mr Taylor?

28 A. I never really knew Jungle. I didn't know Jungle. The
29 only thing I got to know about Jungle, I'm saying after this case

1 started, was that Jungle was one of those individuals that he was
2 the deputy commander to a commander we called I think General
3 Fayia who was commanding the forces in Lofa at the time that
4 ULIMO cut off the NPFL all the way back in '92, and so he being
10:16:29 5 Kissi was left behind and actually joined the RUF. This is the
6 information I received after I heard of the name Jungle and
7 Daniel Tamba here while sitting in this Court. This was based on
8 the investigation that - information that I received. But I did
9 not know Jungle.

10:16:50 10 But, again, for Jungle to be working - and if you see the
11 link here now you can see how Abu Keita got here. So when you
12 see Zigzag Marzah, you see Abu Keita and you see - what the other
13 one? What they call him? - Varmuyan Sherif, then you know why
14 they are all here.

10:17:13 15 Q. Well, explain to us.

16 A. Well, you know, here is Zigzag saying that he knew Abu
17 Keita, so this Abu Keita is no stranger. So the first one that
18 was recruited recruited the other two liars. That's what
19 happened. Whoever was recruited first say, "I know the other two
10:17:30 20 liars that will bring the same story." So if Varmuyan came
21 first, he brought Abu Keita and that's how Zigzag Marzah got
22 involved. So just the same little gang of liars, that's what
23 they are. Same three, that's them.

24 Q. Did you know or discover whether Jungle was a radio
10:17:50 25 operator?

26 A. No. From what I understood was, at his level, he was
27 deputy to General Fayia, he would not have been a radio operator.
28 He may have known how to operate a radio, but his assignment
29 would not have been radio operation.

1 Q. Specific allegation number six, page 5937, 12 March 2008:

2 "A. Sweet Candy said there was an order from
3 Charles Taylor for them to execute Johnny Paul. Then I
4 asked him, 'What are you talking about?' He said, 'Well,
10:18:35 5 you can't see the man's jacket on me?' Then I saw the
6 jacket with Johnny Paul's name written on the pocket, but I
7 was not there how they executed him or how they did it, but
8 Sweet Candy explained to me that it was an order from
9 Charles Taylor and that they have executed Johnny Paul. He
10:18:52 10 is a betrayer."

11 What do you say about that?

12 A. That's a lie. Johnny Paul Koroma, not to my knowledge,
13 never entered Liberia. If Johnny Paul Koroma had entered
14 Liberia, I'm sure that the general responsible in that area,
10:19:11 15 General Duo, would have brought him straight to me. Johnny Paul
16 Koroma acted very honourable throughout the crisis from 1999
17 after he returned to Sierra Leone. Nobody -

18 But, again, when you listen to that account, there's
19 another witness here who's name I cannot call because he's
10:19:34 20 protected that gave another version of that. But it so happened
21 that as this case progresses, most of the individuals that are
22 being mentioned here, maybe they will come forward, by the grace
23 of God, and they will be able to verify as to whether these lies
24 are true or not.

10:19:49 25 I don't know the individual referred to as Sweet Candy. I
26 don't know Sweet Candy. But maybe God will help us that as we go
27 through all these names that are being called, if they are alive
28 and well, I think, through his grace, they will be able to give
29 what the real story is.

1 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, let us just pause so that you can have
2 opportunity to look at what the scope of these allegations are
3 when put together. You appreciate now it's alleged from various
4 witnesses that you ordered the killing of Sam Bockarie and his
10:20:37 5 family, yes?

6 A. Uh-huh

7 Q. It is now said by this witness that you ordered the
8 execution of Johnny Paul Koroma, yes?

9 A. Uh-huh.

10:20:54 10 Q. Is it said by this witness that you ordered the execution
11 and dismemberment of Superman, yes?

12 A. Uh-huh.

13 Q. It is said by this witness that you ordered the execution
14 of Jungle, yes?

10:21:05 15 A. Uh-huh.

16 Q. Mr Taylor, put together, the suggestion is that,
17 effectively, you were seeking to cover your tracks, do you
18 follow, by getting rid of certain key individuals? Were you?

19 A. To cover it from what? I mean, you cover your tracks for
10:21:26 20 what? What am I --

21 Q. Well, you knew, put bluntly, and I'm sure this is the
22 suggestion, you knew that justice was closing in on you and you
23 needed to get rid of the incriminating evidence.

24 A. That would be total nonsense. Only a sick mind would
10:21:46 25 suggest that. I'm not God. Maybe some people don't believe in
26 God. I believe in God. And I tell you what happened to my - in
27 my wildest dreams, I never - I mean - I tell you what I did know.
28 I did know that certain countries, Britain and the United States,
29 in seeking regime change in Liberia were seeking to remove me. I

1 knew that. From the time they armed, trained and funded the war
2 in Guinea, I knew that there was regime change. And when George
3 W Bush got up and said, "Taylor must go," I mean, I knew. But to
4 say that this was a Sierra Leonean court, that never came across
10:22:25 5 my mind because, as far as I was concerned, when it came to the
6 Sierra Leonean court, the Sierra Leonean court, by all legal
7 experts that we consulted globally, was a Sierra Leonean court,
8 and that it had no jurisdiction outside of the borders of Sierra
9 Leone. That it was not created under Chapter VII of the United
10:22:44 10 Nations and as a result did not have any jurisdiction.

11 So my being here, I'm brought here by Britain and America.
12 That's why I'm sitting before this Court. So it would be a total
13 nonsense for anyone to suggest that I would have been God to have
14 known that somebody - total nonsense it would be. But that's the
10:23:02 15 whole - you know, this whole thing, you know, I mentioned here in
16 one of my statements before that I knew why I was here.

17 Look, at this particular time in the world when there was
18 Iraq and regime change, it's good to go into Africa, snatch one
19 little leader from a small country, let's set an example of him
10:23:22 20 to show there is no impunity. Listen, there is nothing that is
21 just about this. I have no control over it. I'm going through
22 it and I will go through it. But there is nothing just about
23 this. There is nothing legal about this and everyone who - you
24 know, it's almost like an open secret, you understand me, that
10:23:43 25 you went to the weak link, you go into Liberia, you encourage -
26 you want to spread this whole global thing of regime change. You
27 changing regime in Iraq, so we'll do something in Africa. There
28 is Taylor, Taylor, Taylor. He's eating people. You know, he's
29 stealing diamonds, he's smuggling diamonds and he's running guns.

1 And guess what, he's got billions of dollars he's stolen from the
2 Liberian people, the billions they're still looking for and can't
3 find nothing. We know what's going on. I have no control over
4 this.

10:24:20 5 But let me tell you something, until I go to my grave,
6 there's nothing just about this. The big powers have executed
7 their power, they've brought me here and I'm here and I'm going
8 through it, but there's nothing just about this.

9 So let's not fool ourselves about, "Oh, you knew this and
10 you knew" - they don't even have to do this. They could have
11 brought me here, anywhere, or to any other court. There's
12 nothing just about this nonsense with me, but I'm here and I'm
13 going to be as honourable as I can going through this.

14 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, you will note the witness identified
10:25:19 15 members of a key group, page 5932. You see Sam Bockarie, Abu
16 Keita, Superman, I, Jungle, we were in the same group. Five
17 names: Sam Bockarie, Abu Keita, Superman, Zigzag Marzah, Jungle.
18 Of those, Bockarie is dead, killed allegedly on your
19 instructions. Superman is dead, killed allegedly on your
10:26:02 20 instructions. Jungle is dead, killed again allegedly on your
21 instructions. Mr Taylor, if you were wiping out the evidence,
22 covering your tracks, why didn't you kill Abu Keita and Zigzag
23 Marzah?

24 A. I guess because they were superhuman. Zigzag Marzah, who
10:26:30 25 was caught 300 miles away, he's into the thick of everything,
26 he's supposed to be killing 76 people with a knife in four cars,
27 and bringing hands, and doing all of this, and he's in the thick
28 of everything. He's never left Liberia to live anywhere. He was
29 there when they found him. He's still in Liberia. He testified

1 openly. Nobody really cares about him. It doesn't make sense.
2 Abu Keita testified openly here. He's wherever he is in Liberia
3 in and out. Nobody has even said, "Hey, guess who are you?" It
4 just doesn't make sense, but I guess, you know, when you put
10:27:25 5 people up to these kinds of things, you know, as I sit and go
6 through this, this for me is historical. It's very, you know,
7 historical and whatever the situation, this is history. What do
8 you expect? Look at the people. Look at the spending on them,
9 paying money left and right. When you take the President of a
10:27:53 10 country and handcuff him and put him on international television
11 and fly him from one end of the world to the other, what do you
12 expect in the country? I mean, we've got witnesses that are
13 afraid to testify and all this. Like I said, I have no control
14 over this, but this just shows what this was all about. This is
10:28:14 15 all about setting an example of one African leader. No matter,
16 we'll go out and get him at all costs. That's how it happened
17 and this is how it is running. But there is no such thing about
18 me trying to destroy evidence or whatnot. There's no such thing.
19 I left my office - and I have seen reports. I resigned from my
10:28:38 20 office. I turned over in an official ceremony known to the whole
21 world. A witness sat before this Court and said he knew
22 nothing - even though he was taking over as President, he knew
23 nothing of it, it was a complete surprise to him. We have all
24 the publications, my statement before the legislature, the laws,
10:29:03 25 his speech and all. So this concoction as it is put together,
26 God help me. This is a concoction of a magnitude maybe fifty to
27 a hundred years from now scholars will be studying how this
28 happened, how this concoction took place. But here we are. I
29 was hiding nothing. I knew of nothing. So it would be - for

1 these people here to be there, they are there because I never
2 went after anybody. Never did, then or now.

3 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, the seventh specific allegation made by
4 this witness against you is that you gave the order for the
10:29:49 5 killing of your Vice-President Enoch Dogolea. Let me you mind
6 you, page 5947, testimony of Zigzag Marzah of 12 March 2008:

7 "Q. Sir, you have mentioned in your testimony, Enoch,
8 forgive my pronunciation, Dogolea. Can you please tell us
9 first of all who was he?

10:30:25 10 A. Yes, Dogolea was the Vice-President to Charles Taylor, but
11 it came to a time he started advocating for Charles Taylor
12 to go to America and negotiate with the American
13 government. From there I heard from Benjamin Yeaten, the
14 chief security to Charles Taylor, who said that the man was

10:30:39 15 trying to connive. For that reason Charles Taylor gave
16 instruction for him to be dealt with, so he took Enoch
17 Dogolea to the banana bush in front of Benjamin Yeaten's
18 house. He was beaten up with young banana trees almost to
19 the point of death, and he kept him in Ben's house and
10:30:59 20 after Charles Taylor travelled in two days, and the third
21 day they said Charles Taylor sent for Enoch Dogolea to go
22 for some military materials for us. After he left we heard
23 that he was sick, and he remained in the Ivory Coast until
24 his death and he died as a result of the beating. I also
10:31:18 25 took part in the beating, and that was by Charles Taylor's
26 instruction."

27 What do you say to that suggestion, Mr Taylor?

28 A. It is a total lie. In fact, you know, I may even go beyond
29 that and say {redacted}.

1 It's a blatant black lie. {Redacted} was my
2 Vice-President. Very decent man. He was a pastor. He was one
3 of the special forces that trained. He was treated in Andorra
4 here in Europe for hepatitis. Enoch Dogolea went home. He was
10:31:58 5 further treated in La Cote d'Ivoire. He died. At that
6 particular time the French government sent pathologists. An
7 autopsy was conducted on his body with the cooperation of the
8 French government. This boy is as dangerous as he can ever be.
9 It's a lie. {Redacted}.

10:32:31 10

11 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Did you say he died of hepatitis?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honour.

13 MR GRIFFITHS: Mr President, can I make an application,
14 please?

10:32:49 15

PRESIDING JUDGE: What is it?

16 MR GRIFFITHS: {Redacted}.

17

18

19

10:33:16 20

PRESIDING JUDGE: What's the reason?

21 MR GRIFFITHS: Because we've got a protective measures
22 order in place for the protection of Defence witnesses.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: I see. You don't have any objection to
24 that redaction, I take it?

10:33:31 25

26 MS HOLLIS: No, we don't, if indeed she's covered by the
order.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: All right. Madam Court Manager, the
28 words that begin in line 22 of page 35 on my LiveNote, that is
29 {redacted}.

1 We
2 make that order that they be redacted. Any member of the public
3 who has heard those words is ordered not to repeat them.

4 MR GRIFFITHS: Mr President, there's a further reference
10:34:23 5 {Redacted}.

6

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: They're the words I just read out.

8 MR GRIFFITHS: But there's another reference prior to that,
9 Mr President. There were two references to it.

10:34:38 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I see. And Madam Court Manager,
11 there's a previous reference as well that must be redacted. On
12 my LiveNote it's at page 35 and at line 14. It says from
13 {redacted} that must also be
14 redacted, and again any member of the public who has made a note
10:35:11 15 of those words is ordered not to repeat them.

16 MR GRIFFITHS:

17 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, according to this --

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm sorry, I'll just interrupt. The very
19 order itself which mentions those words obviously needs to be
10:35:38 20 redacted as well, and the same conditions apply.

21 MR GRIFFITHS:

22 Q. Mr Taylor, at page 5941, transcript of 12 March 2008, the
23 witness said this - was asked this, line 3:

24 "Q. When was the last time that you saw Charles Taylor?

10:36:04 25 A. My last time I met Charles Taylor was at the time when
26 LURD entered Monrovia. They were at Freeport Via Town and
27 we were keeping at defensive at AJ Rock Building to protect
28 the two British. It happened that he sent for us, and when
29 we went to White Flower we saw some international press

1 members who went towards the fence, but they stopped them
2 across the road and they wanted to interview him. So we
3 also went down the hill and then we passed through the back
4 of his yard, and then we entered the fence and we went to
10:36:45 5 his parlour. He started shaking our hands like this,
6 tapping us on our shoulders, and he was telling us that we
7 should 'Keep courage, my children.' And he said, 'I will
8 not go anywhere' and that when Monie Captan will come with
9 the materials we should ensure that we keep our grounds.
10:37:06 10 Then he said, 'Myself, I am promising to you.' But then I
11 said to him, 'Chief Taylor, the way people are rushing you,
12 and if it is possible for Monie Captan to bring materials,
13 it will take me just two weeks or three weeks and I will
14 get rid of these people.' But unfortunately, Monie Captan
10:37:26 15 never returned."

16 Continues, page 5942, line 7:

17 "The last meeting with Charles Taylor was in his fence,
18 and at that time the international press men were standing
19 across the road and they were monitoring the fence.

10:37:49 20 Q. When you say 'inside the fence', do you mean you were
21 inside the grounds of his house but outside the house?

22 A. In his house. In his parlour. I was not alone. I
23 went along with Benjamin Yeaten. We were many. Those of
24 us target commanders, we all went there to receive
10:38:09 25 instructions because we were expecting that the ammo for
26 which he sent Monie Captan, they had arrived so that we can
27 push these guys out of the city.

28 Q. The people that were invited to the meeting, they were
29 ordinary soldiers or were they persons of a certain rank or

1 status?

2 A. Some were lieutenant generals, some major generals.

3 Some generals, yes, but there was no colonel in that

4 meeting, no."

10:38:42 5 Recall such a meeting, Mr Taylor?

6 A. No, I don't. I really don't.

7 Q. Page 5943:

8 "Q. What did Charles Taylor call you?

9 A. Sometimes he called me Zigzag Marzah. Sometimes he

10:38:58 10 called me 'my son', but most often he called me Zigzag

11 Marzah. Sometimes he will call me, 'My son, keep your

12 courage. There are some friends that will keep helping us

13 for us to be in control of these three countries.' All of

14 those things. I mean the four countries. And myself, I

10:39:20 15 was always willing to cooperate."

16 Which four countries were you in control of, Mr Taylor?

17 A. None. Not in control of any four countries. I was hardly

18 in control of Liberia, because the whole country was at war. So

19 I don't know what countries he's talking about, because Liberia

10:39:44 20 was in trouble. I don't know.

21 Q. And he's suggesting that he was on virtually first name

22 terms with you, Mr Taylor?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. Isn't that the case?

10:39:56 25 A. That's not the case.

26 Q. That's why he was a true insider?

27 A. It's a wonder he didn't name another witness who said that

28 he was in all these big meetings, a witness that is protected

29 whose name I cannot call who was supposed to be in all of these

1 meetings too. At my farm he was among the top generals, so it's
2 a wonder he hasn't called his name yet.

3 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, did you send Zigzag Marzah as part of your
4 - into Freetown during the Freetown invasion?

10:40:35 5 A. No, I never sent Zigzag Marzah anywhere. No.

6 Q. Page 5952:

7 "Q. So you were part of the invasion of Freetown, were
8 you?

9 A. Yes. All of us. There was no RUF. From Freetown to
10:40:59 10 Liberia we took instructions from one man, and that was
11 Charles Taylor.

12 Q. I just want you to be clear about my question, because
13 I don't want there to be any misunderstanding between us.
14 You personally took part in the invasion of Freetown, did
10:41:15 15 you?

16 A. Yes, yes. I took part, and that was where I received
17 this rocket wound that burst the other side of my head in
18 Freetown. That was during the invasion.

19 Q. You physically entered Freetown, did you?

10:41:37 20 A. I was not a bird to fly. I was a soldier. I used to
21 take instructions from Charles Taylor. I moved with a
22 vehicle and went in. I was not a bird to fly or an animal
23 that I will go in through the bush. I am saying I entered
24 there myself through the instruction of Mr Taylor."

10:42:08 25 Is that true or false, Mr Taylor?

26 A. This is a one-man army. It's totally false. Zigzag Marzah
27 said I, Charles Taylor, sent him to Freetown. It's totally
28 false.

29 Q. He was part of the invasion because he took instructions

1 from one man, and that was you?

2 A. I don't know if any other - even some of the wildest
3 testimonies that we've had before this Court, I don't remember
4 any of the key people even talking about - if this man is such a
10:42:46 5 key man from Charles Taylor that is supposed to be a one-man
6 wrecking army that's going to Freetown, nobody even talks about
7 him. All of these people, nobody talks about how, while we were
8 in Freetown, there was one of Taylor's people. This boy, I tell
9 you, you know, he lies until he goes overboard. There's no such
10:43:08 10 thing as me sending him or any other person, or even knowing that
11 there is an invasion of Freetown coming. So where he gets this
12 from own, only in his sick head does he understand this. I never
13 sent this boy anywhere. I didn't know Freetown was being invaded
14 and, quite frankly, I don't even think Zigzag Marzah was there.

10:43:29 15 Q. Well, that's what I want to ask you about, Mr Taylor.
16 Because, you see, in a previous statement Mr Marzah had told
17 Prosecution investigators that he was convalescing in Monrovia
18 when the rebels invaded Freetown on 6 January 1999. So help me,
19 Mr Taylor, was it the case that you sent this convalescing
10:43:57 20 patient - that you took him off his sickbed and sent him to
21 Freetown?

22 A. Never.

23 Q. Which is right?

24 A. Never. I said I don't even think he was there. I don't
10:44:06 25 even think. This boy is just like a typical - you know, the
26 movie The Assassin. This is a typical liar. This is a
27 designated - you know, like in baseball, a designated hitter.
28 This is a designated liar that was brought here to show all the
29 things they've talked about me, about eating humans and this

1 animal. So once he's destroyed, nobody should even worry about -
2 nobody should feel bad about this guy. This guy deserves it.
3 You know, he's just the dirt. That's what he supposed to be.
4 He's the designated liar.

10:44:47 5 MR GRIFFITHS: And reference for that, page 5989 of the
6 transcript of 13 March 2008, and the particular statement
7 reference is ERN 00016768 at paragraph 21.

8 Now, Mr Taylor, just to give you an opportunity to deal
9 with the generalised allegations made by this witness, let me
10:45:28 10 remind you of this part of his testimony at page 5954:

11 "Q. Would it be fair to say based on what you have told us
12 so far, that you have committed atrocities in more than one
13 country?

14 A. It was a directive from Charles Taylor.

10:45:57 15 Q. In more than one country?

16 A. I do it. I did the worst in Guinea, but moreover in
17 Sierra Leone. And not much in Liberia because in Liberia
18 it was - I only focused my attention on the fighting
19 forces, but the worst happened in Sierra Leone, and as far
10:46:19 20 as Guinea, by the directive of my chief: Taylor.

21 Q. Now, that's what I'm trying to do. Let's just
22 concentrate on the terrible things you did in Sierra Leone.
23 Where in Sierra Leone have you done and committed such
24 horrible crimes?

10:46:38 25 A. Thank you very much. You see Koindu? The executions
26 started at Koindu, Buedu, Kailahun Town, Pendembu, Bunumbu,
27 going as far as Kono at the time we were disarming the
28 ECOMOG and Tongo, Port Loko, Magburaka, as far as Waterloo
29 including the invasion that took place in the city, the one

1 that made JP to retreat along with Eddie Kanneh.

2 Q. And were you part of that retreat as well, were you?

3 A. That is what I'm telling you. Yes, yes, yes.

10:47:28

4 Q. Did you engage at that time in cutting off people's
5 limbs? In cutting people's hands?

6 A. Yes. It was an instruction from our chief,
7 Charles Taylor. He said we should carry out a destructive
8 and dangerous operation so that the forces will be afraid
9 of the units, and that was what we did.

10:47:50

10 Q. Did Charles Taylor give you, Zigzag Marzah, a direct
11 instruction to cut off people's limbs? Yes or no?

12 A. Yes, yes. I repeat: Yes. No operation went on
13 without his instruction. You, who will take upon yourself
14 and do things on your own, you will be executed. Thank
15 you.

10:48:21

16 Q. By what means did he communicate that instruction to
17 you?

18 A. At first we used to have base radio and jungle radios.
19 I had a jungle radio that was brought by one of his
20 friends, one white man. And after he had taken over as the
21 proper President in '97, and it was in '98 that he started
22 issuing us with real satellite phones and from that point I
23 used to talk to him directly. And at that time Benjamin
24 Yeaten was at the Executive Mansion as his chief security,
25 so anything that came from Ben was an instruction from him.

