



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER 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

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura
Mr Benedict Williams

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis
Mr Christopher Santora
Ms Maja Dimitrova

**For the accused Charles Ghankay
Taylor:**

Mr Courtenay Griffiths QC
Mr Morris Anyah
Mr Silas Chekera

1 Wednesday, 28 October 2009

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.30 a.m.]

09:32:30 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, Christopher Santora and with us our case manager Maja
09:33:16 10 Dimitrova.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

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, Mr Silas Chekera of
09:33:38 15 counsel.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thanks, Mr Griffiths. Mr Taylor, you are
17 still bound by your oath. Please go ahead, Mr Griffiths.

18 MR GRIFFITHS: May it please your Honour.

19 DANKPANNAH DR CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR:

20 [On former affirmation]

21 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR GRIFFITHS: [Continued]

22 Q. Mr Taylor, yesterday afternoon when we adjourned we were
23 looking at the testimony of one Foday Lansana, a radio operator.
24 You recall that?

09:33:52 25 A. Yes, I do.

26 Q. And the last topic we dealt with was his return to Sierra
27 Leone from Vahun to install a radio there, he said, on the
28 instruction of the one Galakpalah. Do you recall that?

29 A. Yes, I do.

1 Q. And that he took a radio which he then installed at
2 Foday Sankoh's address in Pendembu, yes?

3 A. Yes.

09:34:25 4 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, I need to ask you some further questions
5 about this for this reason: You've told us that after May/June
6 of 1992 you severed all links with Foday Sankoh. Is that right?

7 A. That is correct.

8 Q. Now, bearing that fact in mind, I want you to listen
9 carefully, please, to the following testimony from this witness.
09:34:56 10 And we pick up where we left off yesterday afternoon. Page 4380,
11 line 3:

12 "Q. Who went with you to" --

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Ms Hollis.

14 MS HOLLIS: Excuse me. What date is that?

09:35:13 15 MR GRIFFITHS: That is for 20 February 2008:

16 Q. Line 2 - well, let me start at the top:

17 "A. I moved immediately with an escort to go to Pendembu.

18 Q. Who went with you to Pendembu?

19 A. Mr Sankoh sent some securities from the RUF side to
09:35:41 20 receive me on the borderline."

21 Jump to line 17:

22 "Q. You say promotion to overall signal commander. Who
23 gave you the promotion?

24 A. I received this promotion based by recommendation made
09:35:54 25 by Mr Sankoh for me to go and work with him and he did say
26 that I was a peaceful person and that I was not part of the
27 dispute that took place between his men and the others, so
28 he said I should go back to Sierra Leone and work with
29 him."

1 Over the page to page 4381, please, line 10:

2 "Q. For which group were you working as the overall signal
3 commander?

4 A. This time round for RUF.

09:36:34 5 Q. You said you met some of Foday Sankoh's securities at
6 the border. What happened after that?

7 A. They received me and we proceeded directly to Pendembu.
8 I met with Mr Sankoh. He gave me some men for them to help

9 me to install the radio on his ground that was referred to
09:36:57 10 as Executive Mansion Ground in Pendembu and that was where

11 he resided at that particular time. The installation took

12 place. I tested the communication. I confirmed it with

13 Treetop, Butterfly and he requested" - that being Sankoh -

14 "that he wanted to talk to Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor. I

09:37:26 15 made all the necessary arrangements with the operators and

16 at that particular time Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor spoke

17 with Mr Sankoh and he asked a few questions of him with

18 regards the situation in Sierra Leone after the NPFL were

19 evacuated back to Liberia."

09:37:50 20 Do you follow?

21 A. Yes, I do.

22 Q. So what this witness is clearly saying, Mr Taylor is, one,

23 not only did you of your employees, Galakpalah, facilitate the

24 move of this radio operator back to Pendembu to work for the RUF,

09:38:18 25 but thereafter you remained in contact with Mr Sankoh. Do you

26 get it? What do you say to that?