10:49:02

26 Q. Did you speak to Charles Taylor either on the radio or
27 on the telephone and he said to you, 'Zigzag, chop off
28 people's limbs'? Did you have such a conversation with
29 him?

1 A. Yes, yes, yes.

2 Q. Where were you when you had that conversation with him?

3 A. At the front. I had communication from him directly
4 and everything I did I will report to him, the

10:49:40 5 battlefield - battlefield.

6 Q. The battlefield in which country? Please try and help
7 us?

8 A. Some took place in Guinea, some mostly took place in
9 Sierra Leone, and some took place in Liberia.

10:50:02 10 Q. One final question. You are telling us that
11 Charles Taylor on a number of occasions directly said to
12 you, either by phone or by radio, 'Chop people's hands and
13 limbs off'?

14 A. So many times, you know."

10:50:26 15 Did you do that, Mr Taylor?

16 A. Never did.

17 Q. You realise that that is one mode of liability, don't you:

18 Direct instructions to commit acts such as that? Do you

19 appreciate that? Here we have, from a very important Prosecution

10:50:43 20 witness, direct evidence that you gave instructions to him whilst
21 he was in Sierra Leone and Guinea and Liberia to cut off people's
22 limbs. Did you do that?

23 A. Never gave this gentleman, or whatever he is, any such

24 instruction. Never talked to him. And in fact, based on his

10:51:09 25 explanation here, he is going back to February 1998 when he
26 describes Johnny Paul fleeing Freetown, so he's talking about the
27 intervention.

28 Q. Yes, he was saying he was there --

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Excuse me, look, we're having trouble

1 with that redaction and the time is running out. I just want to
2 make sure that all the redacted parts have been located. Now,
3 Madam Court Manager, that last version you gave me - the last
4 version you sent up here, if you continue on, the last redaction,
10:51:53 5 if you go four more lines from the last redaction, there is
6 another passage to redact on that fifth - if you count four lines
7 from the last redaction, you will see that there's another part
8 to be redacted. Can you pass that latest one along to me?

9 Now, the latest redaction - Madam Court Manager, the latest
10:52:46 10 redaction you just sent me, have you got that in front of you
11 now? Right. Now, from the last redacted passage count down four
12 lines. Have you got that? The fourth line about a potential
13 witness.

14 Sorry, Mr Griffiths. I think that should be okay now.

10:54:28 15 MR GRIFFITHS: Is it possible for me to proceed now,
16 Mr President? Thank you:

17 Q. Mr Taylor, did you send Zigzag Marzah to Sierra Leone
18 during the ECOMOG intervention in February 1998?

19 A. Never. No, I didn't.

10:54:47 20 Q. Were you aware that a member of your SSS was involved in
21 the retreat from Freetown following that ECOMOG intervention?

22 A. No. If he was at all. No.

23 Q. Did you ever send Zigzag Marzah to Guinea?

24 A. Never.

10:55:11 25 Q. Did you ever send him to the Cote d'Ivoire?

26 A. Never, no.

27 Q. Did you ever provide him with a satellite phone?

28 A. No. How would he dial the phone? What would he know to
29 dial it? How would he dial it? How would even dial it? How

1 would he know names? What - how would he operate the phone?

2 This man cannot read, he cannot write. How is he supposed to put
3 names and dial? What is he supposed to be dialling?

4 Q. Another specific allegation, Mr Taylor, at page 5963 line
10:55:59 5 17:

6 "... I went according to Mr Taylor's order to disarm the
7 ECOMOG, how the Nigerian soldiers were slaughtered by us through
8 Mr Taylor's instruction, and also the disarmament of the UN and
9 the reason why they were not allowed to return."

10:56:21 10 Did you order Marzah to do all of that?

11 A. I know of no records of slaughtering of Nigerian soldiers.
12 I don't know if that's reported here. The only disarmament that
13 I know of of UN soldiers happened in 2000. The first UN soldiers
14 that were disarmed happened in 1999. In 1999, August, there were
10:56:53 15 some UN soldiers that were disarmed, but to the best of my
16 knowledge, this was done by the West Side Boys. In May 2000, or
17 thereabout, there were also UN soldiers disarmed by the RUF and
18 those were released. But there were no Nigerian soldiers
19 involved.

10:57:12 20 So, quite bluntly, I don't know what he's talking about,
21 about Nigerian soldiers being slaughtered. I never heard of that
22 even. I never gave any such orders, were not a part of what
23 happened in Sierra Leone with the UN soldiers, and did everything
24 that I could to get them released when they were taken both in
10:57:39 25 August 1999 and in May 2000 or thereabout.

26 Q. Another allegation, page 5974:

27 "A. ... In my reports to Charles Taylor I used to report
28 on what happened at the battlefield and so many things
29 happened and I cannot recall all of them and even the

1 sexual violence that you're talking about, it existed in
2 the NPFL as well as the RUF. So there were so many
3 activities that I can't recall all of them.

10:58:22

4 Q. Is it your position that Mr Taylor ordered these
5 atrocities to be carried out?

6 A. Yes, sir. Without his instruction if you did things
7 your own way you will be executed."

8 Mr Taylor, did you give orders for sexual violence to be
9 used in the NPFL or in the RUF?

10:58:45

10 A. Gave orders for violence?

11 Q. Sexual violence.

12 A. Yes, to give any order for violence against women or
13 civilians could have never happened with Charles Taylor because
14 all of those individuals that were involved in sexual violence

10:59:05

15 against women or violence against civilians, whether it was
16 murder or whatnot, they knew very, very well what the
17 consequences were, and this is why the NPFL was one of the most -
18 throughout the crisis, it was said it was the most disciplined
19 rebel group in Liberia at the time, because if and when you did

10:59:32

20 something wrong, you were held accountable. And the records
21 before this Court are very clear of - you know, normally it is
22 said that one Special Force is equivalent to - in some places to,
23 say, ten ordinary soldiers, some other places to, say, 15, 20.

24 And you can see that throughout my tenure as NPFL leader at the
25 time, we dealt severely with so many of our Special Forces that
26 committed atrocities. It was never, never, ever tolerated.

10:59:55

27 In fact, during my presidency, every year in Liberia the
28 President grants clemency to individuals. There was no one - in
29 fact, it was specific and written. There was not one individual

1 granted clemency in the Republic of Liberia during my presidency
2 that was charged and convicted for rape. I never even granted
3 clemency. No matter how long he stayed in jail, I never did.
4 It's a blatant lie.

11:00:42 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: We're going to have to adjourn,
6 Mr Griffiths, for a brief moment to attend to that redaction.

7 MR GRIFFITHS: Okay.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: We'll adjourn the Court.

9 MS KAMUZORA: Excuse me, your Honour, the AV booth has
10 already redacted the excerpt.

11 [Break taken at 11.00 a.m.]

12 [Upon resuming at 11.50 a.m.]

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Griffiths.

14 MR GRIFFITHS:

11:50:44 15 Q. Mr Taylor, before the adjournment I had asked you about the
16 allegation made by this man, Zigzag Marzah, about you permitting
17 sexual violence against women. Do you recall that?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Another allegation now, forced labour. Did you advise
11:51:13 20 Mosquito to use forced labour?

21 A. No, I did not. Never. Never.

22 Q. Did you, either as leader of the NPFL or as President of
23 Liberia, at any stage order anyone in either Liberia or Sierra
24 Leone to use forced labour?

11:51:36 25 A. No. Never. No. No.

26 Q. Did you at any stage, Mr Taylor, effectively engage in
27 slavery?

28 A. No. No.

29 Q. Page 5983, testimony of this witness, Marzah, on 13 March:

1 "Q. ... So you say Charles Taylor gave an order, right,
2 that forced labour should be used. That's right, is it?

3 A. The question is for Charles Taylor, not me.

4 Q. Did you receive an order from Charles Taylor or hear of
11:52:14 5 such an order to use forced labour?

6 A. There was an order given to Mosquito by Charles Taylor,
7 once we were in the jungle you should make use of the
8 civilians to be making garden for you people in my
9 presence. From there Mosquito implemented that order for
11:52:34 10 Charles Taylor.

11 Q. So you were present when Charles Taylor told Mosquito
12 to use forced labour, were you?

13 A. When I tell you that I am one of the living persons of
14 the NPFL what do you think?

11:52:52 15 Q. Were you present when Charles Taylor gave an order to
16 Mosquito to use forced Liberia?

17 A. Yes, yes."

18 What do you say about that suggestion, Mr Taylor?

19 A. That's a lie. Total, total lie. There was no such thing
11:53:17 20 in Liberia. I don't know what they did in Sierra Leone, but
21 there was no such thing that I could have ever said to Mosquito
22 or any other person, no.

23 Q. The next allegation I want to deal with is cannibalism,
24 because at page 5997 of the transcript of 13 March 2008, we find
11:53:40 25 this passage:

26 "Q. Are you saying that at that stage, that is when the
27 NPFL entered Liberia, Charles Taylor ordered you to eat
28 Krahns?

29 A. I told you yes, yes. Any activity against which you

1 did not take action was appreciated by him. What Doe did
2 by taking our own people, not just Doe, Charles Julu, he
3 himself went as far as eating some of the Nimbalian
4 children from school campuses. When he kills them they
11:54:21 5 would butcher them in the street. Like AK Pa, he did that
6 there so many times.

7 Q. Who told you to eat Krahns?"

8 Didn't get an answer. So over the page, at page 5998, the
9 I learned judge said:

11:54:45 10 "PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause, Mr Witness. The question is who
11 told you to eat Krahn? Please answer that question.

12 THE WITNESS: I said yes sir, yes sir. I said Charles
13 Taylor.

14 Q. And did Charles Taylor order you to eat people in
11:55:04 15 Sierra Leone as well.

16 A. Yes, sir, to set example for the forces to be afraid.

17 Q. Where in Sierra Leone did you eat people?

18 A. It happened when we were disarming the ECOMOG by his
19 directive. He said that those Nigerians were disturbing
11:55:27 20 the southeastern region, when we captured them we should
21 eat them. Even the United Nations, when we were disarming
22 them he said he didn't want any of those white people to
23 pass through Freetown to go, so when we get them we can use
24 them as pork.

11:55:46 25 Q. Port or pork?

26 A. Pork. Pork to eat. Pig. Food.

27 Q. So Charles Taylor told you to eat Nigerians and white
28 people as pork?

29 A. The Nigerians and the United Nations. He said the

1 remaining Africans which will pass with them through Buedu,
2 he will turn them over to the international communities,
3 but the others, like the Nigerians and some other people,
4 we should kill them and do anything we want to do with them
11:56:25 5 and that was what we were supposed to do with them is what
6 I am telling you.
7 Q. So, Mr Marzah, Charles Taylor ordered you to eat
8 Nigerians --
9 A. Yes."
11:56:41 10 Page 6002, line 11:
11
12 "Q. Was there ever a time when you stood in front of
13 Charles Taylor physically like now and he said to you,
14 'Zigzag, I want with you to go out and eat a human being'
11:57:00 15 or a part of a human being?
16 A. Apart from Superman?
17 Q. Anybody.
18 A. Thank you, I understand. It happened twice when
19 Gbarnga fell. I stood physically before Charles Taylor at
11:57:18 20 the time Robin White was interviewing him. We were
21 standing beside a jeep and he was telling the man that he
22 was in his yard. That is the time he telephoned the Death
23 Squad for me to carry out that execution. Anywhere there
24 are human beings, you should eat them. They are no longer
11:57:37 25 human beings. I was not in a position to eat them raw,
26 rather to cook them with pepper and salt and fix some
27 barbecue with them. It was from Gbarnga."
28 Did you do that, Mr Taylor?
29 A. No, I did not. No, I did not. You know, the best I can

1 say of this man, here is a man who is claiming to be part of
2 things that never happened. He claims to have been in Freetown
3 during the January 6 invasion when he was not there. He claimed
4 to have participated in the Harbel massacre that he was not
11:58:26 5 there, was not conducted - not carried out by the NPFL. The best
6 I can say - I think this Prosecution - this man needs help. This
7 is a man that needs psychiatric help more than bringing him here
8 as a sick witness like this. There's no such thing like this
9 that happened. When Gbarnga fell, where was I? I was at
11:58:48 10 Akosombo. How was he standing there when Robin White was
11 interviewing me and I'm at Akosombo when Gbarnga fell? So - I
12 mean, this is just, in my opinion, a sick man.

13 Q. Help me, Mr Taylor. So you were not in Gbarnga at the time
14 it fell?

11:59:07 15 A. No, no, no, no, no, I was not in Gbarnga.

16 Q. How many times did Gbarnga fall --

17 A. Once.

18 Q. -- after you took control of it?

19 A. Once. Gbarnga fell once in 1994. We were at the meeting
11:59:19 20 in Akosombo, Ghana, when Gbarnga fell. I was there for about
21 four days before arriving.

22 Q. And when you arrived back in Liberia, where did you go to
23 stay?

24 A. Ganta. I stayed in Ganta for about four months because we
11:59:36 25 fought in Gbarnga for about three months before we got rid of the
26 enemy forces. I was at Akosombo. And here he is standing there
27 with me in Gbarnga while Robin White is interviewing me.

28 Q. He says he was in your yard at the time.

29 A. What yard? I said he was in Jerry Rawlings's Akosombo yard

1 because I was in Ghana at the time. I was present in Ghana when
2 Gbarnga fell.

3 Q. Another issue raised by the witness, Mr Taylor, page 6053:

4 "Q. ... After the election in 1997 which saw Charles
12:00:23 5 Taylor democratically elected as President of Liberia, what
6 was your role within the Liberian government?

7 A. I was assigned directly to transport arms and
8 ammunition to Freetown and at the same time take my salary
9 under the SSS.

12:00:45 10 Q. Is it right that you were an orderly to Benjamin
11 Yeaten?

12 A. Come again?

13 Q. Were you an orderly to Benjamin Yeaten?

14 A. Not to Benjamin Yeaten per se, but directly under
12:01:03 15 Charles Taylor. That is what I am telling you. I was
16 appointed under Ben at the time Charles Taylor had already
17 introduced Ben at the Mansion Ground within the security
18 meeting that whatever Ben says and any instruction coming
19 from Ben were his instructions. It was at that time that
12:01:25 20 he sent me to Ben to be assigned to him."

21 So bear two things in mind while I remind you of another
22 passage. He was assigned directly to transport arms and
23 ammunition to Freetown and, effectively, he reported directly to
24 you. Then we skip a couple pages and go to page 6055".

12:01:50 25 "Q. ... And what was your rank?

26 A. I told you I was not having a specific rank. I was
27 chief of operations and a time came when a problem
28 erupted and they called me, they called me provost master
29 general and I put the situation under control. My salary

1 that I used to take, you know, it was not regular to say I
2 used to take this, or this.

3 Q. So you didn't have a rank?

12:02:26

4 A. I was having a rank. I was having a rank. I was full
5 colonel in the service after Ben and I had had that
6 conflict and they had raided my house. When Charles Taylor
7 intercepted he turned around and made me captain, and yet
8 still I took my colonel rank and every benefit I had was my
9 colonel rank.

12:02:48

10 Q. Following Charles Taylor's election as President, what
11 rank did you have at that point? What rank did you have?"
12 This is on your election, Mr Taylor:

13 "A. After the election I was serving as a full colonel at
14 the Executive Mansion, but on the military field I was a
15 major general."

12:03:09

16 Was he?

17 A. No. How would a man be colonel in one area and major
18 general in another? Zigzag Marzah as far as I'm concerned I
19 really don't know his rank. As an orderly really to Benjamin,
20 and he drove for Benjamin from what I understand, he could not
21 have been anything above the rank of at least captain, maybe
22 maximum major, to have been an orderly of that level. But I
23 don't know what his actual rank was.

12:03:29

24 Q. And was he assigned directly to transport arms and
25 ammunition to Freetown?

12:03:54

26 A. What arms and ammunition? Zigzag Marzah was assigned where
27 he was just as he was an orderly that he did what Benjamin asked
28 him to do and what orderlies normally do. I mean in Liberia if
29 you're an orderly you take care of the clothes for the officer,

1 making sure that they are properly washed, starched, ironed. You
2 run errands. That's what orderlies do. All orderlies to that at
3 least on our side. So I would expect that he did exactly what an
4 orderly of his calibre would do.

12:04:41 5 Q. Mr Taylor, the witness also said, and you will be pleased
6 to know we're coming close to the end of Mr Marzah, that when he
7 took arms and ammunition to Mosquito or Issa Sesay, that he would
8 receive from them a receipt which he would take back to Monrovia.
9 This is page 6071, lines 9 to 16 of the transcript. Do you know
10 anything about that?

11 A. No. How would he even know if it's a receipt? I know
12 nothing about it. How he would know it's a receipt, even if he
13 took anything? I don't know if Marzah was running up and down in
14 Lofa doing things. I wouldn't know. In his position I really
15 wouldn't know. But I'm not aware of what he's talking about
16 here.

17 Q. Now, later in the course of his evidence he was asked about
18 the importation of arms by aeroplanes through Roberts
19 International Airfield and we have this sequence of questions and
12:05:58 20 answers beginning at page 6077, line 2:

21 "Q. Now, the arms that you were transporting, how did they
22 get into Liberia according to you?

23 A. The weapon that I used to receive, many a time we used
24 to go to the airport to receive it, at the Roberts
12:06:21 25 International Airfield. That was where the Russian air
26 cargo plane used to come with this ammunition overnight and
27 at one time one of the planes had an accident and as a
28 result of the damage to the runway, President Taylor
29 stopped all the international security not to go there

1 except us. It was through Robertsfield. But there was one
2 that I used to receive from Monrovia at White Flower. Some
3 used to come through Ivory Coast.

12:06:59 4 Q. How many flights of Russian aeroplanes carrying arms do
5 you know about going into Roberts International Airfield?

6 A. Yes, it has made so many trips but I did not see any
7 different plane. The one that I recall is what I am
8 explaining to you and I am here to say the truth and
9 nothing but the truth.

12:07:17 10 Q. Well, give us an idea as to the number of flights which
11 came in, please. Are we talking about one flight, a dozen
12 flights? What are we talking about?

13 A. Many times.

14 Q. How many?

12:07:32 15 A. Yes, sir, that's what I'm coming to. Sometimes when
16 the flight comes in it will take over a month or two or
17 three months then it will come again. At times - most
18 times the one that I myself went and saw was at nine
19 different times. Nine different times. Including the one
12:07:54 20 which Mosquito went and collected, that made it ten."

21 Now there's a lot there, Mr Taylor, and there's more to
22 come. Just taking things in stages lest we forget, firstly, were
23 there nine flights made by a Russian cargo plane bringing arms
24 and ammunition into Roberts International Airport?

12:08:25 25 A. No. There were not. In 2001 to 2002 I had brought into
26 Liberia arms and ammunition after writing the Security Council
27 and telling them that we had a legitimate right to self-defence
28 and that we would bring in some material. I submitted the list
29 to the council, the area of purchase and the weapons. The number

1 of trips that came during that particular time were about I would
2 say three trips that came in between 2001 - late 2001 and 2002.
3 That's all.

4 Q. And did those shipments come in by air?

12:09:14 5 A. Oh, yes, they came by air to Roberts International Airport,
6 yes.

7 Q. Was there an occasion as suggested by the witness when
8 there was an accident which caused damage to the runway at
9 Roberts International Airport?

12:09:29 10 A. No, there was not an accident that caused any damage to the
11 runway. A plane came and had - one of the planes had a - what do
12 you call it? A crash landing. But there was no damage to the
13 airfield. It was never closed at --

14 Q. So one of the flights that came crash landed?

12:09:51 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Not on the runway?

17 A. Yeah. Just as you - off the skirt of the runway entering
18 there was a crash landing.

19 Q. Yes. And as this witness suggests - and is that one of the
12:10:03 20 three importations they are talking about?

21 A. Yes, that is correct.

22 Q. And is this witness right that you stopped all of the
23 international security not to go to the airport on that occasion
24 when the flight crash landed?

12:10:16 25 A. No, no. As a matter of fact, this was an order done
26 through the Ministry of Defence. I authorised it as President.
27 I did not know all of the details. This could have been a
28 precaution taken by the Defence Ministry. Of course if you have
29 that type of situation you don't want everybody running on the

1 scene.

2 I do not know what measures were taken by the Defence
3 Ministry at that time as President. All I can say is that I
4 authorised the planes and I authorised the purchase of the arms
12:10:45 5 after I informed the Security Council. As to what happened at
6 that particular time who was stopped I don't know, but the
7 Defence Minister did inform me that there was a crash landing but
8 the airport was never closed, no.

9 Q. What about this suggestion that some used to come through
12:11:02 10 Ivory Coast?

11 A. At the time we're talking about, 2001 to 2002, how would
12 weapons be coming through Ivory Coast? What is going on in Ivory
13 Coast? There's a civil war going on. So where are the weapons
14 coming from from Ivory Coast? There's no weapons that ever came
12:11:19 15 through Ivory Coast. Ivory Coast had her hands full by this
16 particular time. The rebels led by Soro Guillaume were fighting
17 against Laurent Gbagbo and there were no weapons coming through.
18 If they had weapons I'm sure they had to use it for themselves.
19 There was no such thing. No. That's what I'm talking about when
12:11:41 20 I talk about you take some truths and you mix it up to show that
21 you know something. There was no such thing. The only weapons
22 that came into Liberia between the time in question, 2001 to
23 2002, were authorised by me and my government.

24 Q. Did any of those arms which came in on the three occasions
12:12:05 25 you accept end up in Sierra Leone, Mr Taylor?

26 A. I would not think so, no. I know some of them ended up
27 with LURD. I know some of them ended up with LURD because I can
28 remember one occasion the Defence Minister came to me and said,
29 "Mr President, the weapons that we just distributed in the field,

1 we captured a LURD soldier with one of the brand new rifles" and
2 we were shocked and did not know but subsequently we got to know
3 how it ended up with LURD, because Varmuyan Sherif, a senior
4 general on the front line's brother was the overall commander of
12:12:48 5 LURD right on the other side.

6 Q. What is his name?

7 A. We just knew his code name General Cobra. In fact he is
8 dead now. Varmuyan Sherif's brother was fighting - was the
9 overall general officer commanding LURD.