27 A. That is not true. But even if you - and the reason why

28 it's not true, if you look at this witness's statement as is

29 given here, for this man to go back two weeks after I withdraw

1 people to install a radio and it is only at that time that
2 Foday Sankoh is able to contact me, suggests that Foday Sankoh
3 has no radio at all, because it did not take him to return in May
4 1992 to make a call. So the suggestion that there is no radio
09:39:21 5 that he is already suggested in statements you read yesterday is
6 total nonsense, because this will mean that Foday Sankoh is
7 operating in Sierra Leone for close to one year without any
8 communication. Now - I mean, you know, there's got to be some
9 logic put into these people's statements.

09:39:48 10 He returns to Sierra Leone before Foday Sankoh calls me,
11 okay, to - for me to ask him what's going on in Sierra Leone.
12 But mind you, we've been cooperating for some nine months and
13 it's only the conflict that brings the withdrawal, so there must
14 be a way that Foday Sankoh - if there is no human called Foday
09:40:12 15 Lansana, none whatsoever, we must assume that Foday Sankoh has a
16 means to contact me because he's been contacting me. Okay.
17 There's been contacts over the radio between August 1991 up to
18 the withdrawal. So for this witness to suggest that it only
19 takes him to return with one radio before there can be contact, I
09:40:36 20 mean, one can see that it is totally, totally impossible and
21 incredible, as he explains it. It is not true.

22 My suggestion is that, normally, I didn't speak to
23 Foday Sankoh after that particular time. Look, two weeks after I
24 withdraw my men, if Foday Sankoh - if I had chosen to speak to
09:41:06 25 Foday Sankoh because maybe he was trying to make mends to what
26 had happened, I would tell this Court, "I spoke to him two weeks,
27 three weeks, a month after," and I still say, "No, I want nothing
28 to do with you." Why would I lie and say, "Oh, I never talked to
29 him after May 1992"? Total nonsense.

1 My suggestion is that this boy being - this man being a
2 Sierra Leonean at heart, as I mentioned yesterday, stole this
3 radio, probably, and went back and took it on to Foday Sankoh.
4 But this man cannot tell this Court that up until the time he
09:41:40 5 returned two weeks after the May 1992 incident there was no radio
6 in Sierra Leone. He says that that was the only radio he had to
7 take back. What is that? Impossible. While others are claiming
8 that I'm speaking to them and sending arms and ammunition as in
9 the case of Isaac Mongor. I mean, it just doesn't make sense and
09:42:01 10 it's totally - it's totally false because I do not speak to
11 Sankoh. If I had spoken to Sankoh two weeks after, I would have
12 said, "I spoke to Sankoh."

13 But for me, Charles Ghankay Taylor, to get on a radio?
14 Nonsense. Total nonsense. Anyone that have come to this Court
09:42:21 15 and said they heard my voice on the radio is a liar. That is not
16 possible.

17 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, let's continue in the same vein so you get
18 the full import of what this witness is saying on this topic. We
19 move then to page 4383 commencing with an answer at line 5:

09:42:46 20 "A. I arrived in Pendembu and Mr Sankoh received me and he
21 gave me some gallant men who assisted me to erect the
22 antenna to install the radio communication and I tested it
23 with the radio communication in Gbarnga, Butterfly, Treetop
24 and it was confirmed."

09:43:10 25 Now, you recognise both of those names, Butterfly and
26 Treetop, don't you?

27 A. Yes. But don't forget, this man is trained by the NPFL.
28 He knows this. So, these names, by spewing them out to this
29 Court, really, it shouldn't make a difference. He is trained by

1 the NPFL. This man in 1990 states that he is trained by the
2 NPFL, he goes through special training, he runs away, he flees,
3 goes back to Sierra Leone. First he goes to Ganta to see his
4 people. So this man knows the system. So he can call almost all
09:43:45 5 the names, yes.