12:13:02 10 Q. So what are you suggesting?

11 A. Well, listen, I mean, we just came into bad hard times at
12 this particular time because most of the people that were
13 fighting for LURD actually had their brothers that were part of
14 Liberian so-called forces fighting them. We were in one mess.

12:13:23 15 Varmuyan Sherif, a senior general with the army unit fighting in
16 Bomi, his brother right across not quite a mile from him on the
17 other side, so we were there - in fact, if you look as I have
18 looked back, we along with whatever arms the Americans had given
19 at that time that they did not deny giving people that were being
12:13:47 20 trained in Guinea, they do deny that they authorised them into
21 Liberia but they do not deny that they gave the arms to whoever
22 the Guinean armed forces were training. These people got arms
23 from us too. I mean they were just passing the arms across.

24 So even if we look back at the description that was read
12:14:07 25 before this Court by a UN personnel as to his own interpretation
26 of what happened in Voinjama at the time of the looting and what
27 - most of the people were - I mean there was hardly any fighting
28 in Voinjama. When the people came they met their brothers. I
29 don't know what they spoke about. And that's how they overran so

1 many of the government positions. Most of the former ULIMO-J and
2 ULIMO-K that were part of the government forces just embraced the
3 LURD people that came in and so I do recall that a lot of our
4 weapons ended up in LURD's hands but as far as crossing into
12:14:55 5 Sierra Leone, no, I would doubt it. I do not think so.

6 Q. Now, on this same topic, the testimony continued in this
7 way, page 6088:

8 "Q. Let us talk about the source of the arms before they
9 got to Liberia. One of sources you told us yesterday was
12:15:22 10 Taiwan. Is that right?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Who told you that?

13 A. Through Benjamin Yeaten, the chief security of Charles
14 Taylor.

12:15:33 15 Q. What about Charles Taylor? Did he tell you that
16 because apparently, according to you, you were on speaking
17 terms with him. Did he tell you that?

18 A. Yes. Charles Taylor only mentioned Burkina and the one
19 from a European country, from where the white man was
12:15:55 20 coming. But he didn't name the country to me, but we
21 considered it to be America.

22 Q. When and where did you have this conversation with
23 Charles Taylor?

24 A. On so many occasions. My leader Charles Taylor had the
12:16:13 25 confidence in me because we had passed through so many
26 societies which he knew about from Harbel Hill. At the
27 time of the execution of Doe we sat down and discussed and
28 from there in Gbarnga again in his own residence and even
29 in his own residence in Monrovia at White Flower."

1 Now, early in your presidency, Mr Taylor, you went to
2 Taiwan, didn't you?

3 A. Yes, I went to Taiwan.

4 Q. If fact you received an honorary doctorate there, did you
12:16:58 5 not?

6 A. Yes, I did.

7 Q. Did you whilst there organise an arms shipment with the
8 Taiwanese government?

9 A. Never.

12:17:06 10 Q. Or any company or other body in Taiwan?

11 A. Never. The Taiwanese government never, ever, ever gave any
12 weapons to me and my government ever. Neither did America ever.

13 Q. Did you ever purchase any from Taiwan?

14 A. Never. Never purchased any weapons from Taiwan.

12:17:35 15 Q. Did you tell Zigzag Marzah that you did?

16 A. Never. No. No.

17 Q. The three shipments that you accept you ordered, Mr Taylor,
18 where did they come from?

19 A. All three shipments came from Serbia. The United Nations
12:17:57 20 Security Council sent a delegation to Serbia. They verified that

21 they did sell the weapons to the Liberian government. All three

22 shipments came from Serbia. We bought them. We informed the

23 council. They went to Serbia. Our understanding is, even one of

24 the factories responsible for the manufacture of those arms were

12:18:17 25 closed down. This is well documented in UN archives. This was a

26 Security Council matter. This little boy here, whatever he is,

27 does not know what he is talking about. Never told him anything

28 about no Taiwan. He doesn't know what he is talking about. The

29 weapons we - I authorised came from Serbia.

1 Q. What about Burkina Faso? Did you mention that as a source
2 of weapons?

3 A. Never. I wouldn't even talk to Marzah, no. Burkina Faso
4 did not supply me any arms at this particular time. At the very
12:18:53 5 beginning, 1990, Burkina Faso provided some radio equipment in
6 April or thereabout. Burkina Faso was not involved in giving the
7 Liberian government, my government, any arms or ammunition when I
8 became President, no.

9 Q. Did you have such a discussion with Marzah at any time,
12:19:17 10 Mr Taylor?

11 A. Never. Never talked - didn't know the man to have a
12 discussion with him. Didn't know a Zigzag Marzah.

13 Q. Okay. Next topic. And we're on the same topic of arms
14 importation, page 6092:

12:19:39 15 "Q. ... In 1996/97, the period when you told
16 investigators and prosecutors in this case you were
17 involved in ferrying arms from Roberts International
18 Airport, at that time were there Nigerian troops stationed
19 at the airport, yes or no?

12:20:01 20 A. Yes."

21 Note the time, Mr Taylor: '96/97.

22 "A. Yes.

23 Q. How many Nigerian troops were stationed at the airport
24 at that time?

12:20:18 25 A. It was about the size of a company and they were mixed
26 up with some Ghanaians, but at the time we received the
27 ammos, they won't allow the Ghanians to go inside the
28 fence. They took over the nightshift. The Nigerian troops
29 were in charge of the nightshift.

1 Q. You were saying that it was through bribery that it was
2 possible to bring arms through Roberts International
3 Airport?

4 A. Yes.

12:20:52 5 Q. You personally bribed these officers, did you?

6 A. The money was given to us and then we will take it to
7 Victor, who was the Nigerian officer assigned with Charles
8 Taylor, and he, Charles Taylor, would hand deliver the
9 money to him and then we will all board the same car and he

12:21:16 10 will take it to the Nigerian officer who was assigned at
11 the airport. But the money would be hand delivered by me.

12 Q. Where would you get that money from?

13 A. From Charles Taylor's house from White Flower. From
14 Charles Taylor's house, White Flower. He himself would

12:21:39 15 bring the money and give it to Victor in my presence while
16 we were sitting down. Then he will tell us to escort
17 Victor to the airport and we will remain there to get those
18 items."

19 Were you involved in bribing Nigerians at Roberts

12:22:04 20 International Airport through the Nigerian assigned to you in
21 1996/97, Mr Taylor?

22 A. No. But where does it change from? From line 1, where he
23 said but the money would be hand delivered by him, to going down,
24 it's now delivered by me in his presence. Look - in fact, there
12:22:29 25 is no Victor. The commander of the Nigerian contingent assigned
26 with me is - was a guy called Captain Ali. I don't know Ali's
27 last name. In fact, Ali remained with me until he was hit in the
28 Executive Mansion and he subsequently went back for treatment.

29 There is no Victor. It's Captain Ali.

1 But, I mean, just to show you in one breath, it's changing
2 from I personally did it to somebody else did it. There's no
3 such thing. There's nobody bribing any - 1996/'99? I don't know
4 what part of 1997 he is talking about, but if we're talking about
12:23:12 5 1996, what is going on in 1996? Disarmament. Demobilisation of
6 people. We are preparing for elections in 1996. So here I am
7 while ECOMOG and the United Nations forces are deployed, there
8 are some 18 plus thousand peacekeepers in Liberia, deployed
9 throughout the country engaging in disarmament in 1996. Here I
12:23:45 10 am receiving weapons in the airport and sending it to Sierra
11 Leone.

12 1997, for the most part of 1997, from January, when all
13 factions are declared nonexistent and we become political
14 parties, all the way through my election and my subsequent
12:24:03 15 inauguration in August of 1997, here I am, my campaign period,
16 being elected, I'm sending weapons? Let's take the rest of 1997.
17 I come to office. We are engaged. Immediately we get on the
18 committee. So I - depending on what part of it he puts, it still
19 doesn't fit. He is lying, that I'm supposed to be disarming and
12:24:30 20 packing the weapons and sending it through ECOMOG lines to Sierra
21 Leone.

22 Q. Speaking of which, the witness continued at page 6098, line
23 6:

24 "... Charles Taylor liaised with the ECOMOG through Victor
12:24:59 25 that I'm talking about and there from the ECOMOG dissolved
26 the Liberian checkpoints and the checkpoints that remained
27 were just ECOMOG checkpoints.

28 Q. So there were checkpoints throughout the country manned
29 by ECOMOG troops throughout the period 1996/'97; Is that

1 right?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. At those checkpoints all persons and vehicles were
4 searched. Is that right?

12:25:26 5 A. Yes, ordinary vehicles.

6 I said ordinary vehicles would be searched, but the ECOMOG
7 mobile was not searched and it was those ECOMOG mobiles
8 that we used to carry those arms and ammunition through
9 Victor.

12:25:49 10 Q. So when, for example, in 1996/1997 you were
11 transporting arms from Monrovia to Sierra Leone, you were
12 using ECOMOG vehicles, were you?

13 A. At that time we used to move at night and sometimes we
14 didn't use ECOMOG vehicles and ECOMOG was nothing to us in

12:26:11 15 that matter. They took directions from us through

16 President Taylor's instructions and we would disarm them
17 and they would be executed, so they had no alternative to
18 search our car.

19 Q. ECOMOG vehicles were used to transport arms to the RUF;
12:26:34 20 is that right?

21 A. I told you ECOMOG vehicles were used from the airport
22 to White Flower, but from White Flower to go to the RUF
23 controlled area I was assigned with two yellow Mack trucks
24 with which I would move overnight and whilst I was moving,
12:26:58 25 Victor would escort me from Monrovia, White Flower, to Bong
26 County and when I entered Lofa, then we will have control
27 over the ECOMOG that were assigned in Lofa. That was the
28 area where they stopped from the airport to White Flower.

29 Q. So, when all those shipments came" - you remember the

1 ten shipments - "into Roberts International Airfield, all
2 of them, all of those arms and ammunition would be loaded
3 on to ECOMOG vehicles and taken to White Flower; is that
4 right?

12:27:37 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. So consequently you are telling us that Nigerian troops
7 were conniving with Charles Taylor to evade the arms
8 embargo. Is that what you are telling us?

9 A. Yes.

12:27:52 10 Q. And they were doing that throughout the period 1996 to
11 1997?

12 A. Yes, during the period of the interim government when
13 they were assigned there."

14 Then he goes on, page 6100:

12:28:16 15 "... Before I moved up from White Flower during 1996 up to
16 1997, I would be escorted by ECOMOG, troops by ECOMOG
17 troops. From 1996, when Voinjama - I mean Lofa was
18 captured by ULIMO, they used to escort me to Yekepa area at
19 night.

12:28:47 20 Q. It is right, by the directive of Charles Taylor.

21 A. This was done by the directive of Charles Taylor.

22 Q. So consequently the transport of arms into Liberia and
23 onwards to the RUF, that was done with the full connivance
24 and knowledge of ECOMOG, was it?

12:29:07 25 A. Yes."

26 What do you say to that, Mr Taylor?

27 A. ECOMOG was never, ever involved, ever, with me or any of my
28 people in the transport of arms across Liberia, nevertheless to
29 talk about Sierra Leone. It never happened. Never. ECOMOG was

1 never involved in this - what this young man is talking about.

2 It's a lie.

3 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, you appreciate there are different layers
4 to this. Note, for example, that he singles out the Nigerians
12:29:49 5 because he says: "They were mixed up with some Ghanaians, but at
6 the time we received the ammos, they won't allow the Ghanaians to
7 be inside the fence." That's page 6092. So he is specifically
8 saying that you, in 1996/'97, were bribing ECOMOG to allow in
9 arms and even using their vehicles to both transport and protect
12:30:24 10 in convoy the supply of arms to the RUF. Is that true?

11 A. That is not true. Totally false. ECOMOG was never engaged
12 in any nonsense like that by themselves or with me. No.

13 Q. Now, you note that it said that "after Lofa was captured by
14 ULIMO, ECOMOG used to escort me up to Yekepa." Now, remember, we
12:30:52 15 dealt with that route yesterday, Mr Taylor.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So what the witness is saying is, at the time when ULIMO
18 cut off the Sierra Leone-Liberian border, ECOMOG were conniving
19 with you to transport arms through Guinea to the RUF. Do you
12:31:16 20 understand that?

21 A. Yes, I understand that.

22 Q. What do you say about that?

23 A. That's really talking sick. This boy is - look, ULIMO cut
24 off Lofa in 1992, but at this particular time, can you imagine -
12:31:39 25 who is in charge of Bong and Nimba Counties where Yekepa is
26 situated? It is the NPFL. At this particular time, ECOMOG and
27 the NPFL are at virtual war. And don't let's forget the famous
28 Operation Octopus. This happens round about, what, '92, '93?
29 When - ECOMOG would drive through an NPFL line from Monrovia, 250

1 miles, to escort this man in NPFL - why does he need an escort in
2 NPFL area when ECOMOG cannot even cross? There was a zone, a
3 buffer zone between the NPFL side and ECOMOG that was encircled
4 around Monrovia.

12:32:30 5 Q. Right. So then I want you to help us with, Mr Taylor:
6 ECOMOG intervene in Liberia in August 1991, yes?

7 A. No, no, no.

8 Q. 1990.

9 A. August 1990.

12:32:46 10 Q. Sorry, 1990.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What area do they then control?

13 A. They are only protecting the enclave of Monrovia. They
14 encircle Monrovia. That's it.

12:32:56 15 Q. The rest of the country, who controls it?

16 A. The NPFL, the rest of the country.

17 Q. What about Lofa?

18 A. The rest of the country. The entire country at the time of
19 the intervention.

12:33:09 20 Q. At the time of the intervention?

21 A. We have the entire country. Lofa, Bomi, Cape Mount, all
22 around. We encircle Monrovia, yes.

23 Q. For how long do you retain that cordon around Monrovia?

24 A. I would say that remained in place until we started coming
12:33:32 25 under attack around August - July/August I would say a little
26 early of 1991 before we begin, the ULIMO influx started coming
27 into Cape Mount, Bomi and we begin to lose and we continually
28 lose until the - I would say 1992 we lose Lofa, Bomi, Cape Mount,
29 all that under ULIMO control, yes.

1 Q. But that route going up to Yekepa, was it ever under ECOMOG
2 control?

3 A. Never. ECOMOG could not pass Mount Barclay. Mount Barclay
4 is a suburb of Monrovia. Ever. They could not cross there.

12:34:19 5 ECOMOG could not even come to Kakata. And that's the route here,
6 they come from Kakata and travel all the way. ECOMOG could never
7 have come into that area. Never. No.

8 Q. So can you help us make some sense then of what Mr Marzah
9 is telling us?

12:34:38 10 A. I really can't. I'm sorry. Because there's no sense to
11 it. We're talking about a period where the NPFL is in full
12 control of the rest of Liberia. ULIMO cut us off - cut off - by
13 '91, '92 cut off. And this man is saying that to get material to
14 the RUF, ECOMOG comes from Monrovia and escorts him --

12:35:06 15 Q. No, no, no. ECOMOG vehicles transport it from Roberts
16 International Airfield to White Flower, then to Yekepa?

17 A. Yeah, but White Flower, that's Monrovia. Okay? White
18 Flower, there's no - there is no White Flower any other place.
19 It's a code name in Monrovia. So those vehicles now are supposed

12:35:25 20 to be - even if you come from Robertsfield we're talking about
21 Harbel, ECOMOG would escort - if there's this relationship with
22 ECOMOG that ECOMOG can even put foot into NPFL held territory at
23 that time, then there shouldn't be a conflict between ECOMOG and
24 the NPFL. But don't let's forget there is Operation Octopus

12:35:48 25 where we get upset and try to take Monrovia from the very ECOMOG.
26 Why would a senior operational man in the NPFL need an ECOMOG
27 escort through NPFL area? Because you're talking about to get to
28 Yekepa there's only one road. You must come - if you're coming
29 from Monrovia, you're coming Kakata, you're coming all the way

1 Totota, you are coming Gbarnga, Ganta and then on to
2 Sanniquellie, then you go up to Yekepa. There is no other way.
3 The lie is just so compounded I mean that no one can make sense
4 of this lie. No one. I'm sorry, I can help with making sense of
12:36:29 5 it.

6 Q. Three more topics, Mr Taylor. The next, page 6109:

7 "Q. Do you recall RUF members going to Burkina Faso to
8 purchase arms?

9 A. Yes. Through the recommendation of Charles Taylor he
12:36:57 10 sent Musa Cisse, along with them Eddie Kanneh, Mike Lamin,
11 Mosquito, in my presence.

12 Q. When was that?

13 A. I can't recall the year or date.

14 Q. Did that Mike Lamin take diamonds to Burkina Faso to
12:37:17 15 purchase arms?"

16 Page 6117.

17 "A. I did not tell you that Mike Lamin carried diamonds to
18 Burkina, no. But diamonds were taken by Musa Cisse,
19 Mosquito, and that was the last trip. I mean, second to
12:37:37 20 the last trip when we had brought the passport size and
21 then Charles Taylor said to them, 'This one. You will
22 travel with it for Musa Cisse to introduce Mosquito to his
23 friend' and that was the time Mike Lamin and others went
24 with that last diamond but he did not travel with diamonds
12:38:00 25 on his own.

26 Q. That group went to Burkina Faso took diamonds with them
27 to purchase arms. Is that right?

28 A. Yes. Whether they bought it or they carried it to
29 Charles Taylor's friend I can't tell, but he did say that

1 this one he gave it to Musa Cisse for him to go and
2 introduce Mosquito and his staff to his friend - to my
3 friend so that you'll be able to get your supplies
4 directly."

12:38:34 5 What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

6 A. That's not true that he was supposed to be around when
7 whoever he calls that went to Burkina Faso. As far as I'm
8 concerned, there is a trip to Burkina Faso in 1998 late of which
9 Musa Cisse is on the trip, of which Sam Bockarie goes because
12:39:01 10 Musa Cisse goes to be interpreter to meet with the chairman of
11 the of the OAU at the time. I'm not aware of any diamonds being
12 sent but passport size diamond and all of that, I don't know
13 anywhere in the world that such a diamond could have ever been
14 found so I really don't know.

12:39:25 15 This is a little bit of knowledge, a little bit of truth
16 with total foolishness at the end so I don't know how to answer
17 it to say - I can't say that the entire statement is not true
18 because a little fraction of it is true but all I can do is to
19 point out the part that is true. There is a trip to Burkina
12:39:45 20 Faso. There is a year, 1998 November, December. That trip is
21 taken. And as far as I'm concerned, even all of the people
22 mentioned there are not - I'm not aware that they are on that
23 trip and I don't think anyone in this Court has said so except
24 this one. So as far as I'm concerned, there's a little bit of
12:40:07 25 truth and the rest of it is just a bunch of lies.

26 Q. Penultimate topic. Mr Taylor, did you ever import arms
27 into Liberia by sea?

28 A. Never. Throughout the revolution never. Never brought any
29 arms into Liberia by sea. I did by air. Never, ever.

1 Q. Did any ship ever stop off the coast of Liberia, Mr Taylor,
2 from which arms and ammunition were off-loaded for use by you?

3 A. Never, ever. No.

4 Q. Did such an event take place either whilst you were leader
12:41:07 5 of the NPFL and in control of the port of Buchanan or after you
6 became President of Liberia?

7 A. In either case, no.

8 Q. Listen to this then, please:

9 "Q. And on each of these occasions it was a large shipload
12:41:27 10 of arms which arrived?

11 A. Thank you, Mr Counsellor. I will say the truth and
12 nothing but the truth. The ship will be over the sea,
13 across the sea.

14 Oh, I know the question he asked me. Yes, I mean the
12:41:45 15 quantity of the weapon, I mean the ammo that I saw
16 sometimes, they were in the speedboats. That was during
17 the three trips that I made. But the big boat will be over
18 the sea - over the ocean and Monie Captan and others will
19 go where the ammos were and then they will bring them.

12:42:06 20 When they brought them, they will put them in a car. That
21 happened over three to four times. But the ones that I
22 started receiving, they were in the warehouse but I can't
23 tell the quantity that the ship brought. The ones that
24 they brought from there and the ones that I met in the
12:42:26 25 warehouse are the ones that I know about.

26 Q. And were they truckloads of arms and ammunition?

27 A. Yes, yes, yes.

28 Q. How many truckloads?

29 A. I made the trip with the man's truck three different

1 times on different, different occasions and directly to
2 White Flower and those items were put in Charles Taylor's
3 warehouse and it took over a month before I shipped one
4 truck to Sierra Leone.

12:42:58 5 Q. And those arms that you took by truck to White Flower,
6 were you escorted by ECOMOG troops ordered by Victor?

7 A. No, no.

8 Q. So help me. How did you get them from Buchanan port to
9 White Flower past the ECOMOG checkpoint?

12:43:17 10 A. No. This did not happen during ECOMOG administration.
11 At that time Charles Taylor was President. It was not the
12 time of ECOMOG administration. It was not ECOMOG
13 administration, no."

14 What do you say about that?

12:43:36 15 A. Well, you know, the whole deception about this, maybe we
16 missed some of the passage with the question about how did you
17 get the arms from Buchanan? I heard this witness saying that the
18 ship was over the sea. But the Prosecutor comes up with - maybe
19 I missed that part. Then I apologise. I don't think this
12:43:54 20 witness said he went to Buchanan to pick up arms. He said a ship
21 was over the sea and there were speedboats that brought it. The
22 Prosecutor comes up and says how did you get it from - the whole
23 thing is just deceptive all the way. And you've got this
24 uneducated boy and you use him in this way. So this whole thing

12:44:13 25 - Look, I as leader of the NPFL and as President of Liberia
26 brought arms into Liberia. I did. Only by two means: By air or
27 by road. Never ever in all of the years as leader of the NPFL or
28 as President of Liberia did I bring in a single bullet by sea.
29 Ever. So this is a bunch of lies and a bunch of deception about

1 boats and Buchanan. Nonsense. Never did. I brought in arms by
2 air and I brought in by road. Finish. Never did it any other
3 way. And I accept that I did bring in arms.

12:45:01 4 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, right at the conclusion of this witness's
5 testimony he sought to explain to this Court why you had taken
6 him into his confidence and this is the last matter I want to tax
7 you with in relation to him. He claimed that he was a member of
8 the Poro society with you, and I'll come to his exact words in a
9 minute, and it was through that society that he had gained your
12:45:33 10 confidence and that, effectively, cannibalism was an aspect of
11 Poro society practice. Do you follow?

12 A. Uh-huh.

13 Q. Let's look now at what he says. Page 6153, line 25:

14 "I sat with Mr Taylor. Let me give you the proof. The
12:46:00 15 reason why Mr Taylor had the trust and confidence in me, no
16 matter. The Poro society law, maybe I will spoil it here. I
17 don't have any problem with that. Let me be bold to tell you."

18 Let me pause there for a minute to ask you this: Is there
19 some rule of the Poro society law that its secrets must not be
12:46:30 20 discussed in public?

21 A. Well, all fraternal organisations have rules that their
22 secrets cannot be discussed in public, so it's true for the Poro
23 society.

24 Q. "I started sitting" --

12:46:45 25 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Excuse me, is the Poro society a
26 fraternal society?

27 THE WITNESS: It is fraternal. It's a cultural fraternal
28 society, your Honour.

29 MR GRIFFITHS:

1 Q. When you say fraternal, Mr Taylor, what do you mean by the
2 use of that term?

3 A. Brotherhood.

4 Q. So is it only open to men?

12:47:05 5 A. The Poro is only open to men.

6 Q. Is there a female equivalent?

7 A. Yes, there is.

8 Q. What's it called?

9 A. In Liberia it's called the Sandee.

12:47:14 10 Q. How do you spell that?

11 A. Liberia, Sierra Leonean, Guinea. Three countries you have
12 that. It's not unique to Liberia.

13 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Spelling, please.

14 THE WITNESS: The Sandee is S-A-N-D-E-E.

12:47:34 15 MR GRIFFITHS:

16 Q. Help us, where do you find the Poro society?

17 A. Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea. Three countries in West
18 Africa.

19 Q. He continues, Mr Taylor:

12:47:51 20 "I started sitting with Mr Taylor during the death of
21 Theodore when we took his liver and we used it as a ceremony and
22 he shared it with us. We all ate it. And the same thing happens
23 in the case of Sam Dokie. The death of Sam Dokie, his liver was
24 taken away by us and then we carried it and it was cooked by this
12:48:23 25 lady. I will call the woman's name. Annie Yenni. Annie Yenni
26 cooked it and Charles Taylor shared it with us.

27 I am not talking about the ceremony that took place behind
28 his house. Those were things that we did in Monrovia. At that
29 time we had not yet been in Monrovia and when we came to Monrovia

1 to clarify to you the reason why Charles Taylor trusted me that,
2 because I kept secrets."

3 Now, breaking it down, do you see what he's saying,
4 Mr Taylor? This is the basis of the trust you had in him. Now,
12:49:18 5 let's just look at the detail to test this. Who is Theodore?

6 A. I don't know anybody called Theodore, no.

7 Q. Did you ever eat a Theodore's liver?

8 A. This question, counsel, is just too sickening. I have not
9 eaten any human in my life, nevertheless to talk about some human
12:49:51 10 called Theodore. I have never eaten human flesh in my life. I'm
11 not a cannibal.

12 Q. So does that apply to Sam Dokie as well?

13 A. Every one of the people he is talking about here. In fact,
14 when Sam Dokie is killed, in fact, people were put on trial. I
12:50:08 15 was in South Africa undergoing medical attention when Sam Dokie
16 was killed in Liberia.

17 Q. Give us a date.

18 A. This was late in 1997, I had gone on a medical trip to
19 South Africa after my presidency when Sam Dokie was killed and
12:50:34 20 people were put on trial for that.

21 Q. So what were you saying, Mr Taylor? Was it physically
22 possible for you to be present with this man, Marzah, eating Sam
23 Dokie's liver, cooked by Annie Yenni whilst were you in South
24 Africa?

12:50:51 25 A. Totally impossible. And this is another thing, because of
26 the previous redaction, I don't want to get into it, but this is
27 another issue that will be - that has - that will be cleared up,
28 I'm sure. There was no such thing that happened.

29 And let me put something in perspective here. The Poro

1 society of which I am a member, I will say 70 to 80 per cent of
2 Liberians are members of the Poro society. All former Presidents
3 of Liberia, Tubman, Tolbert, Doe, every one of them - is a
4 fraternal traditional society that you have brotherhood in
12:51:46 5 Guinea, Sierra Leone. In fact - I'm sure people on the
6 Prosecution side know exactly what I'm talking about - most of
7 the region bordering Liberia where you hear about the Kamajors
8 and everything, most of them were like Poro people, in that
9 region, going into Guinea coming from Nzerekore all the way up
12:52:42 10 through Kissidougou. So you have the Tomas there, you have the
11 Kpelles there, you have the Manos there, they are all - so Sierra
12 Leone, Liberia and Guinea have Poro societies and Sandee
13 societies and there is no nonsense of eating human or nothing of
14 that nonsense that happens in the Poro society. And this is
12:52:38 15 total, total, total nonsense.

16 Q. Mr Taylor, you understand, it's my duty as your counsel --

17 A. Oh, yes.

18 Q. -- to give you an opportunity to deal with these things.

19 A. Oh, yes.

12:52:50 20 Q. So even though you tell us that you were in South Africa at
21 the time of Sam Dokie's death, did you give orders for his liver
22 to be kept in a freezer until you got back?

23 A. Total nonsense. No. Never did.

24 Q. Because listen to this:

12:53:10 25 "And even at the time he escaped from Ghana when we
26 arrested Cooperville along with Moses Blah, we arrested those two
27 people, and he was there in Ben's veranda. Ben and I were
28 sitting down and he said we should 'control those people's hearts
29 until I get there.' Then we took out those two guys' livers and

1 then, after we had kept it in Ben's freezer for a long time, when
2 Charles Taylor arrived we cooked it and all of us shared it
3 together."

4 Do you follow?

12:53:50 5 A. Total nonsense.

6 Q. So --

7 A. My God.

8 Q. -- the freezer came into play. So even if you were in
9 South Africa, on what this guy is saying, the liver or heart or
10 whichever body part it was could have been kept in the freezer
11 until you got back. What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

12 A. That's total nonsense. I mean, I've commented as far as I
13 know about this human eating business and why they brought this
14 sick puppy here to talk about this. I've commented sufficiently.

12:54:24 15 I'm not going to waste the Court's time on expressing - I think
16 my former expression about why this witness is brought here to
17 talk this nonsense, this is typical. It's as typical and racist
18 as it can get. I've already commented on this. That he and I
19 are supposed to be sitting someplace eating human heart and
12:54:48 20 eating human liver.

21 Q. And he goes on:

22 "Since then he trusted me as a full member of the Poro
23 society. I'm sorry to say this now, but once I have been pushed
24 to the corner I'm going to say the truth. I am saying the truth
12:55:13 25 nothing but the truth.

26 ... because what I am saying he and I passed through so
27 many things for him to have confidence in me, so if you're asking
28 me that is the reason why I'm breaking everything down for you.
29 And if you ask him that we ate human beings together he will tell

1 you, yes, and he knows that I'm a full member of him. I repeat I
2 wouldn't have come publicly to sit amongst people whilst the
3 whole world is looking at me to sit here and lie to you, no.

4 I did. I spoke to Charles Taylor. I did speak to Charles
12:55:56 5 Taylor over the radio, over Thuraya phone, and physically we
6 shook hand and we sat together, and this Poro society I'm talking
7 about, it was something we ate together so that we will safeguard
8 his secret; all of our secret."

9 Mr Taylor, despite your protestations, the fact is, this
12:56:21 10 man, on a very public stage, has made these accusations about
11 you.

12 A. Uh-huh.

13 Q. Now, I give you this opportunity: Why would this man
14 publicly make these statements, these lies up about you,
12:56:43 15 Mr Taylor? Why?

16 A. Well, you know, I cannot blame this man, quite frankly. I
17 cannot really blame this man. Here we have it, all of the people
18 - you know, some of these people that are mentioned here, they
19 are alive and well. I will leave it at that.

12:57:01 20 Here is a little boy who is as sick as he is. You bring
21 him here and you coach him to say these kinds of things, I'm
22 sure, that he is supposed to be eating human beings with me.
23 Nobody else, just he, a few of us, sitting down, and he is
24 supposed to be a buddy of mine, eating human flesh. Well, that's
12:57:26 25 the level - that's the whole level at the time of putting
26 together this case. This demonisation had to go on. Charles
27 Taylor is a cannibal. He is a thief. He has stolen billions
28 from his people. He is gunrunning. He is diamond smuggling.
29 This guy is nothing more than the dirt. Go down there, get rid

1 of him any way you can. So you go into Liberia and you pick out
2 a few people.

3 All of the people - in fact, Moses Blah was asked about
4 this whole human eating business and he commented, at least - and
12:58:10 5 said that there was no such thing. But there's nothing unusual
6 about this. We've seen this throughout history. When leaders
7 are sought for one reason or another, they destroy you. They
8 destroy you. We didn't get to know why Lumumba got killed until
9 a few years ago and who killed him. But we were told a few years

12:58:36 10 ago that it just happened. Mandela was supposed to be a total -
11 you know, he was a criminal and he - in fact, he was a terrorist,
12 spent 27 years in jail. You come now to pick on a little African
13 country. All of the terrible things that have happened, you name
14 it, from the Middle East jam on through Europe, all of the
12:58:57 15 terrible wars that I talked about here earlier, their leadership,
16 they are supposed to be good people. They don't do anything bad.

17 You come into Africa, the African got a leader in Liberia,
18 a President, who is eating human beings. "So whatever we do to
19 him, Africa, don't be sorry. This guy deserves it." So you
12:59:17 20 demonise and you move in for the kill and you bring him before a
21 Court. And you bring this man here, who is supposed to be an
22 insider - an insider, a poor guy, who whatever little assistance
23 he got, I'm sure he is thankful for it, he went back to Liberia,
24 bought motorcycles, opened a little shop in Nimba from whatever
12:59:41 25 little money he received from this venture. Bought a few
26 motorcycles he is running around with as local taxi. That was
27 his doing. And you use him. Really use him. Poor man can't
28 read, write, nothing. You bring him here and he is supposed to
29 be the one that is supposed to disgrace his President and destroy

1 him.

2 You know, the - at the end of World War II - in fact, I
3 hope they get this right again before I say General Patton, you
4 know, at the end of the war, General Patton was walking his dog
13:00:27 5 and a donkey was attached to a carriage, and it came and this
6 much, it almost killed General George Patton after World War II.
7 And the general said, he said, "You want to tell me I went
8 through this entire war and didn't get killed by even my rival,
9 General Ramos, and you want to tell me a jackass is going to kill
13:00:55 10 me? What a sad day."

11 I go through my entire life and here I am, some uneducated,
12 poor guy - and I don't say this out of trying to demean him.
13 Maybe he just didn't have the opportunity to go to school - he is
14 supposed to come in the heart of Europe and be the one to destroy
13:01:17 15 the Liberian President by these lies. And I really think he is
16 used, but such are the times, that he was the chief of operation
17 and he is carrying out - there's no officials. In other words
18 now, here I am, I'm running a government, I don't know what I'm
19 doing, even the people that are part of that government are
13:01:40 20 uneducated. That's the whole racist part of this. That even the
21 people he is dealing with are heathens, a bunch of heathens that
22 don't know what they are doing and this could be typical. They
23 don't know what they are doing over there, and look at some of
24 his senior people; chief of operation, an uneducated man that
13:02:00 25 cannot read or write. Oh, come on, leave that guy.

26 So, counsel, it's just for me it's very sad and it's
27 painful that this boy would come here - and I really use the
28 expression be used to tell these lies. They are nothing but
29 blatant lies. That's all they are. That I, Taylor, Charles

1 Ghankay Taylor, would eat human flesh and order him to take
2 knives and open pregnant women and take babies and smash their
3 skulls.

4 Q. I'm going to move on to another witness.

13:02:49 5 MR GRIFFITHS: But before we do that, Mr President, I
6 was --

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis is on her feet.

8 Yes, Ms Hollis.

9 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Mr President. We just simply want,
13:02:57 10 again, for the record, to object to this as mischaracterising the
11 testimony of the witness and we will deal with it in
12 cross-examination.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, your objection is noted, Ms Hollis.

14 Yes, Mr Griffiths.

13:03:11 15 MR GRIFFITHS: Mr President, I was contacted by someone
16 from CMS yesterday and it was suggested that if it's possible to
17 deal with the 263 items marked for identification before the
18 recess then it would be of assistance to them in terms of the
19 various administrative matters they have to deal with.

13:03:36 20 I appreciate that the normal practice adopted hitherto was
21 to wait until the conclusion of the witness's evidence, but given
22 the quantity and the numbers of documents involved here, I
23 wondered whether it might be sensible to embark on that process
24 at some early stage to give CMS that opportunity.

13:03:58 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Really I would leave that to you,
26 Mr Griffiths, on how you want to present your case. If you want
27 to argue the tender prior to finishing your evidence, we could
28 look at that.

29 MR GRIFFITHS: Well, it's only in order to assist the

1 people in CMS because I'm told it would be of great assistance to
2 them, but it may be that - and I mention it at this stage to give
3 the Prosecution an opportunity either to object to that process
4 being begun now, or perhaps to shorten the process by indicating
13:04:38 5 which of the 263 items marked for identification so far they
6 object to the admission of. That way perhaps they can consider
7 the matter overnight and we could deal with this issue
8 expeditiously tomorrow. I don't know.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: I don't understand how it could assist
13:04:57 10 CMS in any event. That hasn't been explained to me. I don't
11 know how much further the evidence of this witness is going, but
12 frankly I would prefer if you could finish with this witness
13 before the break, and I'm not putting any limitations on your
14 examination-in-chief when I say that - but I would prefer that
13:05:22 15 course rather than to assist CMS by arguing the admissions of
16 this document or that document.

17 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well. I'm in the Court's hands. Can I
18 just indicate for the record, Mr President, it's highly unlikely
19 that I'll conclude evidence-in-chief by the recess.

13:05:50 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Let's leave it this way, Mr Griffiths:
21 I'll make some inquiries as to what the reason is that it's
22 important to CMS to have these documents that are being marked
23 for identification tendered into evidence before the recess. At
24 the moment I don't understand the need for it.

13:06:07 25 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well.

26 MS HOLLIS: May we put our position on that on the record?

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Certainly.

28 MS HOLLIS: We do object to that. The admissibility itself
29 of some of these documents may be addressed, not just weight, but

1 admissibility, during cross-examination. If we tried to put them
2 in now we'll have no opportunity to do that. So we don't think
3 it's the normal procedure that's been followed and we would
4 object to it. Nor are we in a position tonight to be able to
13:06:36 5 crystallise all of our objections to 263 documents. Several
6 hundred, if not thousand, pages.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. They sound very sound reasons as to
8 why we should stick to the normal procedure, Mr Griffiths, and
9 that's what we'll do.

13:06:51 10 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well:

11 Q. The next witness I want us to consider and hopefully we can
12 conclude this witness very swiftly, Mr Taylor, is a witness who
13 gave evidence before this Court in June 2008, a radio operator by
14 the name of Alice Pyne, TF1-584, who gave evidence in open
13:07:18 15 session. Now, the first reference to which I draw your attention
16 is this. At page 12169 of the transcript of 18 June 2008 the
17 witness said this:

18 "Q. Can you describe during this time period while you
19 were at PC Ground the flow of communication occurring,
13:07:42 20 radio communications occurring between PC Ground and the
21 other locations you mentioned?

22 A. Yes, I used to receive messages. In the morning when
23 you wake up you switch on the radio and you will know. You
24 will call the stations like Yomandu, Gandorhun and later
13:08:01 25 Tefeya. All of them were under Superman and I was at the
26 headquarters station, so in the morning I will receive
27 morning report messages or situation reports that they will
28 give to me, whether there were any problems at their
29 locations or if they needed anything and how they were

1 doing there. If they had gone on any operations they will
2 send those messages to me and I will pass them on to
3 Superman. If it were anything concerning informing Buedu
4 which was the overall headquarters then I will send it
13:08:31 5 there. But after Superman would have read it and made his
6 own report out of what I will give to him, then I will send
7 it to Buedu.

8 Q. Who were you sending these messages to in Buedu?

9 A. To Sam Bockarie.

13:09:19 10 Q. And you referred to his station, to the station in
11 Buedu as the overall headquarters station. What do you
12 mean?

13 A. Well, it was the - he was the overall commander at that
14 time within the RUF. He was the most senior man. That was
13:09:37 15 why where he was was the headquarters for the RUF.

16 Q. Now around this time did you ever hear any
17 communications outside of Sierra Leone?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And what did you hear?

13:09:59 20 A. Within those times I used to hear Liberian stations
21 coming on our national frequency and they called Buedu
22 station which was Planet 1. One of the stations that were
23 at Mosquito's house, Planet 1. I used to hear them call
24 him for them to go to another area where we, the radio
13:10:23 25 operators, or stations, did not know of. We did not go
26 there.

27 Q. How did you know these were Liberian stations?"

28 The witness went on to say because of voice procedures, a
29 technical term. Now, Mr Taylor, were you aware of Liberian

1 stations, plural, using the national frequency in Sierra Leone?

13:11:17 2 A. It all depends on the period, yes. If we're talking about
3 late 1998 and 1999, not stations. But of course there were radio
4 link between Sam Bockarie's radio and the radio that they had
5 installed in Monrovia and I'm sure maybe one of our senior people
6 like maybe Benjamin's radio would be in contact. If it is late
7 1998 and 1999, I would say that would be reasonable.

8 Q. And note, "I used to hear Liberian stations coming on our
9 national frequency and they called Buedu station." Who was based
13:11:45 10 in Buedu?

11 A. Sam Bockarie, as far as I'm concerned, was based in Buedu.

12 Q. Over the page to page 12171, on that same last point that I
13 just asked you about, line 18:

14 "Q. Who had permission to speak to the Liberian stations
13:12:19 15 if you know?

16 A. It was only the Buedu station."

17 Were you aware of that, Mr Taylor?

18 A. Well, that would be the procedure if - because we - the
19 contact with the RUF in late '98 and '99 was with Sam Bockarie as
13:12:40 20 the leader. And just to refresh the Court's mind, we're talking
21 about the - I'm speaking specifically about beginning October of
22 1998. That's the period I'm talking about, going to 1999.

23 Throughout the peace process there would be - if there's any
24 call, yes, it would be right that only Sam Bockarie's radio would
13:13:04 25 be called. Yes, that would be right. I mean, I'm not aware of
26 the day-to-day operations of such, but nobody would be authorised
27 to call any other station except Sam Bockarie's station, yes.

28 Q. Topic number two, page 12209, line 15:

29 "Q. Now earlier you discussed - you said that there were

1 two times that you were aware of where arms and ammunition
2 came from Buedu to PC Ground and you've already discussed
3 one of those instances. Can you describe the second
4 instance?

13:13:46 5 A. The second time I myself went to Buedu together with
6 Superman and when we were returning, that was the second
7 time that I knew that we returned with arms and ammunition
8 from Buedu. We brought them to Superman's Ground.

9 Q. Why did you go to Buedu with Superman?

13:14:09 10 A. Well, the major reason was that Mosquito called a
11 meeting because there was a dispute where at one time, I do
12 not know at which time, they gave Issa Sesay diamonds to
13 take to Liberia. It was after the diamonds had gone
14 missing, from what Issa Sesay said, when the grumbling had

13:14:37 15 come up. It was then that we knew that such a thing had
16 happened when they took diamonds and gave them to Issa
17 Sesay for him to take along and because of how the command
18 was, it was these two men and the third was Morris Kallon
19 who had the voice. So the grumbling was going on all over

13:14:56 20 the front lines because most of the times around that Kono
21 area where we were when they captured diamonds from
22 civilians, including those which were mined when we were
23 there, when they took them to Buedu. So the commanders who
24 were there at the various locations and the soldiers too

13:15:16 25 started grumbling that if it had been any other person
26 apart from those three men, that is Issa Sesay, Sam
27 Bockarie, and Morris Kallon, had it been any other
28 commander or soldier that had - that thing had happened to
29 they would have killed you. But what was going to happen

1 to Issa now that he has lost those diamonds. So a dispute
2 was started that made Sam Bockarie to say that officers
3 should come from these various locations around Kono and
4 even within the Kailahun District those who were there for
13:15:53 5 them to go and meet in Buedu for them to ask him so that he
6 himself can explain what actually happened to the diamonds
7 and what they should do. So it was in relation to that
8 meeting which they called that I joined Superman to go to
9 Buedu. And I went there purposefully to leave my child to
13:16:13 10 my sister because I was on the front line and anything
11 could happen.

12 Q. How did Mosquito call a meeting?

13 A. He sent a message to the stations which he wanted for
14 them to send representatives or to send their commanders."

13:16:35 15 Now Mr Taylor, when we jump to page 12231 the witness
16 continued:

17 "Q. Did you learn why Issa Sesay was given diamonds to take
18 to Liberia?

19 Line 6 page 12231:

13:16:54 20 "A. When I went to Buedu, I knew why the diamonds were
21 given to him.

22 Q. Why was that?

23 A. What I learned in Buedu from Major Sallay and Sebatu
24 who were in the Buedu station told me that Issa Sesay went
13:17:10 25 with those diamonds to Charles Taylor so that he would
26 bring arms and ammunition.

27 Q. When exactly did you learn this?

28 A. Just as I got to Buedu. That very night Major Sallay
29 and I together with Sebatu were together."

1 Do you know anything about this episode, Mr Taylor?

13:17:49 2 A. No, no, no, I do not. As a matter of fact, I don't even
3 know which of these versions to respond to now because this
4 version that - we've heard so many things about these Issa Sesay
5 diamonds. A witness that we've just dealt with not too long ago,
6 I think yesterday or the day before, said that Issa Sesay was
7 given diamonds, these diamonds were supposed to be sent to
8 Burkina Faso. We've heard that right here, sitting right here,
9 that's what they said. And that he got to Monrovia, he did not
13:18:03 10 turn the diamonds over to who was supposed to take them to
11 Burkina Faso to get arms. We've heard other witnesses come here
12 and say, and this is another one, that Issa Sesay was supposed to
13 have been given diamonds to bring to Charles Taylor.