6 Q. But he continues:

7 "A. ... He also asked me that I make arrangements to
8 enable him to speak with Mr Charles Taylor and I did.

9 Q. Who asked you that, to make the arrangements to speak
09:43:58 10 to Mr Charles Taylor?

11 A. Mr Sankoh at that particular time.

12 Q. You said you made this arrangement?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. How did you do that?

09:44:12 15 A. After I had installed the radio I tuned to the
16 frequency and I called Butterfly and Butterfly answered,
17 and I arranged - made arrangement that Mr Sankoh wanted to
18 talk to Mr Taylor. Then he told me to hold on until he
19 makes Mr Taylor available. Then he spoke with Mr Sankoh.

09:44:38 20 Q. Were you present when this occurred?

21 A. Yes."

22 He goes on to mention that your code name was Ebony and
23 that Mr Sankoh's code name was Toyota. And moving to page 4385,
24 he continues like this, line 1:

09:44:59 25 "Q. Describe what you observed in terms of this
26 conversation between Mr Sankoh and Mr Taylor at this time
27 in Pendembu, after you installed the radio set.

28 A. After the installation of the radio station, Mr Taylor
29 was then available on the radio and Mr Sankoh also was now

1 available in my own station, and he called him and said,
2 'Big brother, this is Toyota speaking', and he answered."

3 Jump to line 22:

09:45:47 4 Q. I just want you to describe what you observed in terms
5 of the conversation between Mr Sankoh and Mr Taylor at this
6 time in Pendembu after you installed and tested the radio
7 set.

8 A. Mr Sankoh called Butterfly by saying, 'Toyota for
9 Butterfly' and Mr Taylor answered. He said, 'Big brother,
09:46:10 10 this is Toyota speaking.' And Mr Taylor answered, he said
11 'I am all right.' He said, 'How is the situation after the
12 departure of the NPFL' " - note that - "" troops from Sierra
13 Leone?' And he said, Mr Sankoh said, 'Things are a little
14 okay. The men are all right and the relationship between
09:46:45 15 the civilians and the fighting men is okay. The only thing
16 that we are short of is that the fighting men took away all
17 the materials, the arms and ammunition with them and for
18 now I need your assistance in light of these
19 materials.'

09:47:07 20 Q. Was there anything else said?

21 A. Yes, Mr Taylor ordered Mr Sankoh to travel to Gbarnga
22 for them to establish a better understanding.

23 Q. When you say ordered, what do you mean?

24 A. He told him that he was to report to him for a 'better
09:47:34 25 understanding of what you are trying to discuss with me'
26 and then he said goodbye to him."

27 Then the witness goes on to say that he remained in
28 Pendembu for the rest of '92 and '93 and, "I was instructed by
29 Mr Sankoh for me to start training operators in Pendembu."

1 He is quite clear, Mr Taylor. He is suggesting that the
2 relationship continued after Top Final and the order sent via
3 Dopee Menkarzon to withdraw NPFL troops. There was still
4 contact. What do you say?

09:48:21 5 A. Well, look, the only way these - I say no. I say totally
6 no. But to understand this kind of disinformation here you have
7 to look at other statements to really understand it. I guess
8 there is a crucial question here that must be asked. First we
9 have an assumption. Nya Lansana becomes the radio operator for
09:48:54 10 Foday Sankoh and he is supposed to become the radio operator for
11 Foday Sankoh in May of 1992 - excuse me, not May. June, because
12 he said two weeks later. He now becomes the radio operator for
13 Foday Sankoh following our withdrawal of our men.