14 Well, I'm not aware of any of these instances because Issa
13:18:20 15 never and could have never brought me any diamonds. But we also
16 know that the diamonds got lost. But it's the same diamonds, the
17 same Issa Sesay. Now one group is saying it was supposed to go
18 to Burkina Faso. The other group is saying it was supposed to
19 come to me. In either case I'm not aware of it. It never came
13:18:37 20 to me. And Issa Sesay could not have been bringing me diamonds
21 because I was not the type of person that would have received any
22 diamonds from any one of them. So that is another interpretation
23 of this Issa Sesay story that just continues this tale.

24 Q. Do you believe in juju, Mr Taylor?

13:18:59 25 A. No, I don't.

26 Q. Are you sure?

27 A. I'm very, very positive.

28 Q. Tell you why I ask. Zigzag Marzah is not the only witness
29 to suggest that, you see, because coming to this witness, this

1 radio operator, on 19 June 2008 at page 12237 she told this Court
2 this:

3 "Q. How long did you stay in Buedu?

4 A. Three days.

13:19:35 5 Q. You said that you saw also herbalists. What do you
6 mean by that?

7 A. Sam Bockarie took us to a zoebush which was outside
8 Buedu where there was some herbalists and juju men who said
9 that they could protect people. They could protect
10 somebody from bullets. They will make somebody

13:20:28 11 bulletproof. Those are the people we called herbalist.

12 Q. Do you know why they were brought to Buedu? Do you
13 know why they were in Buedu?

14 A. Like I said just now, I understood that why they came
13:20:53 15 to Buedu was for them to perform the same juju practice for
16 the RUF fighters to protect them from bullets. So they
17 will mark the RUF fighters's bodies, so when they go to
18 the war front, bullets will not pierce their bodies and
19 they will be brave enough to do whatever they have to do."

13:21:23 20 Page 12238, line 11:

21 "Q. How many herbalists were there?

22 A. They were up to seven.

23 Q. Do you know where they were from?

24 A. I knew they came from Liberia.

13:21:47 25 Q. How did you know that?

26 A. Well, first was the language that they spoke and, two,
27 Sam Bockarie himself when he was handing them over to
28 Superman, that was what he said. And there was an old
29 woman who was a Gbandi and two of us spoke to each other.

1 She told me.

2 Q. What did the old lady who spoke Gbandi tell you
3 exactly?

13:22:20

4 A. She told me they who were the herbalists had their boss
5 who was a Loma tribesman. She said Charles Taylor had sent
6 them to Sam Bockarie so that they will come and protect the
7 RUF fighters bodies from bullets, particularly we who were
8 in Kono for us to be able to recapture Kono from the
9 ECOMOG.

13:22:43

10 Q. Now you said that this was to prepare them to try to
11 retake Koidu; is that correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Was there a name given to this operation?

14 A. Yes.

13:22:56

15 Q. What was that name?

16 A. The name was Fitti-Fatta herbalist."

17 Page 12240:

13:23:18

18 "Q. At Superman's Ground was where the herbalists were
19 based. Superman's place was where the herbalists should
20 be. So the other commanders who were in places like
21 Yomandu, Gandorhun, Tombodu, Tefeya, would bring the
22 manpower which was under their control both the armed and
23 unarmed men, the fighters who were in those respective
24 locations to Superman Ground and it was there the
25 herbalists were doing their work what they had come to do.
26 They were not - they never left Superman's Ground to go to
27 any another place.

13:23:38

28 Q. This conversation that is occurring that you are
29 describing between Sam Bockarie and Superman, where is that

1 occurring?

2 A. In the zoebush where the herbalists were in Buedu."

3 Now, Mr Taylor, is it the case that not only did you supply
4 arms and ammunition for the capture of Kono, and indeed ordered
13:24:22 5 its capture, but you also sent along herbalists in effect to take
6 advantage of the superstition of these people on the ground? Do
7 you follow me?

8 A. Yes, I do. I will just say that that is not the case. But
9 you know again for this Court: This Court or the other one dealt
13:24:58 10 with the Kamajors and all of that. In that part of Sierra Leone
11 coming from the border with Liberia, she says a Gbandi woman,
12 Kissi, Gbandi, I taught - I sent herbalists to the Kamajors,
13 because this is natural for - for those that believe in it that's
14 a whole bunch of - so that means that I sent the Kamajors - what
13:25:28 15 they were doing in Sierra Leone, I am responsible for what the
16 Kamajors were doing too because this is something that this whole
17 juju business is natural in that area. So to say that I sent
18 somebody calling themselves a herbalist that I don't believe in
19 to go and do whatchamacallit, that means I'm introducing
13:25:44 20 something to Sierra Leone, then I should have introduced it to
21 the Kamajors also. This is total foolishness. There is no such
22 thing as this.

23 That whole region believing in their herbal business and
24 different things, it's as old as civilisation. So Charles Taylor
13:25:58 25 now is the one that is teaching people and sending herbalist.
26 Like I'm stupid, I don't know that what - if I believe in
27 herbalist that it could stop bullets from penetrating somebody's
28 body I would have fought the war for years. All I had to do was
29 bring in a few herbalists and a few people and do whatever they

1 say I'm doing and then I would have won the war, the NPFL war, in
2 early 1990.

13:26:33 3 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, the suggestion may not be that you
4 personally believe in it, but that you're exploiting the
5 superstition of simple folk?

6 A. Total nonsense. If anybody believes that that's just
7 showing the evil in this case. Nonsense. In fact, I tell you
8 one thing, if - the word this lady uses here and I do not dispute
9 that they could have had herbalists in that area because that
10 part of Lofa County, the Gbandis that she's talking about, the
11 Gbandis, the Kissis, the Lomas, the Mendes, the Temnes - let one
12 Sierra Leonean here come and tell me the Temnes and the Mendes in
13 that area they are not the people that believe in all these
14 superstitions, you understand me. But if she says zoebush then
13:27:16 15 she as a woman would never have known what happened in there, so
16 there is no such thing. But to answer your question --

17 Q. Why would she as a woman not know about --

18 A. Because I just told you that these groups where men -
19 there's a full division in Africa about what - men and women are
13:27:34 20 separated. There is no occasion where - if men are in a
21 congregated place like that and carrying on what they believe in,
22 superstition, a woman would not be present and anybody who says
23 it means she is foolish. No woman would be present at all. No
24 woman would be present.

13:27:52 25 In fact there are simple, simple ceremonies in our areas
26 over there that in fact when a simple logical ceremony, a
27 circumcision, when it's going on women are not there, then she
28 would be in a zoebush? Even for a baby that is born that is
29 logical for circumcision, that whole procedure when it's carried

1 out women would not be present. Even the mother of the child
2 would not be present. So all these people thing here - I mean
3 I'm just in a big mess, a big bind with these people.

4 But I did not send any herbalists, your Honours, any place
13:28:32 5 to go and do anything. If these Gbandi people went there, that's
6 as common to that entire region as it is to the existence of that
7 entire little West African area. Anybody who is from that region
8 or most of Africa would know that men and women do not mix up
9 like this. They do not. They do not.

10 MR GRIFFITHS: Mr President, I note the time.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, we'll take the lunch break now and
12 resume at 2.30.

13 [Lunch break taken at 1.29 p.m.]

14 [Upon resuming at 2.30 p.m.]

14:29:07 15 MR GRIFFITHS:

16 Q. Alice Pyne, Mr Taylor, final matter that I want to deal
17 with in respect of her is this. Page 12258, transcript 19 June
18 2008:

19 "Q. One other matter before we continue, Mrs Witness.

14:33:20 20 This morning when you were talking about your conversation
21 at Yomandu with Senegalese, you said that, 'Senegalese
22 himself told me that he had come from Liberia.' Did he
23 tell you why he came from Liberia to Sam Bockarie?

24 A. Yes.

14:33:40 25 Q. Why?

26 A. What he told me was that Charles Taylor had sent him
27 and others to Sam Bockarie, and Sam Bockarie sent them to
28 Superman."

29 Question number one, Mr Taylor: Who is Senegalese?

1 A. I don't know him.

2 Q. Did you send any men to Sam Bockarie?

3 A. No, none whatsoever.

4 Q. Have you ever heard of the Red Lion Battalion?

14:34:18 5 A. In this Court here. No, other than that I had not heard of
6 it before.

7 Q. After about May 1992, Mr Taylor, did you ever send -
8 knowingly send any Liberian combatant to Sierra Leone?

9 A. No.

14:34:47 10 Q. Very well. We are going to move on now. Now, one final
11 matter on that last topic before I move on. To your knowledge,
12 Mr Taylor, were there any Liberian combatants in Sierra Leone
13 with your acquiescence?

14 A. None whatsoever, no.

14:35:28 15 Q. Right. I want to move on to another witness then.
16 Can I just check something briefly?

17 Now, the next witness I want to move on to, Mr Taylor is
18 TF1-334, Alimamy Bobson Sesay, who gave evidence before this
19 Court in April 2008, okay?

14:36:01 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Page 7851, testimony of 16 April 2008:

22 "Q. Is there any reason why you are joined the Sierra
23 Leonean army in 1991?

24 A. Yes, my Lord.

14:36:22 25 Q. What was the reason?

26 A. Well, in 1991, just after I had sat my O levels, I
27 heard an announcement when the ECOMOG had their base in
28 Sierra Leone, and this announcement was over the
29 international media. The former NPFL leader,

- 1 Charles Taylor, went over the air and said that Sierra
2 Leone will taste the bitterness of war. So the then
3 President in Sierra Leone at that time, that is former
4 President Major - I mean former President Joseph Saidu
14:37:06 5 Momoh, Major General Saidu Momoh, went over the air and
6 said he wanted citizens to join the army to defend the
7 nation of Sierra Leone. So that prompted me to join the
8 army to defend Sierra Leone.
- 9 Q. Are you able to recall when in 1991 you heard this
14:37:27 10 announcement by Charles Taylor?
- 11 A. Yes, I can remember the month, the month.
- 12 Q. Which month was it?
- 13 A. It was in March 1991. Yes, March."
- 14 Did you make such an announcement over the radio,
14:37:48 15 Mr Taylor?
- 16 A. No, I did not.
- 17 Q. Now, we've dealt with this matter before. Now, you will
18 see, Mr Taylor, the significance of this when we look at the date
19 given by the witness as to when he claims he heard this. He said
14:38:08 20 he heard it in March 1991. Now, what happened in March 1991 so
21 far as Sierra Leone is concerned?
- 22 A. Well, to the best of my recollection, March 1991 is the
23 time of the invasion of Sierra Leone by the RUF.
- 24 Q. Now, why this is significant, you see, Mr Taylor, is this:
14:38:38 25 You have the juxtaposition based on testimony of like this of you
26 saying "Sierra Leone will taste the bitterness of war", and guess
27 what?
- 28 A. War comes.
- 29 Q. In the same month war comes, yes?

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. And you say at the outset you are unaware and not in
3 control of this. So you see why this is important?

4 A. Uh-huh.

14:39:04 5 Q. So, Mr Taylor, what do you say about this piece of
6 evidence?

7 A. There is no - you know, we've got some very - I'm not a
8 lawyer, but I am an economist by profession, and normally when I
9 get information or data, whether we are forecasting, we know we
14:39:24 10 combine data and we know how to check and supercheck. The number
11 of witnesses that came up with this explanation that I said that
12 Sierra Leone would taste the bitterness of war, I can recall at
13 least three or four saying this. One would expect that this
14 Prosecution would have found this document or this statement that

14:39:49 15 was supposed to be delivered on national radio or what. You just
16 come - all your witnesses are saying Taylor said it, and this is
17 a public statement and no one brings it up. No one brings
18 anything to say, well, Taylor said it. So, you know, this is the
19 type of thing. But some of the testimony that came to this Court
14:40:07 20 about this, I remember a witness saying somewhere at Coca-Cola

21 factory they were standing there and I was there, and I
22 made - and I did this interview and all of that. So we are
23 talking about 1990 because Coca-Cola factory, when we are around
24 Monrovia, that's about August 1990 as ECOMOG comes into Liberia.
14:40:31 25 So this is a part of it. There was no such statement, but this
26 is a part of putting this whole thing together. Taylor said
27 there will be war and there was war. There is no such thing.
28 There is no such thing of me saying that.

29 Q. Now, of course, Mr Taylor, that connection was not lost on

1 counsel taking this witness, because the testimony continues in
2 this way:

3 "Q. Do you recall if anything happened in Sierra Leone
4 after this announcement?

14:41:09 5 A. Yes, my Lord.

6 Q. What happened?

7 A. Well, an attack took place from Bomaru up to the Daru
8 axis.

9 Q. What attack took place?

14:41:23 10 A. Well, the government went over the air and said the
11 NPFL had crossed over and attacked the Sierra Leone
12 territory.

13 Q. After the announcement by Charles Taylor did anything
14 happen in Sierra Leone?

14:41:37 15 A. Yes, my Lord.

16 Q. What happened?

17 A. Well, an attack took place from the Bomaru axis."

18 So that's the connection. But let's move on. Page 7950,

19 testimony given on 17 April 2008. The witness speaks of arriving
14:42:12 20 in Koidu Town.

21 "We took Johnny Paul Koroma towards a village close to
22 Gandorhun, a village located between Woama and Tankoro, but
23 it is a village that leads towards Gandorhun.

24 Q. What, if anything, happened when you got to this
14:42:32 25 village?

26 A. Well, when we arrived at that village, Johnny Paul also
27 called for an immediate meeting. All of us, the
28 commanders, myself, including Hassan Papa Bangura,
29 Denis Mingo, Issa Sesay, Mike Lamin and others were present

1 at that meeting together with some other junior commanders.

2 Q. Did you attend this meeting?

3 A. Yes, my Lord.

4 Q. What happened during this meeting?

14:43:10 5 A. Well, in that meeting Johnny Paul Koroma said now that
6 we have seen that the people in Koidu Town, that is Kono,
7 they don't like the junta and that they will go to places
8 and bring the Kamajors to base in Koidu and launch attacks
9 on the junta, he said now he declares that Kono should

14:43:32 10 serve as a strong base for the junta forces and it should
11 be a no go area for civilians. And that as he was leaving
12 we shouldn't encourage civilians and that, if we encouraged
13 them, the civilians will find a way to get them again to
14 come back to town and start fighting against us. So he

14:43:53 15 said we should declare Kono a no go zone for civilians and
16 then he said we should get some able bodied civilians who
17 will assist us and they will serve as recruits and that we
18 should make sure that we burn down houses in Kono so that
19 people will not be able to base there. He said that now he

14:44:23 20 was leaving and he was now going to Liberia to meet former
21 President Taylor and to see how they could arrange to get
22 logistics to serve as support for us and that then he
23 will send them to Kono, because he said since Kono was a
24 diamond infested area - he said Kono was a diamondiferous
14:44:52 25 area and he said we could defend there so that we will let
26 the international community and the government recognise
27 us.

28 Q. When was this meeting?

29 A. Well, as I recall, it was around March, mid-March. It

1 was around that time that this thing happened. 1998,
2 mid-March 1998.

3 Q. Now, when he said that he was going to go to Liberia to
4 meet former President Taylor and to see how they would
14:45:32 5 arrange to get logistics to serve as support for us, did he
6 explain what logistics he was referring to?

7 A. Well, what he said was that he is going to get arms and
8 ammunition and also food and other things, which were all
9 part of the logistics. And all other things that we would
14:45:52 10 need, he would try and get them so that we would continue
11 to hold the ground."

12 When was the first time you met Johnny Paul Koroma,
13 Mr Taylor?

14 A. I first met Johnny Paul Koroma in August 1999, for the
14:46:10 15 very, very first time.

16 Q. Go on?

17 A. But there is something interesting about this particular
18 witness's testimony here that maybe I just want to reflect on a
19 little bit. This witness is saying that Johnny Paul Koroma on or
14:46:35 20 about March 1998 stated that Kono was a diamondiferous area and
21 that it should be a very important place. We've heard testimony
22 in this Court that I, Charles Taylor, told Sam Bockarie sometime
23 early 1998 that Kono should be captured because it was an
24 important place for arms and ammunition based on the production
14:47:01 25 of the diamonds. So I just wanted to see, because I am sure as
26 we are going through this I remember a witness or two said that I
27 instructed, right after they pulled out of Freetown in February,
28 that Sam Bockarie came to Monrovia and I told him, I said, look,
29 I gave him some arms and ammunition and he returned and he said,

1 and now I stand corrected on this one, that instructions had been
2 given to take Kono and Fitti -Fatta and all of these things
3 started. I have heard that, maybe I am wrong. I stand corrected
4 on this.

14:47:38 5 Now this is another witness saying that Johnny Paul Koroma
6 now took interest in Kono upon his retreat in March, which is
7 about a month after the retreat from Freetown where he designated
8 Kono as being diamondiferous and that they should look at it.

9 Well, back to your question, I saw Johnny Paul Koroma for
14:48:00 10 the first time in August 1999 after I, along with the
11 acquiescence of my colleagues from the region, agreed that he
12 should come to Liberia in order that UN and other personnel that
13 had been arrested by the West Side Boys would be released from
14 Okra Hills. That was the first time I laid my eyes or spoke to
14:48:28 15 Johnny Paul Koroma.

16 Q. Did you make any arrangements to meet with Johnny Paul
17 Koroma in Monrovia in March 1998?

18 A. No, not at all. No, no. No contact with Johnny Paul
19 Koroma at that time, no.

14:48:54 20 Q. Now, the witness was then asked this question, page 8010:

21 "Q. During that communication" - and they were speaking
22 about a communication made by Mosquito - "did Mosquito say where
23 in Liberia he got the ammunition from?"

24 A. Well, he told us - what he told us was he said the
14:49:22 25 President of Liberia had arranged and ammunitions have now
26 arrived and that we should go and receive them.

27 Q. Did he state the name of that President of Liberia?

28 A. Yes, he said President Taylor. He said
29 President Taylor, he has organised for us to get arms and

1 he has sent them and then we should go and collect them to
2 go and defend Kono."

3 Mr Taylor, so we've got yet another individual saying you
4 were the one sending arms to Sam Bockarie and the RUF. Are they
14:50:02 5 all wrong?

6 A. Every one of them. They probably saw arms coming from
7 Liberia and just, oh, it's coming from Liberia, it's coming from
8 President Taylor. Because there is evidence here, and I have no
9 reason to dispute it, that arms are coming from Liberia. But
14:50:16 10 they are buying the arms themselves and I don't know how they can
11 figure it's coming from me. I don't have any arms. So I don't
12 know how they managed to get these witnesses to all say the same
13 thing.

14 Well, listen guys, I didn't have any arms. How do I give
14:50:32 15 people arms I do not have? March 1998? Where would
16 Charles Taylor be getting arms from? Where, where, where? And
17 that's why these witnesses, they are so - they forgot that
18 Liberia was disarmed. That's why they have these witnesses
19 lying. Because no one in his rightful mind would say that arms
14:50:53 20 are coming from the Government of Liberia in 1988 or 1997 or 1999
21 if they knew that all of these arms were being kept by the United
22 Nations. All they knew in their misfiguring here is that he's at
23 got the arms, he's got the arms so he's sending them out. I have
24 no arms, so how do I send arms out? I have no arms. My
14:51:18 25 securities are not even armed. So where am I going to get these
26 arms from to send? Where?

27 Liberia is supposed to be infested with arms. Oh, Taylor's
28 got the arms. And he is receiving diamonds. And so he's letting
29 these arms go. Well, I do not have the arms. Neither do I

1 receive any diamonds. That would be proven in this Court. I do
2 not receive any diamonds and I do not give anybody any arms. I
3 cannot dispute that they are buying their arms as they have said
4 because there are arms in Lofa and we're talking about 1998 ULIMO
14:51:58 5 people are still selling arms, their own witnesses have said that
6 they bought arms. So if the arms are coming in, once it's from
7 Liberia; Charles Taylor. Fetish people going to Sierra Leone,
8 once they come from Liberia; Charles Taylor. Everything that
9 happens from Liberia happens from no other level. My God, I
14:52:19 10 never saw one man run an entire country from A to Z, I am
11 messenger, I am minister, I'm director, I'm medical doctor. What
12 am I in Liberia? What am I? Just a little, as David Crane put
13 it before the house, I'm a thug, I'm a street thug. That's what
14 they take me to be. Well, I'm not. And I don't have any arms
14:52:42 15 and I don't send any arms anywhere.

16 Q. Another aspect of this witness's testimony, Mr Taylor, page
17 8018, testimony in open session on 18 April 2008:

18 "A. Well, it was Mosquito who called and that was after we
19 had returned and through monitoring we came to understand
14:53:10 20 that the jet 448, because that was how they used to call
21 it, it was moving to come and bombard Koidu Town as ECOMOG
22 were en route to enter there.

23 Q. Could you explain your answer, please. You said it was
24 Mosquito who called and that was after we had returned.
14:53:34 25 After you had returned from where?

26 A. We left Koidu Geiya to go to Koidu Town.

27 Q. What do you mean by 'through monitoring we came to
28 understand that the jet 448', what does that mean?

29 A. Well, on the radio set we had a continuous monitoring

1 of all activities, but on our arrival in Koidu Town,
2 Superman later called Bomb Blast, that is, Hassan Papa
3 Bangura, and he went to meet him at Dabundeh Street. He
4 said that he had got a call from Mosquito that ECOMOG were
14:54:11 5 on their way, that they were advancing towards Sewafe.

6 Q. Did he explain how Mosquito knew that, that ECOMOG were
7 on their way?

8 A. Yes, he said he got information from Liberia that he
9 had monitored from Liberia that the ECOMOG forces were
14:54:30 10 moving now, that the 448 was moving, because we later
11 understood that it was from Liberia that the ECOMOG Alpha
12 Jet was moving from. He said that they were moving to come
13 and bombard Koidu Town. So he said we should prepare to go
14 and destroy the Sewafe Bridge.

14:54:54 15 Q. Witness, do you know who in Liberia Mosquito got this
16 information from, or how he got this information?