14 But the crucial question is who is Foday Sankoh's radio
09:49:17 15 operator between March of 1991 up until May of 1992? Does he
16 have any radio operator? Does he have any radio? Because if we
17 conclude that Foday Sankoh could not have operated in Sierra
18 Leone for a year without a radio operator, Nya Lansana's own lie
19 here that suggests that he becomes really the first real radio
09:49:48 20 operator to make contact - because it does not take Nya Lansana
21 to contact to call to Gbarnga if a call has to be made even
22 before the two weeks that he speaks about. I'm talking pure -
23 you know, it doesn't take him. So why does Foday Sankoh have to
24 wait for two weeks if he is calling me? Why does he have to wait
09:50:14 25 for two weeks? He is suggesting here that Foday Sankoh, one, did
26 not have a radio or, two, did not have a radio operator that knew
27 how to contact me. But what was Nya Lansana doing prior to May
28 of 1992? Was he working with Foday Sankoh? Was he his operator?
29 These boys - and as he testifies here and comes

1 specifically with the NPFL after this I can see where it is
2 going. Somebody had to tell him to tie in specifically. What is
3 the relevance of contact with Foday Sankoh before May 1992 or at
4 the end of 1993? What is the real relevance as far as this is
09:51:03 5 concerned, that somebody would have to sit here - look, your
6 Honours, if Foday Sankoh had called me three, four months after I
7 pulled my troops to talk to me I would say he called but I still
8 told him no. This young man here suggests things that are
9 totally impossible that the RUF did not have communication, this
09:51:25 10 is what he suggests, and that Foday Sankoh had virtually no means
11 of getting to me until he took one radio back in May after they
12 had been in operation for a long time and had been in full
13 cooperation with the NPFL at the particular time.

14 And the way he even suggests it, he goes to the border and
09:51:47 15 Foday Sankoh sent people for him. The only thing I can come
16 again and say is that this boy ran away, he went right back to
17 Sierra Leone as most of them had gone back to go because they
18 were more Sierra Leoneans than Liberians. That's all I can put
19 it to.

09:52:04 20 But the suggestion that I was in contact with Foday Sankoh
21 and that he made such arrangements and that I spoke to
22 Foday Sankoh on the radio is a lie. I never spoke to anyone on
23 the radio. If I needed Foday Sankoh during the time of our
24 cooperation he came to Liberia. Now what is more incriminating?
09:52:26 25 Foday Sankoh coming to Liberia that I tell you he came there
26 during that period and someone saying that I have to deny that,
27 oh, there was a radio call. Total nonsense. He is a liar.

28 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, you note that in the passage I read out to
29 you mention was made of you ordering - note, ordering - Sankoh to

1 go to Gbarnga to provide more details. Did you note that?

2 A. Yes, I noted that. I didn't comment on it.

3 Q. Well, this witness continues on that topic in this way,
4 page 4387, commencing with an answer at line 5:

09:53:09 5 "After the training and within a period of one month there
6 were operators and radio communication was then available
7 in order to carry out an effective operation, so we had a
8 radio station at Pendembu, Kailahun, Koindu, Kiva,
9 Gandorhun and up to Kono.

09:53:35 10 Q. How did these radio installations take place?

11 A. Mr Sankoh departed Sierra Leone after the communication
12 between himself and Mr Taylor and he travelled to Gbarnga,
13 and he came back with some operators who were also RUF but
14 had been pushed back from Pujehun and then they went

09:54:05 15 through Liberia and they were based in Gbarnga and they
16 came back to Sierra Leone.

17 Q. Who were these radio operators that Sankoh came back
18 with? Do you know them?

19 A. Yes, some I think Alfred Brown, King Perry Kamara,
09:54:26 20 Samuel Lamboi, Osman Tolo, Sahr James, Alfred Malloh."

21 Now, Mr Taylor, let's take this in stages so that we get
22 the full understanding of what the witness is saying before I ask
23 for your comment. Now you will recall from the evidence there
24 was a two-pronged initial invasion of Sierra Leone: one through
09:55:00 25 Kailahun and one through Pujehun, yes?

26 A. Uh-huh.

27 Q. You recall that?

28 A. Uh-huh.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Taylor, you'll have to say something

1 that can be recorded.

2 THE WITNESS: Okay. Okay.

3 MR GRIFFITHS:

4 Q. Do you recall that, Mr Taylor?

09:55:13 5 A. Yes, I do.

6 Q. Now, whereas we are told the Kailahun axis, as various
7 witnesses refer to it, met with some success, the Pujehun route
8 was repelled at some stage and a number had to return into
9 Liberia and you recall we looked at testimony about you meeting
09:55:41 10 with that group with Foday Sankoh, that group which had retreated
11 from Pujehun. Do you remember that?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And that being wrapped up with the creation of Black
14 Kadaffa, do you recall that testimony?

09:55:57 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And it being thereafter said that those individuals then
17 travelled through Liberia to join up with their RUF comrades in
18 Kailahun. Do you remember that?

19 A. Yes, I do.

09:56:09 20 Q. And you provided, it is alleged, trucks to enable that to
21 occur. You recall?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. So bear that fact in mind. So what the witness is saying
24 against that background is that after Top Final when you give the
09:56:27 25 order for the NPFL to withdraw from Sierra Leone, Sankoh travels
26 to Liberia and he's in Liberia and able to link up with those
27 members of the RUF who had retreated from Pujehun. Do you
28 follow? And that he then returns with some of them who he names
29 specific radio operators. Do you see? That's what's being

1 suggested. That's the scenario I want you to comment on.

2 A. But - well, if - what I understand here, he's speaking
3 about May of 1992 after he returns to Sierra Leone.

4 Q. Well, he's speaking about sometime after May of 1992.

09:57:21 5 A. May of 1992. The other incident of the mix-up occurs at
6 the beginning of the operation in March of 1991, okay. So what I
7 see him trying to say here is that some people are still in
8 Liberia and Foday Sankoh goes back after he returns in May 1992
9 and he brings in these radio operators. But interestingly -
09:57:50 10 interestingly, counsel - just above the page there he mentions
11 radio installations in certain areas.

12 Q. Yes?

13 A. About four or five. Where are those radios coming from?
14 Because we see here he is talking about radio operators going but
09:58:15 15 - so there are radios in those areas. I'm looking for I think
16 it's Kivi or some other areas, a few towns.

17 Q. Line 8?

18 A. Yes. So what is this witness really saying? Remember this
19 witness said that he had to be sent back with one radio to
09:58:35 20 Foday Sankoh before contact could be made. But there are radios
21 - there's supposed to be stations in other places, okay. So who
22 is operating these things? And mind you, Alfred Brown - Alfred
23 Brown is a vanguard, according to testimony before this Court,
24 okay. So if Alfred Brown is a vanguard, he is older - and a
09:59:03 25 radio operator, he is older in the RUF organisation than even
26 this Foday Lansana, okay. So Alfred Brown is a vanguard based on
27 testimony before this Court, and Alfred Brown trained some of
28 these people including the James Sahr and the King Perry.

29 Look, how can there be radio stations at these areas in

1 Sierra Leone that Foday Sankoh does not contact me? He has to
2 return with one radio before a contact is made? Your Honours,
3 it's a lie. It's impossible, as he is trying to link it. He
4 didn't put this lie together properly. Either there are radios
09:59:48 5 in Sierra Leone or he takes the first one there. That's the
6 point I made before. Only to get to find out that there are
7 other stations, okay, where he is saying that there are radios
8 but Sankoh had to come back to Liberia to carry these operators,
9 and we know this Alfred Brown is mentioned as a vanguard. So who
10:00:11 10 comes first, he or Alfred Brown? Alfred Brown is a vanguard and
11 radio operator. So he just did not make up this lie properly.
12 He cannot associate this May 1992 situation.