17 A. Well, all what he said, he said he got it from
18 President Taylor. He said he got information from
19 President Taylor that the ECOMOG forces were moving and
14:55:20 20 that they were advancing to capture Koidu Town."

21 So in addition to being doctor, et cetera, et cetera, were
22 you also an air traffic controller in Liberia, Mr Taylor?

23 A. Apparently. Apparently, according to them, I am a radio
24 operator, I am calling, I am air traffic controller. My God. My
14:55:48 25 God. No such thing happened. Charles Taylor, President of
26 Liberia, is on a radio or telephone calling to Sierra Leone, "An
27 aircraft is coming to come and bomb wherever." How is this
28 possible? How is this possible? Even if you don't respect a
29 country or our people, nothing, but the President? If you say

1 that he told me that on President Taylor's order somebody called
2 me. But the President himself is on the whatever telling them,
3 "Guess what, this" - it never happened. It did not happen, it
4 could not have happened. It's just impossible. Impossible that
14:56:36 5 I've got nothing to do as President of this country but to
6 personally be on the radio or telephone or whatever medium he may
7 want to describe here calling to Sierra Leone to tell Bockarie or
8 whoever else reporting. Even if they wanted to be reasonable I
9 mean, to say, "Well, it was done on his instruction", then
10 someone could say, "Oh, okay, maybe Taylor could have done that."
11 But Taylor himself, it never happened, counsel. Just never
12 happened.

13 Q. Well, a couple of questions flow from that, Mr Taylor.
14 Tell me, how obvious would it be to anyone in Monrovia, say, if a
14:57:23 15 Nigerian Alpha Jet took off from Roberts International Airport?
16 How obvious would that fact be?

17 A. Well, it depends on the flight path. If they fly over
18 Monrovia, people will see the jet and normally they would fly
19 around for the various exercises. Because from Robertsfield,
14:57:46 20 which is in Harbel, if a jet was flying to the area of Sierra
21 Leone that they are talking about, they do not have to come even
22 near Monrovia. You will fly from Monrovia straight across
23 Lofa County into this area of the country that they are talking
24 about based on the map that I have seen. So people in Monrovia
14:58:05 25 would not - in fact, I will say from Kakata, Paynesville,
26 Monrovia, that side, you would not even know a plane had taken
27 off. Even in commercial traffic, a bigger plane as a Boeing 747
28 with a heavier sound taking off from Roberts International
29 Airport you would not even know or hear the sound in Monrovia,

1 no. That's, in essence, the distance, so no one would know.

2 Q. But anyone at the airport itself, would they be aware of
3 it?

14:58:43

4 A. Yes, they would be aware that the jet is taking off. They
5 would not necessarily know the mission, because the military
6 would not - what? I mean, are the Nigerians supposed to be
7 announcing: "We are taking off to go and bomb Sierra Leone"?
8 And mind you, it all depends on what time we are talking about
9 here. Now, if he is talking about March, there are still

14:59:02

10 operations going on. But, you know, people at the airport will
11 see planes coming and going. They would know that there is an
12 operation. But as to specific area, they would not know where
13 the operation is. But by "operation", I am talk about the
14 bombardment is occurring, they wouldn't know.

14:59:17

15 Q. Now, there is another aspect I want to ask you about,
16 Mr Taylor, and it's this: As a member of the Committee of Five
17 or Six, would you be privy to operational plans set up by ECOMOG
18 forces?

14:59:44

19 A. No, no. You would not be. You would not be. You would be
20 aware of - that certain operations are ongoing; for example, the
21 February 1998 operations renewed, they are ongoing from the
22 beginning. But the specific of the plans, no, we don't know. At
23 least, I don't know.

15:00:06

24 Q. Well, did you have an insider within ECOMOG forces based in
25 Sierra Leone?

26 A. No. No.

27 Q. The reason why I ask is quite simple. He said he got
28 information from President Taylor that the ECOMOG forces were
29 moving and that they were advancing to capture Koidu Town, which

1 is why they decided to blow up a bridge. Now, where did you get
2 that information from to be able to communicate it to them; do
3 follow you?

4 A. Yes, I do follow your question. Never got that
15:00:36 5 information. There is no such thing. No one, probably except
6 the ECOMOG forces commander in Sierra Leone, would know the
7 specifics of a plan. Now, in this case we are talking about two
8 operations; we are talking about a ground operation and we are
9 talking about an air operation. So now there is no - I mean,
15:00:57 10 maybe the President of Nigeria, because they control the largest
11 contingent. But as to ground operation in Sierra Leone, I don't
12 think any other person outside of the internal ECOMOG commander,
13 maybe the commander commanding the forces, would know
14 specifically these kinds of plans. Operational plans in the army
15:01:19 15 are not public information. I didn't - surely didn't have it and
16 even such plans - even lower members of the ECOMOG unit itself in
17 Sierra Leone would not have any information about this, except a
18 soldier who was specifically involved in that operation. And
19 maybe even if he got to know it, it would be a last minute
15:01:37 20 knowledge. Nobody tells - I mean, they wouldn't tell a private
21 down the line: Two or three days, guess what, we are going down
22 this way. You would know that there is an operation, and at a
23 particular point you are informed of where you are going. Some
24 soldiers don't know what theatre they are entering until they
15:01:54 25 enter the theatre. They may have a general knowledge, but
26 specifics no one knows.

27 Q. One other detail before we move on, Mr Taylor. Do you have
28 any idea how long it would take an Alpha Jet to travel from
29 Roberts International Airport to Sierra Leone?

1 A. I can only take a wild guess. I wouldn't know specifics.
2 I know a commercial aircraft that is probably doing 300 to 400
3 miles an hour from Monrovia - from Roberts International Airport
4 to Freetown would take about 30 to 45 minutes, depending on the
15:02:39 5 weather and the slowing down. For a jet fighter that goes a
6 little faster, I would speculate - which I know it's not accepted
7 here, but I have to - I would say about 20, 25 minutes. I could
8 be wrong about that.

9 Q. Now, just for completeness, page 8019:
15:03:04 10 "Q. And this information relating to 448, did it only come
11 from Liberia?

12 A. Well, that was the only source through which we got
13 information about the ECOMOG movement, that is, the
14 movement of the 448, the movement of the jet."

15:03:26 15 That reference to 448, Mr Taylor is it one you are familiar
16 with?

17 A. No, I heard it here in the Court. I am not familiar with
18 it.

19 Q. Now, next topic. I am going now to page 8399 of the
15:03:45 20 transcript of 23 April 2008:

21 "Well, in Waterloo we met the RUF there. We burnt down the
22 other houses and started retreating. Whilst the ECOMOG
23 were advancing as the armoured car was approaching us, we
24 were retreating. That was what was going on.

15:04:11 25 Q. And you said from Waterloo you went to Newton.

26 A. From Waterloo, like I said, Gullit had gone ahead with
27 the family members. We retreated and created a blocking
28 force in Newton. We retreated and created a strong
29 blocking force in Newton.

1 Q. Witness, when you got to Newton, do you recall if you
2 met anybody there?

3 A. Yes, when we returned to Newton, Gullit was there. I
4 can remember we had Senegalese, one of the RUFs. He was a
15:04:46 5 commander. He too was there."

6 Pause. I asked you before, but we've got an additional
7 detail here, so let me ask you again: Do you know this
8 individual, Senegalese a commander in the RUF?

9 A. No, I don't. I don't know him. Never heard of it until I
15:05:08 10 got here. But this - when you hear Senegalese, one of the RUF
11 commanders, this would probably be one of these former ULIMO-K
12 individuals. And I'm sure if anybody would know Senegalese well,
13 it would be Abu Keita. These are some of the former - probably
14 former ULIMO-K, because another witness said he spoke French and
15:05:33 15 all that kind of stuff. So I am sure he will probably be from
16 ULIMO-K.

17 Q. "... so we created a strong blocking force in Newton.

18 Q. At the time you were in Newton, were there any other
19 groups that came and joined you?

15:05:51 20 A. Well, as I said, when we were at Newton we used to get
21 people like the RUF Rambo and some other groups that had
22 gone to Masiaka, they were coming. So we used to have that
23 mutual understanding. They came along with food and other
24 things and returned. We just blockaded Newton. No car
15:06:12 25 used the highway. We were the only people you saw on the
26 highway at that time. Well, when I said mutual
27 understanding, I mean that the RUF and the SLAs who were in
28 Makeni, Masiaka would come up to Newton. They would bring
29 things like rice and they will bring other things in

1 exchange. Some will come with palm oil and they will take
2 other things along. So there was that movement whilst we
3 were in Newton. Well, the only group that used to come was
4 the RUFs who met us there. Whilst we were at Newton, the
15:06:54 5 SLAs who came - like, we had one called KBC - Commander
6 KBC, he too - all of us were in Freetown. He too came from
7 Liberia through Kailahun."

8 Commander KBC, note, Mr Taylor, had been in Freetown, had
9 come from Liberia through Kailahun.

15:07:20 10 "He too came with some men. He came with some boys and
11 they met us at Newton.

12 Q. The men that he came with, who were they?

13 A. Well, he had some few SLAs with him and some other boys
14 who were RUF whom he came with.

15:07:36 15 Q. Now, you say he came from Liberia through Kailahun.
16 How do you know that?

17 A. Well, the whole thing was that KBC was part of the
18 squad. When we got to Kabala he ran away to Guinea, but
19 when he came back and we asked him, he said that they were
15:07:59 20 organised in Liberia. The SLAs who had run to Liberia,
21 they were - they went through Guinea to Liberia. They were
22 organised."

23 Note that.

24 "They were organised in Liberia. The SLAs, who had run to
15:08:19 25 Liberia, they went through Guinea to Liberia. They were
26 organised there. They were armed to reinforce the team in
27 Kailahun and were to join us to come to Freetown. But
28 because of the delay, he was unable to come until that time
29 that he got the privilege to meet us in Newton. It was

1 through him that we knew that those who had run away to
2 Liberia had been reorganised and had been sent to Freetown
3 to reinforce us.

15:09:00

4 Q. KBC and his group, do you know when they ran away to
5 Liberia?

6 A. Yes, KBC, I know the time that he ran away to Liberia.

7 Q. When?

15:09:16

8 A. Well, when we were in Kabala we saw their group,
9 because at that time they said they were going, so we went
10 across to Guinea. So that was when we knew, but later we
11 learnt that they had gone to Liberia and when he came, he
12 himself confirmed that to me because he was apologising.

15:09:37

13 He said - I mean, he just crossed over to take his family.
14 He started making a lot of excuses that when they went to
15 Guinea, Guinea was difficult because the Guinean government
16 had said they should arrest any Guinean that they saw
17 there. So that caused them to move to Liberia. In Liberia
18 he said they had no problem there. So they organised them
19 through Mosquito, and from Liberia they came to Kailahun
20 and they took Kono and pushed up to our area and met us in
21 Newton."

22 Note: "Took Kono."

23 "Q. Witness, give us a time frame when this group went to
24 Liberia?

15:10:12

25 A. Well, this was during the intervention, February 1998,
26 when the ECOMOG intervened in Freetown and we withdrew
27 towards Kabala. It was during those times that most of the
28 SLAs - because they had money - some people had money, and
29 they decided to go to Guinea. But when the Guinean

1 government started arresting senior commanders in Guinea,
2 something that we heard over the radio, this caused most of
3 them to run away to Liberia."

4 Over the page, line 5:

15:10:52 5 "Well, the Guinean government was arresting any Sierra
6 Leonean commander whom they found there. If you were an
7 SLA, you would be arrested. That used to happen.

8 Q. Now, you say they were organised in Liberia. What do
9 you mean?

15:11:09 10 A. Well, according to KBC, he said they were organised by
11 Charles Taylor in Liberia to give support. You know, they
12 had gone to Liberia and there were many Liberians, so he
13 called them, organised them, armed them, and sent them to
14 Mosquito to come and reinforce the forces - the junta

15:11:38 15 troops in Freetown."

16 Get it, Mr Taylor?

17 A. Uh-huh.

18 Q. Now, let's take matters in stages. Firstly, were you aware
19 of members of the SLA entering Liberia from Guinea following the
15:11:58 20 ECOMOG intervention in February 1998?

21 A. No, I was not aware.

22 Q. Did you thereafter organise them, arm them, and send them
23 to Mosquito?

24 A. No, I did not. No, I did not. In fact, if you listen to
15:12:21 25 this and you put some meat on this, the intervention occurs in
26 February. He runs to Guinea. He only leaves Guinea when there
27 is the appearance of arrest of several of the senior people. So
28 one may conclude here that they spent some time in Guinea. So I
29 do not know when he comes to Liberia. But the fact of the matter

1 is if any Sierra Leonean walked - came into Liberia during that
2 particular period of time, and there may be a thousand ways to
3 enter Liberia, I would say many, many thousands, because this
4 whole region, as I know it, from Kailahun, based on this map I
15:13:09 5 have seen, coming to Liberia, we have to forget about somebody
6 talking about coming, what, on a highway into Liberia. There are
7 thousands of ways you can enter Liberia.

8 Now, if these people go to Guinea - from Sierra Leone into
9 Guinea and come into Liberia, that means that they must come
15:13:32 10 through Lofa. They must come through Lofa County to enter from
11 Guinea. So that would be Voinjama, Kolahun, around that side.
12 And people come in and out of Liberia all of the time. And
13 obviously if they are coming from Guinea, they are not armed,
14 they are coming as ordinary individuals and of course no Liberian
15:13:56 15 security personnel will stop them.

16 As to this nonsense of me now being a field commander and
17 organising people and arming them and sending them as
18 reinforcement to Freetown, now I am not sure if we are talking
19 about the same time because here now, if I am assessing this and
15:14:23 20 answering your question properly, this description could be all
21 the way to January 1999 when you talk about reinforcing Freetown.
22 So we have come from escaping in February 1998 into Guinea where
23 he spends time and after these attempts are made to arrest them,
24 they come. So he is in Guinea now for a very long time. So that
15:14:50 25 means he probably enters Liberia late 1998 because this
26 reinforcing Freetown, and I stand corrected on this, I am
27 analysing this to mean around January 1999.

28 Q. I am going to assist you with a time frame as best I can in
29 a moment. But for now, let me assist us with this: Did

1 President Lansana Conte of Guinea advise you as the President of
2 Liberia, or indeed ECOWAS, or the Committee of Five, that he was
3 arresting senior commanders, former SLAs, in Guinea?

15:15:46 4 A. No, not to my knowledge. No. I was never told about such
5 and it was not public information, no.

6 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, did you, in effect, employ these
7 individuals as mercenaries, these former SLAs?

8 A. No, I didn't even know that there were former SLAs in
9 Liberia. Did not even know that there were former SLAs in

15:16:14 10 Liberia. Because at the time in question too, let's - remember
11 now there is a brief attack on Liberia in 1998 from that same
12 Guinean side. So I am not aware. If there are people moving in
13 and coming out I am not aware of their being in Liberia at this
14 time, no.

15:16:37 15 Q. I told you I would assist you as best I could with a time
16 frame:

17 "Q. Did he tell you when his group was sent by
18 Charles Taylor to reinforce Mosquito's group?

19 A. Yes, he said before they came to capture - that is the
15:16:55 20 operation to capture Kono."

21 Now, remember that's the Fitti-Fatta mission for which you
22 send arms and a herbalist, yes, to capture Kono.

23 "... they had already come in before that time. Whilst
24 which were preparing to advance they had already come in.

15:17:19 25 Q. The group that KBC came with, how many were in that
26 group?

27 A. They were not many. They were not many.

28 Q. Can you give us an estimate?

29 A. There were about a section, about eight of them who

1 came. KBC was with them. They were not many. It was KBC
2 who came with them. He said the others were - some stayed
3 in Kono and some in Makeni, but he came ahead.

15:17:56 4 Q. Did KBC tell you the size of his group at the time he
5 was sent by Charles Taylor to join Mosquito in Kailahun?

6 A. He said they were many. For instance, he called one
7 captain who he said came with them. I have just missed his
8 name. He said all of them came. He said he was the former
9 captain in the Sierra Leone Army. They went to Liberia and
10 they have all crossed again, but he stayed in Kailahun.

15:18:20 11 Some stayed in Kono, some came to Makeni. But he insisted
12 that he will come to Newton to meet us.

13 Q. Witness, KBC and his group when they came to meet you
14 in Newton, were they armed?

15:18:39 15 A. They were well armed, yes. They were well armed.

16 Okay, Captain Hindolo. Hindolo Trye. They came together
17 with Captain Hindolo Trye. They came from Liberia, because
18 they told us they came with Hindolo."

19 Did you send such a force to Sierra Leone in 1998,

15:19:07 20 Mr Taylor, prior to the attack on Kono?

21 A. No, I did not. What silliness. Charles Taylor wants to
22 attack a country and we send eight men to go and attack --

23 Q. No --

24 A. Along with many others. He said eight, but there were
15:19:31 25 many, but he identified eight. But, you know, we look at "they
26 were many", that could also be subjective because that's how they
27 went. When the lie is not straight, you make the rest of it
28 subjective. He sent eight, but there were many others. Now
29 where do we end up? I'm supposed to send people - I swear. I

1 never sent anybody or knew that these Sierra Leonean officers
2 whoever they call themselves had come from Guinea and maybe who
3 is this - maybe we could identify KB. I don't know what this KBC
4 could mean. I don't know if he is identified anywhere in this.

15:20:15 5 Q. Do you know such an individual, a commander called KBC?

6 A. No, but if we get names sometimes then you can follow up on
7 some of these things. But there is no such thing on my part to
8 participate in any attack on Kono or any other place. Now he is
9 attacking Kono, he is reinforcing for Freetown. So that means

15:20:36 10 that this attack now is supposed to be occurring, what, mid-1998
11 or thereabouts. There is no such thing. That I would go and arm
12 eight and a few other Sierra Leoneans to go to attack Kono, no.

13 Q. Okay. Now, another aspect of the witness's testimony which
14 we should deal with is this, page 8488, line 7:

15:21:19 15 "A. Like I said, Johnny Paul said President Taylor -
16 former President Taylor of Liberia was preparing a
17 helicopter to lift him from Kailahun and to go back to
18 Liberia and so we were to prepare and Bazy was to prepare
19 a delegation that will go to Freetown and they will pick us
15:21:46 20 in Freetown after which we will go to Liberia to discuss
21 this issue.

22 Q. You have said President Taylor and former
23 President Taylor. At the time of this communication what
24 was his designation?

15:22:03 25 A. He was the President of Liberia at that time.

26 Q. What else did JPK say during this communication?

27 A. He said, like I said, President Taylor has released the
28 a helicopter to pick him up in Kailahun and he will go to
29 Liberia, after which Bazy was to choose some men and they

1 will pick him up to go to Freetown and from Freetown they
2 will lift us to Liberia and so that will solve this problem
3 that was on the floor.

4 Q. Who will pick who up to go to Freetown?

15:22:48 5 A. He said arrangement was in place wherein the ECOMOG
6 that were on the highway and the government will send a
7 vehicle to pick the delegation from Okra Hill and move them
8 to Freetown so then they will be airlifted to Liberia and
9 there they will meet with Johnny Paul Koroma in Liberia.

15:23:11 10 Q. Where in Liberia did this plane take you to?

11 A. We landed at Roberts airfield, Roberts International
12 Airfield in Liberia, there we landed."

13 And then he speaks of being met at the airport and he is
14 asked:

15:23:35 15 "Q. Do you remember some of the names of the people who
16 came?

17 A. No. Well, these were men wearing coats. They said
18 they were special bodyguards from the President, who was
19 President Taylor, so they received us at the airport
20 airport.

15:23:50 21 Q. Do you remember the names of any one of these special
22 bodyguards of President Taylor?

23 A. No. Those that took us, I didn't know them. They just
24 came in a jeep and received us from the airport.

15:24:09 25 Q. And where did you go from the airport?

26 A. Well, they drove us to the city and took us to one
27 hotel. Boulevard Hotel. Boulevard Hotel, yes. They were
28 taken and when we arrived at Boulevard Hotel we met
29 somebody who identified himself, huge tall person, he said

1 he was the ADC to the President, that he was Momo Dgiba,
2 ADC to the President. He took us to the reception in the
3 hotel."

4 He then explains what ADC means, aide-de-camp.

15:24:52 5 "Q. Did he say who would get in touch with you?

6 A. Yes, he said vehicles will come and we would see, we
7 will meet with Johnny Paul and from there they will make
8 necessary arrangement to meet with President Taylor."

9 Now, Mr Taylor, that description of the bringing to
15:25:20 10 Monrovia of Johnny Paul Koroma and other former SLAs from Okra
11 Hills, is it one with which you agree?

12 A. Yes, except he mixes it up, but generally the facts are
13 true. Johnny Paul Koroma comes, they come later, that's - yes.

14 Q. And were they met at the airport? I just want to deal with
15:25:46 15 the details for completeness.

16 A. Oh, yes.

17 Q. Were they met at the airport by security sent by you?

18 A. I'm not sure who went. It should have been protocol
19 because this was an arrangement between three groups: The
15:26:01 20 Government of Sierra Leone because Tejani Kabbah was involved,
21 his protocol officer was on that plane; the UN organised their
22 movement, their pick up from what's the airport in Sierra Leone,
23 from Lungi airport; and my government. So there were three
24 separate entities involved in that movement. President Kabbah,
15:26:24 25 his protocol officer, the ECOMOG and UN soldiers in Sierra Leone
26 arranged to have them picked up from Okra Hills and taken to
27 Lungi, they boarded a plane and came.

28 So the facts basically yeah, we did send - I am not sure
29 who went, but I would, knowing our own protocol, and because of

1 the arrangements that were made, a protocol officer could have
2 gone and along with maybe a couple of security personnel. But
3 basically the general information here is factual, yes.

15:27:06 4 Q. Okay. Now, he goes on to describe meeting with Johnny Paul
5 Koroma and it's helpful if we look at this in context. But
6 before we come into the details, Mr Taylor, can you help us with
7 this: Who was put in charge of Johnny Paul Koroma's security
8 whilst he was in Monrovia?

15:27:28 9 A. That would have been the Secret Service, that would be
10 General Yeaten, Benjamin Yeaten.