13 I tell you, your Honours, if Foday Sankoh had dared put his
14 foot in Liberia after Top Final, I don't think he would have
10:00:33 15 survived. There were a lot of people that got killed on both
16 sides in that Top Final operation, and for Foday Sankoh to have
17 come up into Liberia, that's totally false. But mind you, there
18 are so many, many, many, many, many Prosecution witnesses that
19 have come before this Court that have dealt with this very issue
10:01:01 20 after Top Final. I recall, and I stand corrected, no incident
21 where any of these witnesses reflect that Foday Sankoh returned
22 to Liberia after Top Final. He's the only one. I mean - so I
23 stand corrected on that, but I do not recall that because it did
24 not happen. Foday Sankoh never put his foot back in Liberia
10:01:27 25 following his departure in I would say late May, early June 1992.
26 Never did. Never.

27 Q. Who is Alfred Brown, Mr Taylor?

28 A. Alfred Brown is a vanguard that is mentioned throughout the
29 testimony and the brother of this Fatou Brown that, based on

1 evidence in this Court, was supposed to be the fiance or
2 girlfriend of Foday Sankoh at the time he was putting this
3 operation together sneaking around in the area. Fatou Brown was
4 the woman with him. And the lady whose name - who is a protected
10:02:14 5 witness, I cannot mention here, who claimed to have been also
6 with Fatou Brown in testimony before this Court, this Alfred
7 Brown is the brother of that Fatou Brown that was the wife or
8 fiance of Foday Sankoh at the time of this operation.

9 Q. The other names mentioned at lines 18 and 19, Mr Taylor, do
10:02:39 10 you recognise any of them?

11 A. Lines --

12 Q. On page 4387.

13 A. Yes, here in this Court we saw King Perry.

14 Q. At the time, back in 1992, how many of these names meant
10:02:58 15 anything to you?

16 A. None whatsoever. None whatsoever.

17 Q. The witness continues at page 4388 in this way, line 5:
18 "A. During 1992 there was a ceasefire in the first place.
19 In the middle of the ceasefire the Guinean contingent
10:03:29 20 attacked our position in Bayama. The last quantity of arms
21 and ammunition - a large quantity of arms and ammunition
22 was captured in Bayama village. This report was sent to
23 Mr Charles Taylor by Mr Foday Sankoh. Based on this
24 attack, which was at the end of the ceasefire between the
10:03:55 25 RUF and the Government of Sierra Leone, under the
26 leadership of President Joseph Saidu Momoh, the RUF were
27 equipped with communication sets and operators that were
28 trained began to use those communication sets. We had a
29 radio station in Kailahun, Bunumbu, Gandorhun, Koi du,

1 Kui va. "

2 Let's complete the sequence. Let us go then to page 4390
3 commencing at line 26 with this question:

10:04:45 4 "Q. Now, you described an occasion where you facilitated a
5 communication for Foday Sankoh to Charles Taylor when you
6 arrived in Pendembu.

7 A. Yes. I said there was a building in Pendembu which was
8 called Executive Mansion and it was the residence of
9 Mr Sankoh. "

10:05:02 10 Bottom of the page, line 29:

11 "Q. Now, you earlier, as I mentioned, discussed the
12 communication between Sankoh and Taylor at Pendembu. Was
13 this the only time you described - witnessed such a
14 communication?

10:05:22 15 A. Yes. "

16 Over the page to page 4393, line 8:

17 "A. ... When the Guinean and the Nigerian contingents
18 attacked the positions of the RUF at Bayama a large
19 quantity of arms and ammunition were captured from them and
10:05:49 20 this report was sent to Gbarnga to Mr Taylor. Mr Sankoh
21 said because the weapons that were captured were all
22 artillery and it could not use those artilleries in this
23 country simply because he has not got ammunition for those
24 weapons. Mr Taylor requested him to send all the artillery
10:06:13 25 weapons to Gbarnga.

26 Q. You said a report was sent to Charles Taylor. Describe
27 exactly what you mean.

28 A. Mr Sankoh contacted Mr Taylor in a radio conversation
29 and he said, 'Big brother, these are the materials that

1 have been captured.' He named very few of them and
2 Mr Charles Taylor, in his response, told him that he should
3 report with those materials to Gbarnga.