11 Q. What about the ATU?

12 A. They could have been - some assistance could have been
13 sought from them for external perimeter security, but his main
14 security as a VIP would be the Secret Service.

15:27:53 15 Q. I ask for this reason, page 8499:

16 "Q. Witness, you said they were the ATUs also?

17 A. Well, when we went there - because it was Johnny who
18 told us that these were - the ATU were keeping guard over
19 them, the anti-terrorist unit. He said they were special
15:28:18 20 guards from the President. He said they were keeping guard
21 over him and I saw them. They were older. Because for you
22 to enter where Johnny Paul was, it was fortified, well
23 protected. There were bodyguards. So we went in, because
24 this other car came and they opened the gate, we went in
15:28:37 25 and had a discussion with Johnny Paul Koroma?"

26 Do you recall that level of security for Johnny Paul
27 Koroma, Mr Taylor?

28 A. Oh, yes. Oh, yes.

29 Q. Why would that be? What necessitated that?

1 A. Well, Johnny Paul Koroma, remember what the crisis is all
2 about. The West Side Boys are notorious from all of the reports
3 that we have received. They even fought the British army over
4 there. They have captured all these people. Their leader is
15:29:10 5 there, and one of the things that Johnny Paul Koroma emphasised
6 to me and my government before he came was his security. So it
7 was very important for us to make sure. And then some of his
8 boys were coming over there too. So you don't want an incident
9 in Monrovia where Johnny Paul Koroma comes and maybe the Sierra
15:29:31 10 Leonean government, knowing that he is there, tried to take
11 advantage of the situation. So he was provided adequate
12 security, as would be provided anyone coming that you bring into
13 the country like that. You want to make sure there is no
14 incident in your territory, so that would happen. The same
15:29:49 15 security was given him; security was given Sankoh when he came;
16 anybody. Because when you are dealing with these factional
17 things about - right in Monrovia, there were - in Liberia
18 throughout this crisis you are talking about 250,000 Sierra
19 Leoneans that were still living in Monrovia and its environs all
15:30:11 20 over the place. You had the pros and the cons, so you don't want
21 an incident, so you had to give adequate security.

22 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, at this time when Johnny Paul Koroma
23 arrives in Monrovia we are talking about August 1999, aren't we?

24 A. That is correct.

15:30:28 25 Q. Where there members of the RUF in Monrovia at the time?

26 A. Oh, yes, there are. Members of the RUF are there.

27 Q. And do they have access to Johnny Paul Koroma?

28 A. Oh, no.

29 Q. Why not?

- 1 A. Oh, Johnny Paul Koroma is furious. I mean, he has been
2 incarcerated for all of those months. He is furious, that's why
3 we don't - the RUF has a guesthouse in Monrovia. We had to take
4 Johnny Paul Koroma to Hotel Africa across town. He is very
15:30:58 5 furious because he had been incarcerated by the RUF, and he
6 didn't want to hear or see anybody connected to the RUF.
- 7 Q. I ask for this reason. Listen to this, page 8499, line 24:
8 "Q. What, if anything, happened when your delegation met
9 with Johnny Paul Koroma?
- 15:31:17 10 A. Well, we had a discussion with Johnny Paul Koroma.
11 Q. Do you recall the discussion you had with him?
12 A. Yes, my Lord.
13 Q. Can you tell the Court what the discussion you had with
14 him was?
- 15:31:31 15 A. Well, when Johnny Paul - when we were sitting together,
16 he said, well, he was very much happy to meet with us and
17 he said we should not be too worried. Nothing had happened
18 to him. He said so. Now that we have come, what actually
19 do we want to happen? So Bazzy said, 'Please, sir, we
15:31:52 20 have been left out of the Lome accord, and even you, you
21 were not given any appointment. We have heard them appoint
22 so and so people, but we didn't hear anything about an
23 appointment for you.' So this was why we were concerned,
24 and that's the reason we captured these UNAMSIL people.
- 15:32:14 25 That is why we have come to you to find out how we would
26 resolve this issue, because we want to be reinstated into
27 the army.
28 Q. How do you know about this conversation between Johnny
29 Paul and Bazzy?

1 A. Well, we went together, as I said. This eleven-man
2 delegation went and met with Johnny Paul Koroma and had
3 this discussion with Johnny Paul Koroma. As we were
4 talking, Johnny Paul Koroma said, 'We should not speak
15:32:50 5 loudly because there are some RUF boys moving up and down.'
6 He told us plainly that, 'Gentlemen, really, I hadn't
7 control over the men.' He said, 'But I am happy that you
8 have been able to do this. I had no control. That was why
9 I was not able to talk to you.'

15:33:16 10 Q. What do you know when you said there were some RUF boys
11 moving up and down?

12 A. Johnny Paul himself told us that the house where he
13 was, there were some RUF guys around. They were
14 patrolling. They were - because the place - like where I
15:33:37 15 am sitting here, the RUF guys were moving up and down in
16 the parlour. It was Johnny Paul who showed them to us,
17 that these were the RUF men who were with him. So he told
18 us that since this was the problem, he said he will make
19 necessary arrangements. From there they will pick us up,
15:34:02 20 they will select some men among us, because eleven of us
21 would not go and meet President Taylor. He said we should
22 select some men who will go and meet President Taylor so
23 that this thing could be worked out, because
24 President Taylor was concerned. He wanted to actually know
15:34:21 25 about this issue so that we will be able to solve it."

26 I am pausing for you to deal with this suggestion that
27 there were RUF men patrolling around the house where Johnny Paul
28 Koroma was staying.

29 A. But if I understand this properly, that's probable. But

1 Johnny Paul is saying here that these are RUF boys with him, so
2 these boys could have come with him, from my understanding of
3 this, and I stand corrected. I mean, so if somebody is in his
4 living-room, maybe while he was being pulled out of Sierra Leone
15:35:03 5 there were some boys that were with him, but these are not - the
6 security that were provided for Johnny Paul Koroma would not be
7 parading up and down his living-room. So my understanding here,
8 he is saying that these are the boys with him, so I would - I
9 don't know how many persons came in with Johnny Paul at that
15:35:27 10 particular time. I know he came, his wife, his children and some
11 bodyguards, but I do not - cannot fix them into any particular
12 group. So I would suspect that this is - these are boys that
13 came with him from Sierra Leone.

14 But as far as the security on the ground for Johnny Paul
15:35:45 15 Koroma, it was well put together and it would not have contained
16 any Sierra Leoneans for fear of conflict.

17 Q. Now, the explanation given by this witness continues in
18 this way:

19 "So Johnny Paul, as I said, explained to us exactly what
15:36:06 20 had happened in Kailahun up to the time he met us. So he
21 told us to go back, and since that was our demand, he said
22 yes, that was true, that he hadn't any appointment in the
23 government, the broad-based government that they were
24 saying they will form, but he has seen a vacancy that he
15:36:30 25 believes hasn't been given to anybody, which is - which was
26 the CCP chairman, the chairman for the consolidation of
27 peace. He said that space was empty. He said he will
28 prefer to take that appointment so that he would be able to
29 coordinate the peace in Freetown. He said, 'But when we

1 meet with President Taylor, whatever discussion we had, he
2 will explain and they will send that down to Freetown so
3 that they will be able to be approve that for us.' After
4 that the meeting ended with Johnny Paul Koroma. We ate and
15:37:11 5 the vehicles took us back to the Boulevard Hotel in the
6 city.

7 Q. You said it was Johnny Paul who showed them to us, that
8 is, the RUF men.

9 A. Johnny Paul. He said when he came, these were the
10 guards he had used. He had some RUF guards apart from
11 Charles Taylor's special guards. He said these were - he
12 said, 'You cool down. You calm down.' They were in the
13 parlour, the RUF men. He said, 'These were my guards that
14 I have here apart from the special guards who
15:37:51 15 President Taylor sent to his house.'

16 Q. When he said that President Taylor was very concerned
17 about this issue, did he explain why President Taylor was
18 very concerned?

19 A. Yes. Because he told us that President Taylor had made
15:38:07 20 all necessary arrangements for him to be airlifted so that
21 he could resolve this issue that is on now. But he was
22 being pressurised now that the ECOMOG were under arrest.
23 That's why we came, so that we could push the Lome accord
24 and come together. He said it's the division that was
15:38:30 25 existing that President Taylor did not want, so that there
26 would be no problem. That was what President Taylor was
27 concerned about.

28 Q. What division did he say President Taylor did not want?

29 A. Well, we have gone over the air that we have been left

1 out of the Lome Peace Accord, and we all thought that did
2 not mention this SLA. He said President Taylor was
3 concerned about that he said so that that would not result
4 in a division between the two groups, so that there will be
15:39:07 5 no division. He said but he was going to make an
6 appointment, and we will see the President and have a
7 discussion with him, but that we should select some men
8 amongst us who will meet with him so that they will discuss
9 things.

15:39:24 10 Q. President Taylor did not want a division between which
11 two groups?

12 A. The RUF and the SLA that were together. He said the Pa
13 does not want any division. He said President Taylor does
14 not want any division, because we have started - it is not
15:39:45 15 at the end when they declared peace that this person will
16 be saying this and that one will be saying that.
17 President Taylor wants us to resolve this issue once and
18 for all.

19 Q. When he said the Pa does not want any division, do you
15:40:03 20 know who the Pa was?

21 A. President Taylor."

22 And then he goes on to describe leaving. Now, Mr Taylor,
23 is that an accurate reflection of the views you held at the time?

24 A. Yes, I would say, yes. I'm not sure of the little negative
15:40:23 25 minds of the two groups must be together, but I think we have
26 United Nation documents that we have presented here. What I said
27 was what everybody said. We wanted no division, we wanted this
28 matter resolved, and that the Lome accords would not be revisited
29 and that they had to make up their minds and come together. Now,

1 that's - my interruption. Now, how others will interpret this
2 part where he says that he wants the two groups to be together
3 not to - maybe some sick minds would look at it a different way.
4 But I was reflecting the view of the entire international
15:41:02 5 community, and we have United Nations papers here that we have
6 read to this Court that tells what my statements were at the
7 time: That the Lome Accords would not be revisited and that I
8 took the time between August and September, along with my other
9 colleagues, to negotiate a settlement that brought Johnny Paul
15:41:22 10 Koroma, as chairman of the CCP, and the SLA as being put back in
11 the Sierra Leonean army. That was resolved between August and
12 September 1999. So - but generally here, I have no quarrel with
13 how he has interpreted it here from his understanding of what is
14 going on.

15:41:45 15 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, it continues. The witness goes on to say
16 that a number of those from the delegation, along with Johnny
17 Paul Koroma, went to see you at the Executive Mansion in
18 Monrovia. This is page 8504 line 6:

19 "Q. When you arrived at the President Taylor President's
15:42:17 20 office, did you meet anyone?

21 A. Well, upon our arrival the ADC Momo Dgiba received us
22 and took us to the conference room and we were there in
23 waiting.

24 Q. And what happened after this?

15:42:30 25 A. Well, we waited for some time, after which
26 President Taylor came together with Momo Dgiba, and he
27 also introduced his Defence Minister to us, Daniel Chea.
28 They came into the conference room. They sat down and
29 Johnny Paul introduced us, the squad that went to

1 President Taylor.

2 Q. Do you recall a date for this meeting?

3 A. It was going towards August. July-August 1999 after
4 the Lome Peace Accord had been signed. Early August. That
15:43:06 5 was when we went to Monrovia, in 1999."

6 Agree early August, Mr Taylor?

7 A. August, yes, yes, I have no problems with that.

8 Q. "Q. What happened after your group was introduced by
9 Johnny Paul to President Taylor?

15:43:22 10 A. Well, President Taylor said, 'Gentlemen, you are
11 welcomed to Liberia.' He said, 'This issue which is on the
12 floor now, I am happy that you have come and we should
13 solve this issue once and for all.' He said, 'I have been
14 giving assistance to the movement. I have mobilised most

15:43:40 15 of the SLAs who came to Liberia. I mobilised them and sent
16 them to reinforce you there.' He said, 'So I am not happy
17 that there is about to be a division between you.' He
18 said, 'Gentleman, I am warning you, if you continue this
19 division, then you will find yourselves in prison.' He

15:44:03 20 said, 'Your main focus should be the seat of the
21 presidency. That is what you should be fighting for.' He
22 said, 'So, please, I am talking to you. You should come
23 together and resolve this issue once and for all.' He
24 said, 'This division would cause the politicians to use
15:44:22 25 you.' He said, 'If you allow that most of you will end up
26 in jail.'

27 Q. Witness, did President Taylor state what assistance he
28 gave the movement?

29 A. He said, yes, the supplies that we were receiving, the

1 arms and ammunition, he had been coordinating all of that.
2 Even the food that got to us during those times, he was the
3 one who coordinated that. So he would not sit by and see a
4 problem erupt between the two groups. That was why when
15:45:01 5 this thing happened he organised for Johnny Paul Koroma to
6 be picked up to come and he organised for us to form a
7 delegation so that we can come and resolve this issue once
8 and for all."

9 I pause to give you an opportunity of dealing with that,

15:45:21 10 Mr Taylor. There you are in a conference room at the Executive
11 Mansion in Monrovia, early August 1999, publicly, in front of
12 your Defence Minister, and your aide-de-camp, Momo Dgi ba, and
13 members of this delegation from Sierra Leone, publicly confessing
14 to assisting the RUF/AFRC with arms and ammunition. What do you
15:45:58 15 say?

16 A. You know these boys are just - I guess he was going so well
17 that he had to get twisted about this. Before this delegation
18 gets to Monrovia I have met Johnny Paul Koroma a few times. This
19 delegation arrives in Liberia I would say close to a week after
15:46:20 20 Johnny Paul Koroma arrives. Now, if you think about it to say
21 well if they really want to be good and come here and tell the
22 truth, why would I tell a delegation of Johnny Paul Koroma a week
23 after he arrives that, 'Oh, I have been helping you people, I
24 have been doing what.' Wouldn't Johnny Paul Koroma know if
15:46:43 25 assistance - this man is incarcerated. Wouldn't Johnny Paul
26 Koroma know that assistance had been coming and he would say,
27 'Oh, thank you. You all thank the President for the assistance
28 that we have been receiving.' There is no such statement.

29 What I told these people were very, very - he started off

1 good and then he twisted off on the wrong road. I told these
2 people when they got there they were welcome and I wanted to find
3 out how we could resolve this problem because the Lome agreement
4 had to be implemented. That's why I got involved in the first
15:47:16 5 place. That's how I got involved in the first place.

6 But now we are seeing people - you are sitting down in this
7 meeting. You do not know what led you there. You don't know how
8 you got there. What does this boy think? How does this
9 boy - this gentleman - believe he was able to leave Okra Hills,
15:47:43 10 not getting arrested for holding UN and other people hostage,
11 taken to Lungi airport by ECOMOG and UN, flown to Liberia on
12 board the plane, the protocol officer of Tejani Kabbah on the
13 plane. Doesn't he realise that this is something official. That
14 I would go and sit in a meeting and say, "Oh, yes, I have been
15:48:08 15 helping you people", total nonsense. Total nonsense.

16 One of the first thing that Johnny Paul Koroma asked for,
17 he said, "Listen, Mr President, I don't know why these boys -
18 what all happened, so I need to see some of them." And the three
19 groups, the UN, ECOMOG, Kabbah, myself, arranged to have them
15:48:26 20 brought. I said no such nonsense about helping them. All I told
21 them that they needed to stay together.

22 And what I did say, I said, "Look, there's no time for this
23 fuss and fighting." And he misunderstood maybe. I said to him,
24 "If there is anything that you people need to do, the elections
15:48:43 25 are coming, you can run for President, you all can run, wait for
26 the political process. But this peace agreement must be put into
27 place and this is the determination of ECOWAS."

28 And that's why I was able to negotiate these last two
29 points. What are they? A position for Johnny Paul Koroma and a

1 position for the SLA. Those were the two issues outstanding. I
2 didn't do them alone. I did it in conjunction with most of, what
3 - Kabbah was involved in this all the way. The chairman of
4 ECOWAS, Eyadema, was involved all the way because this was
15:49:20 5 something that Kabbah was not interested in pulling all of these
6 SLA people back into the army. I mean, this was a very painful
7 process for Tejani Kabbah to accept all of the rest of these SLA
8 boys back in the army. So I could have never succeeded in doing
9 this by myself. No.

15:49:38 10 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, you will note, of course, the congruence
11 between the earlier testimony of the witness of meeting KBC,
12 former SLA, who had been trained, re-armed and sent by you, and
13 this reference at page 8504, "I have mobilised most of the SLAs
14 who came to Liberia. I mobilised them and sent them to reinforce
15 you there." You see the congruence between those two things?

15:50:11 16 A. I do. I do. That's why I say they go along, they tell the
17 truth, and someone says, "Well, wait a minute, you are going too
18 far." They bring a lie in there. But this was as official as it
19 can get. There is not one - the United Nations, and the
15:50:30 20 documents have been read here, we can reintroduce them if you
21 want, but everybody was aware. This was an open situation,
22 freeing the UN personnel, removing Johnny Paul Koroma from the
23 bush, bringing him to Monrovia, releasing - bringing these boys
24 from Okra Hills to Monrovia, settling the peace so by the time
15:50:51 25 Foday Sankoh gets to Monrovia in September I bring them together
26 and all of us, I can say, get them back into Freetown. So there
27 is nothing that is unofficial. Maybe he doesn't know and so at
28 this appropriate time he slips in whatever he wants to put in.

29 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, this is one of the few opportunities we

1 have to hear a direct account from someone who was present at
2 this meeting. So we need to go through it with a little care.
3 On this issue of assistance provided by you:

4 "Q. Did he specify at what times he gave this assistance?

15:51:40 5 A. Well, what he said was that he continued to assist the
6 troops that were fighting until the time that we got the
7 ceasefire. That was why when they called him, when he
8 heard about this he coordinated right away for Johnny Paul
9 to be picked up in Kailahun and brought so that we can
10 resolve this issue and not allow the politicians to use us.

11 Q. When he said he did not want there to be a division
12 between the two groups, did he specify which two groups?

13 A. Yes, because he clearly showed that - he said the two
14 groups, that is the AFRC and the SLA that went into the
15:52:27 15 bush, and the RUF, he said he doesn't want this division to
16 exist.

17 Q. The assistance he said he was giving to the movement,
18 which movement was he referring to? Did he say that?

19 A. Well, as I said, he said he had been giving assistance
15:52:45 20 to the AFRC/RUF that was fighting, so that we could remove
21 the government that was in Freetown, the Government of
22 Sierra Leone headed by Ahmad Tejan Kabbah. He said that
23 should be our focus to ensure that we were in the seat of
24 power, rather than causing disputes amongst
15:53:03 25 ourselves.

26 Q. Do you recall if he said anything else, President
27 Taylor?

28 A. What he told us also was that even Pa Sankoh was on his
29 way. He was leaving Togo for Ghana and he would like us to

1 wait and meet with Pa Sankoh so that all of us would go to
2 Freetown together. So after that Johnny Paul explained
3 exactly what the problem was that caused us to capture the
4 UNAMSIL people and after that the meeting came to an end.
15:53:50 5 Charles Taylor took \$15,000 and gave it to Johnny Paul for
6 it to be given us, the men who came, so that we could
7 refresh ourselves and buy things. He said we should feel
8 free and buy things in Monrovia until we await the arrival
9 of Foday Saybana Sankoh who had left Lome for Ghana and
15:54:12 10 that he was on his way to come - he was on his way to
11 Liberia."

12 And then he goes on to explain that it was \$15,000 US.
13 Now, there are three items there that I want to ask you about
14 amongst that, Mr Taylor. Firstly, "He said that should be our
15:54:34 15 focus, to ensure that we were in the seat of power, rather than
16 causing disputes amongst ourselves with one another." And that
17 is said in the context of you saying we could remove the
18 government that was in Freetown headed by Ahmad Tejan Kabbah and
19 that's why you had been giving assistance to the AFRC/RUF.

15:55:02 20 You do understand the suggestion there, don't you,
21 Mr Taylor? This is the culmination of your dream as alleged in
22 the indictment. The installation of a puppet government in
23 Freetown. You understand that, don't you?

24 A. Yes, I do.

15:55:20 25 Q. And that effectively you were here lecturing your
26 underlings from the former SLA as to what the priority should be.
27 In effect and in short: "Stop squabbling amongst yourselves,
28 seize power. That's what I've been providing assistance to you
29 for." You do understand, don't you?

1 A. Uh-huh, I do.

2 Q. What do you say, Mr Taylor?

3 A. I say it's total nonsense that they were thinking. Because
4 let's look at the period. At this particular point in time
15:55:56 5 what's going on between the SLA, the RUF and whatever? Aren't
6 they fighting? There is no peace between these people. Johnny
7 Paul Koroma is being held as a prisoner. He is being held as a
8 prisoner. And he has not been able - why do they seize UNAMSIL
9 and RUF officials? What is the demand? "We will only release
15:56:24 10 these RUF and UNAMSIL soldiers when Johnny Paul Koroma is free."
11 Witnesses testified here that they say they alleged to have
12 spoken to Johnny Paul, but they said no, we were not going to
13 let - there is confusion between these people. They are not
14 united that I would tell them - for what, we go to, what, as far
15:56:47 15 back as the 6 January invasion. We know there is no unity
16 between these people. There is no unity.

17 And even to get this matter here under control, when Johnny
18 Paul Koroma comes to Monrovia they are separated. When Foday
19 Sankoh comes to Monrovia, it takes me at least a couple of days
15:57:06 20 to get them to agree at least to really face to face discussion.
21 There is so much anger in Johnny Paul Koroma of what the RUF had
22 done to him.

23 So this suggestion is totally off the link. There is no
24 way that I am instructing them or advising them. The one thing
15:57:28 25 that is very, very clear, and that is very well documented in UN
26 documents, I tell them quite bluntly, if you read what Thomas's
27 paper said where I tell them: Gentlemen, we have got an
28 agreement. You stop the confusion, no problems that you bring
29 will end Lome. The Lome agreement stands. There are elections

1 that are going to come. You people have to try to pick your
2 chances to establish yourselves politically, but no one is going
3 to tear this Lome agreement apart. And there was no - there was
4 no error on our part by not inviting the SLA to Lome. What we
15:58:12 5 sought to do - by "we" I am talking about ECOWAS and the
6 international community - at the time was to make sure that we
7 build on the 1996 agreement and that we should not bring the
8 junta into this discussion in Lome. So the agreement in Lome was
9 strictly between the Kabbah government and the RUF. This is a
15:58:35 10 continuation of 1996 agreement in Abidjan.

11 Now, I do not know what his little head is going to, but
12 everything that I do at this particular time is about trying to
13 bring unity, stop the confusion, let's get back to Sierra Leone
14 to implement Lome. And that was my mission that had been given
15:58:58 15 me, and I think I executed it very well. Johnny Paul Koroma
16 came, Sankoh came, we all got together, I called the United
17 Nations. The documents reported here by the conversation between
18 Kofi Annan and myself about what the UN - I wanted them deeply
19 involved in all of these discussions. We've gone through the
15:59:22 20 discussion I had with Kofi Annan on the phone. Kofi Annan
21 assigned his representative to Monrovia. There is nothing being
22 done in secret. There's not a secret deal going on here. The UN
23 is involved; Thomas is in every meeting; all of these discussions
24 and ends up where? On the plane. And many other diplomatic
15:59:41 25 missions are involved. We have learned on that plane taking
26 Sankoh and Johnny Paul to Freetown is the United States
27 ambassador accredited near Monrovia on the plane. Does this look
28 like any secret sneaking and hiding and promises? Maybe they
29 learned how to do their little slants. There was no such, you

1 know, skewing of, you know, statements. My action were
2 transparent, they were open and to the point and we got results,
3 and I feel very proud of what I did.

4 Q. Second matter I want to ask you, Mr Taylor, in that
16:00:22 5 passage, is this: Did you tell them that Sankoh was on his way
6 and that you wanted them to wait there in Monrovia in order to
7 meet them?

8 A. Well, yes, I did say that Sankoh was on his way and that it
9 would be good for all of them to sit down, yes.

16:00:42 10 Q. Finally, did you give Johnny Paul Koroma \$15,000 US to
11 share out amongst the delegates in order that they could refresh
12 themselves and buy things in Monrovia?

13 A. Quite frankly, I can't be sure of the exact amount, but it
14 was a good size amount. So I wouldn't fight with 15,000. There
16:01:07 15 were what? Eleven came. Johnny Paul Koroma brought another
16 group. So it's highly probably that I could have given that
17 amount. I can't be exact, but I did give them some money, yes.

18 And mind you, there was not money to buy arms. This is very
19 traditional. Most African leaders in my position mediating - as
16:01:34 20 I was mediating - would do that. There is nothing unusual about
21 that. I didn't give them money to go buy arms or nothing. I
22 gave them money. They came from the bush. I look at their feet.
23 Some of them had on sneakers and they were not - and I gave money
24 to the leader and I said, "Buy some things to go back." Yes, I
16:01:52 25 did. The exact amount, I can't be sure. I can't say he is far
26 off it, so I am not going to fight with the amount. It could
27 have been 15; it could have been probably more. But I did give
28 them some money.

29 Q. And at a later stage he goes on to say how the group were

1 introduced to you individually by name. I don't think we need
2 delay over that.

3 A. Yes, I think they did. I wouldn't even remember all of
4 them. But of course in a delegation like that you would say
16:02:29 5 this, this, this, you just - you know, that's it. I don't
6 remember all of them.

7 Q. Do you recall being introduced - and I do this just for the
8 record, Mr Taylor - to Buzzy, that being Ibrahim Buzzy Kamara, as
9 the commander who led the delegation?

16:02:45 10 A. Yes. The commander that came from Freetown, yes.

11 Q. Do you also remember being introduced to someone called
12 Bomb Blast, Hassan Papa Bangura?

13 A. I very well could have. I don't quite recall the
14 Bomb Blast. Bangura; yes, probably. If he came from Freetown,
16:03:05 15 yes.

16 Q. And do you recall being introduced to the particular
17 witness as Major AB Sesay?

18 A. No, I don't. I don't quite remember. But if he came from
19 Freetown and was in that room, he was introduced. I don't
16:03:30 20 recall, and I don't dispute that he was there. I don't just
21 recall.

22 Q. And for completeness, do you remember being introduced to
23 someone called Junior Lion?

24 A. No. No.

16:03:42 25 Q. Very well.

26 A. He could have been there.

27 Q. Just to round off this topic, Mr Taylor, the witness was
28 asked again at page 8509 line 24:

29 "Q. You said that President Taylor told the group that he

1 provided assistance in the form of food, arms and
2 ammunition?

3 A. Yes, my Lord. That was not hidden. He did not hide
4 that from us. He said, 'I have been giving assistance',
16:04:17 5 and even the SLAs who came from Guinea and surrendered who
6 came to Liberia, he said, 'I gave them safe passage. They
7 came in and I reorganised them and sent them to Kailahun so
8 that they will go and join you to continue the fight.'

9 Q. Did he say where these SLAs would go to join you?

16:04:44 10 A. Yes, my Lord. He said they were to pass through. He
11 said he had sent them to General Mosquito so that they will
12 also join the troops that were coming towards Freetown.

13 Q. When you say that he said 'so that they', meaning the
14 SLAs, would go and join you to continue the fight, did he
16:05:09 15 say which fight he was talking about?

16 A. Yes, he said to make sure that the SLPP government
17 headed by Tejan Kabbah should be - to make sure it was
18 overthrown, that it should be out of power. And I can also
19 recall he said in fact the visit that we paid, that there
16:05:30 20 was small pressure - some pressure - because in that area
21 Mosquito Spray's squad was there and that he had even
22 ordered General Mosquito to move and come to the Voinjama
23 area to repel that squad that had come from Guinea, because
24 we were in Liberia, in Monrovia, when Mosquito Spray's
16:05:52 25 squad attacked that area."

26 Pause. Now, we have already dealt with you sending -
27 reorganising, rearming, and sending this group of former SLAs
28 back to Sierra Leone, Mr Taylor, so I am not going to task on
29 you. But you see an added detail here, don't you?

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. Now, in August 1999 whilst this Okra Hills delegation was
3 in Monrovia, was there not an incursion in that same month from
4 Guinea?

16:06:31 5 A. Yes, that's in Voi nj ama?

6 Q. Mmmm.

7 A. Voi nj ama.

8 Q. So that part - and was that by Mosquito Spray?

9 A. No.

16:06:46 10 Q. Who was it by?

11 A. I don't know the - I am not sure they gave a name.
12 Mosquito Spray is '98 in Foya, so the Foya axis when they first
13 come in. But 1999 they don't give a name. We begin later on to
14 hear about LURD, but they don't give a name. So they are two
15 different years.

16:07:07

16 Q. But just looking at this aspect of the witness's testimony
17 in layers. Layer one, there is an incursion at this time, yes?

18 A. Uh-huh, yes.

19 Q. Layer two, he claims - so he has got his timing right on
20 that part, yes, Mr Taylor?

16:07:31

21 A. Uh-huh.

22 Q. Layer two, he claims that you say you had already
23 instructed the RUF to deploy to this area to assist in repelling
24 this incursion, yes?

16:07:46

25 A. Yes. But that's not true, because he wouldn't even know
26 that. But that's not true. Where is he at this time?

27 Q. No, no, no. He is in a meeting when you are telling him
28 this.

29 A. Yes, I know. But that's not true. How would I tell him

1 that? What would be the benefit of telling him: Oh, guess -
2 there is no relationship between the RUF and the SLA at the time,
3 so that what would be the benefit of telling Johnny Paul Koroma:
4 Oh, guess what? I told Mosquito - you think Johnny Paul, he
16:08:18 5 wants to hear the name Mosquito when he's just came from being
6 incarcerated? So what's the benefit of giving them that kind of
7 information? Even assuming it is true, why would I want to tell
8 the SLA: Oh, I have ordered - he is lying. That's total
9 nonsense.

16:08:36 10 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, the answer to that might be - remember,
11 this is being said, it is alleged, in the context of you seeking
12 to heal divisions between these two parts of your - the group you
13 are supporting. So one might say that it would be helpful in
14 that situation to say: "Well, look, guys, I've been giving you
16:08:58 15 this assistance. And look, the RUF are now assisting me here.
16 Time for you to put your problems to one side and seek power."
17 You follow?

18 A. Yeah, but that would be totally off the cuff because then
19 if one would even slightly assume that because I am trying to get
16:09:23 20 these two groups together, then we have to also assume, on the
21 other hand, that actually the description that they gave that I'm
22 meddling - that I'm actually meddling, if you - if anybody wants
23 to narrowly believe that: Oh, he is trying to bring them
24 together because [indiscernible], then that accounts for
16:09:44 25 meddling. But it must be very clear: My participation in this
26 venture is because I am acting on behalf of the entire ECOWAS and
27 international community at this particular time to get hostages
28 freed and to get Lome going. So I would not permit any side to
29 narrowly think that I have a specific interest in bringing - I

1 have no interest in bringing the RUF and the SLA together. My
2 only interest in Sierra Leone and my interest in this venture is
3 to make sure we hurry, get Lome going, bring peace to Sierra
4 Leone so I can get Liberia going. Because Liberia is going
16:10:30 5 nowhere as long as this crisis in Sierra Leone seemed not to be.
6 So that would just be a very, very, very, very narrow and cynical
7 view if anyone were to assume that my interest is to bring only
8 these two groups together. I have no interest in that. If
9 there's anything, that should be Kabbah's interests. I have
16:10:53 10 interest in bringing peace so Liberia can have peace too.

11 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, I have to give you the full picture in
12 relation to these forces that were sent, and I am moving in that
13 context to page 8511:

14 "Q. The SLAs that President Taylor said were sent into
16:11:27 15 Kailahun, do you recall if anything was said about who sent
16 them to Kailahun?

17 A. He said he had given them safe passage and he had
18 reorganised them through his order and that he had ordered
19 that they should go and join Mosquito to help with the
16:11:46 20 fight in Freetown.

21 Q. When he said he had given them safe passage, did he
22 explain what he meant?

23 A. Yes, my Lord. Because he said the SLA who went to
24 Guinea he found out that they had arrested a lot of
16:12:05 25 commanders there, but those who came to Liberia he ensured
26 that none of them were arrested. He told them to feel free
27 in Liberia and ordered that they would be reorganised and
28 sent them to Mosquito to help and push to go to Freetown."
29 He continues following one or two issues being resolved:

1 "Q. When President Taylor said he had sent these forces to
2 go and help with the fight in Freetown, did he explain
3 anything more about the fight in Freetown?

4 A. As I said, he said he reorganised those men and sent
16:12:51 5 them to Mosquito so they will go and support the advance to
6 Freetown.

7 Q. Did he explain which advance to Freetown he sent the
8 support for?

9 A. As I said, the advance - the time we entered Freetown,
16:13:06 10 the 6 January invasion, that was what he was referring to.
11 That was the advance that we took to Freetown, the 6
12 January invasion.

13 Q. How do you know that President Taylor was referring to
14 the 6 January invasion?

16:13:24 15 A. He himself said it. He said that was why he
16 reorganised them, so that they will go and support us. All
17 of the troops will advance to and capture Freetown, and
18 that was the 6 January invasion. That was the advance. He
19 said that in our presence.

16:13:52 20 Q. Witness, when you say, 'He said that was why he
21 reorganised them, so that they will go and support us
22 all, all of us, all of the troops will advance to go and
23 capture Freetown, and that was the 6 January invasion', how
24 do you know President Taylor was referring to the 6 January
16:14:15 25 invasion on Freetown?

26 A. As I said, as I have said before since it was an
27 organised advance to Freetown and when Mosquito had
28 communicated with Gullit while we were in the Hastings
29 hills for the advance and he said there was reinforcement

1 coming, there were men coming to reinforce us to advance to
2 Freetown, and so when they spoke about the invasion in
3 Freetown that was when we knew that that was what he was
4 explaining to us.

16:14:49 5 Q. Why do you say that when he speaks about the invasion
6 in Freetown he is in fact talking about the 6 January 1999
7 invasion?

8 A. As I said, Mosquito had told us that we were to be in
9 preparation because the reinforcement was coming, because
16:15:10 10 he himself confirmed to us that the SLAs who had
11 surrendered, he sent them to Kailahun to Mosquito to
12 advance towards Freetown - towards the capture of Freetown.

13 Q. Did he say anything else about the invasion and capture
14 of Freetown?

16:15:27 15 A. No, he did not say any other thing to us. He only said
16 that was why he reorganised the SLAs so that they will go
17 and be a support to Mosquito so they will move and join us
18 to capture Freetown."

19 Nothing could be clearer, Mr Taylor. You learnt of the
16:15:54 20 arrest of these commanders in Guinea, you organised free passage
21 for them to Liberia, you reorganised them, and you send them back
22 to Sierra Leone for a specific purpose; the Freetown invasion.
23 What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

24 A. What else can I say, it's a blatant lie. I didn't organise
16:16:21 25 anybody. If I wanted to be involved in the operation in Sierra
26 Leone, I would take a few whatever they call themselves who
27 escape coming out of Guinea, I will go personally organise them
28 and say - and even when we get to know the whole story of the
29 Freetown invasion as has been given in all of these courts, was

1 the RUF involved? So I mean these - it's just beyond my
2 imagination how they come up with these that I will be sitting
3 down in a meeting in the Executive Mansion with Johnny Paul
4 Koroma and talking about how I sent a few SLA soldiers to
16:17:00 5 invade - I mean, normally, if something like this had happened in
6 January - in January, they in that meeting instead of me telling
7 them what I did, Johnny Paul and these senior people like Bazy
8 ought to be saying to me, "Well, you know, Mr President, thank
9 you very much for helping us, our boys that came and entered
16:17:26 10 Liberia, how you reorganised them and you armed them, then you
11 sent them but we were not successful." They ought to be the ones
12 telling me and thanking me.

13 So I am now the one who is explaining all. Liars, liars,
14 liars, liars. That's all they are. Then they are very - the
16:17:45 15 Bazy who is supposed to be the commander, whoever goes to
16 Freetown, isn't he supposed to be telling me in this meeting,
17 "Mr President, thank you, the soldiers that you - remember our
18 boys that came into Liberia and you reorganised and sent them to
19 us, unluckily they did not reach to us", or, "When they did get
16:18:02 20 to us things had failed, but they told us" - you know, these are
21 people that that ought to be - this is August 1999, about an
22 occurrence in January 1999. Who should be explaining anything?
23 So what do they say? I am telling them what all I am supposed to
24 have done. What are they telling me about their knowledge of
16:18:37 25 what I had done?

26 At least any sound minded person would say but wait a
27 minute, except this is something that is done, the information
28 never reached them. These are senior commanders that are rearmed
29 and they go. They never hear about this good news about what I

1 did that they can tell me in that meeting, "Thank you,
2 Mr President, we heard of what you did. Mr President, you know,
3 the boys did not get to us or they reached to us late." I am the
4 one just running off my mouth telling them, "I armed some people
16:19:14 5 that came, I opened way for them and sent them to you" and they
6 know nothing about it? Bazzy, nobody would tell me thank you?
7 It's a lie. I never organised anybody to send anywhere.

8 And there are different accounts of this now. Remember
9 this is this group now, what are the three letters they use, I
16:19:34 10 forgot the letters, but there also this Senegalese that is
11 supposed to be going and then later on there is another witness
12 that deals with Red Lion, and Rambo, Red Goat and all these
13 goats. I mean we have got different versions of this as we go
14 down the road. How there were some 40 or more people that came
16:19:51 15 with Rambo Red Goat if I understand, or something. It just has a
16 long tail. A long tail and - so I - well, if I did this then
17 nobody recognised it, as they surely didn't know anything about
18 it. This was a secret that I kept or I only knew from January
19 until it is explained in August.

16:20:14 20 Your Honours, this is not true. I didn't explain anything
21 like this to this boy. But I can see what is happening here.
22 This boy's testimony, the evidence given by this witness, as far
23 as his account of going to Monrovia, would have no real meaning
24 except it is attached to these individuals that are supposed to
16:20:42 25 come from Sierra Leone who are supposed to be reinforced, okay,
26 and the only way this reinforcement situation can have any
27 traction, it must be stated by me supposedly in a meeting.
28 That's the whole construct here, as best as I understand it. But
29 it's a lie. I never said this in that meeting to anybody. And

1 if I had done this, I would have expected at least that they
2 would have told me, Johnny Paul would have told me, or Bazzy, who
3 was the commander or some of them. He just added this lie to it.
4 That's not true.

16:21:22 5 Q. "Q. Witness, you said President Taylor also said that
6 there was some small pressure at the time you paid the
7 visit because in that area Mosquito Spray squad was there.
8 Did you know what he meant?

9 A. Yes, my Lord, because that was announced over the
16:21:41 10 international media that Mosquito Spray's squad had come
11 from Guinea and attacked around the Liberia territory and
12 that they were making arrangements together with Mosquito
13 so as to how to be able to disorganise that squad.

14 Q. Witness, when you say Mosquito Spray, who are you
16:22:00 15 referring to?

16 A. This was over the international media. They said a
17 squad that had come from Guinea had come to oust
18 President Taylor's government, the leader was called
19 Mosquito Spray. The squad came from Guinea end. They
16:22:16 20 used the Voinjama route.

21 Q. And who said they were making arrangements together
22 with Mosquito?

23 A. President Taylor told us he was making arrangements
24 with Mosquito for them to be able to disorganise the troop
16:22:30 25 that had come from that Guinea, Voinjama area to push them
26 back."

27 True or false, Mr Taylor?

28 A. Oh, that's false. There's no Mosquito Spray at this
29 particular time at all, not whatsoever. And if we listen to the

1 international media, they would not say anything about Mosquito
2 Spray. There is an attack on Voinjama but the group is not
3 called - this Mosquito Spray is back in '98.

16:23:14 4 Q. Now, the witness also went on to say, Mr Taylor, page 8930,
5 and this is the penultimate passage I want to deal with in
6 relation to this witness, line 20:

7 "A. I was at the battlefield and I had spent time with the
8 RUF and I saw the support that he was giving to the troops
9 in the form of ammunition and, as I said, also when we
16:23:40 10 went to Liberia he confirmed it."

11 Mr Taylor, somebody else attesting to the fact that you
12 were providing the support. Another lie?

13 A. Totally a liar. That's all he is. Totally. What front he
14 was at when he heard of support? What front are we talking about
16:24:04 15 here? Maybe we skipped some passages. I am sure he may be
16 talking about, what, the Freetown front? Is that the front? I
17 don't know what front.

18 Q. It's not clear, but at the battlefield.

19 A. Well, there would be all kinds of testimony here. This
16:24:23 20 matter that these people brought all these people, there were
21 close to what, 30, 40 people, he gave arms, he gave support. And
22 the other one comes, he gave arms and he gave support. He
23 brought them. Pack them up. Pack them up. Pick your choice.
24 Maybe one - you throw many fish hooks out there, maybe one will
16:24:46 25 catch.

26 Well, I tell you something, this matter here we have spent
27 a long time on it. If anybody in the world believes that
28 Charles Taylor had arms and ammunition in Liberia between July
29 1997 up until the UN destroyed all of them, then this case, I am

1 guilty as charged. Once you believe that I had arms in Liberia,
2 then - because these liars - these people that have been brought
3 here, "He's got arms" when I didn't have it. If that is
4 believed, then there is not a case. I am guilty, yeah. Because
16:25:23 5 this is well constructed. It's only - it's well constructed.
6 Liar, after liar, after liar, after liar. "He gave arms, he
7 received diamonds. He gave arms, he received diamonds." God
8 knows I didn't receive any diamond from any human. And the few
9 that are left alive will tell the world that it is a lie. You
16:25:46 10 understand me. Then we come back to he gave arms, that I did not
11 have. I am supposed to prove a negative in this Court. How can
12 I prove a negative? I have got no arms. My security had no
13 arms. But I am supplying arms and ammunition. I am supplying
14 arms and ammunition at a time when I do not have it. The United
16:26:07 15 Nations sitting down there on top of me, ECOMOG and Liberia have
16 got all the arms in some 20, 30 containers, every last one under
17 lock and key but I am supposed to be providing the arms. It's a
18 lie.

19 Q. Mr Taylor, I want to finish this witness because I have one
16:26:24 20 more passage to deal with this afternoon. Page 8931:

21 "Q. Do you agree with what President Taylor states there
22 that the Liberian mercenaries in Sierra Leone were there on
23 their own?

24 A. I can agree to part of it, but the rest I will disagree
16:26:46 25 because the Liberian mercenaries whom I knew like Isaac
26 Mongor, Nya and others, Rambo, these were mercenaries who
27 came in, Superman, who came in as Liberian mercenaries from
28 Liberia. The others as I said who were fighting alongside,
29 they supported the APC and later they supported the NPRC

1 government to fight and push the RUF and the NPFL who came
2 to attack in those days, in the early 1991, '92.

3 Well, what I am not agreeing to here is that they were
4 there on their own; that last part that these Liberians
16:27:28 5 were there on their own. It did not happen that way. The
6 Liberians who were under the Sierra Leone government were
7 under control, that is it was the Sierra Leone government
8 that was taking care. Those who came with the RUF, it was
9 he, Charles Taylor, who sent them, Isaac Mongor and
16:27:50 10 others."

11 What do you say to that, Mr Taylor?

12 A. That's a lie. Never sent Isaac Mongor, the Nya Nissar and
13 that watchamacallit. These are boys that have half Sierra
14 Leonean, half Liberian parents went on their own. I
16:28:08 15 never - yeah, I am supposed to send two or three other people
16 into Sierra Leone to launch a revolution? It doesn't make sense
17 to anybody. Nya had his parents; Isaac Mongor have Sierra
18 Leonean. All of them went on their own - their very, very, very
19 own.

16:28:25 20 Q. That's all I ask you about that witness. And would that be
21 a convenient point, Mr President?

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that's a convenient point,
23 Mr Griffiths. We will adjourn until 9.30 tomorrow. And I remind
24 you of the order, Mr Taylor, not to discuss your evidence.

16:28:56 25 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.29 p.m.
26 to be reconvened on Thursday, 1 October 2009 at
27 9.30 a.m.]

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I N D E X

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