4 Q. Were you present for this report being sent?

10:06:57 5 A. Yes, I was the operator."

6 Now, taking things in stages, Mr Taylor, did you receive
7 such a gift from Mr Sankoh?

8 A. Well, the fact of the matter is, to answer your question, I
9 did receive an artillery piece from Sankoh, but in answering yes
10:07:31 10 to that question, this did not happen after May 1992. How and
11 where would this artillery have passed? Where? And don't let's
12 forget, Nya does not become, from evidence - and I can strongly
13 suggest this - operator for Foday Sankoh until after he retreats
14 two weeks after Top Final. So whatever he is talking about here,
10:08:10 15 his knowledge now of my dealing with Sankoh, he must - his
16 knowledge must start from about June 1992, if I'm write in my
17 assumption here, because that's when he goes back and now he
18 becomes the operator.

19 But, your Honours, by June - by August 1992, ULIMO has
10:08:38 20 completed the control of Lofa. By the time we withdraw our
21 people in May, the battle is so intense. No human being in their
22 right mind would be moving any equipment or ammunition or arms
23 out of any place. So at the time that this equipment is brought
24 into Liberia is before - before we separate from the RUF. And,
10:09:19 25 in fact, we have exhibited the weapon here before this Court.
26 It's a 155 millimetre gun that was used as an exhibit that we
27 showed to this Court. This is not a little piece of thing. This
28 is a weapon that can only be moved by being pulled by a truck.
29 It is a long-barreled, heavy, several ton weapon, and nobody -

1 the road between the border into Liberia by this time, nobody
2 will put a vehicle on that road.

3 So, again, when these boys - these men are trying to put
4 these lies together, they get it wrong. There is no such thing
10:10:01 5 after this particular time. No. So did I receive artillery from
6 the RUF during that period? Yes. But not after we severed
7 relationship. That road was too - nobody would even dare - only
8 military people walked on that road and supplies were not carried
9 on that road.

10:10:28 10 Q. But he continues, page 4394, line 7:

11 "Q. After the ceasefire was broken, can you describe
12 generally what was the state of communication at this time
13 in Pendembu between Mr Sankoh and Mr Taylor?

14 A. Mr Sankoh - Mr Sankoh briefly gave outlines of arms and
10:10:50 15 ammunition that were captured during the attack on Bayama.
16 He spoke about rocket-propelled grenade launcher. He
17 talked about a huge quantity of anti-tank that was
18 captured, that is one-barreled AA. He talked about RPG,
19 BZT twin-barrel and he said that he had no ammunition for
10:11:16 20 these weapons and he has deemed it necessary not to use
21 them, but that he was requesting for light weapons like
22 AK-47s and G3 ammos.

23 Q. Do you know, if any, was there any response from
24 Mr Taylor during this communication?

10:11:40 25 A. Yes, Mr Taylor requested Mr Taylor to go himself to
26 Gbarnga with the materials that he is reporting about.
27 They would sort everything out upon his arrival."

28 Line 28:

29 "Q. What was Mr Taylor's response exactly to Mr Sankoh?

1 A. That he should go.

2 Q. Who is he?

3 A. He said Mr Sankoh should go to Gbarnga with those
4 materials that he had said were not necessary for him to
10:12:14 5 use in his operation in order to exchange them.

6 Q. After this communication --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- did anything happen?

9 A. Yes, Mr Sankoh left Pendembu for Gbarnga. Upon his
10:12:36 10 return Mr Mohamed Tarawalli, Sam Bockarie, Issa Sesay, and
11 Morris Kallon were instructed to go to Koidu, a
12 diamond-rich area in Sierra Leone, for a fresh operation,
13 or attack on the government troops. The operation went
14 smoothly and at the end of 1992 they were chased out of
10:13:05 15 Koidu on to Pendembu.

16 Q. Before you proceed, you said that when Sankoh was
17 discussing this issue with Mr Taylor he was requesting for
18 light weapons like AK-47s and G3 ammos. And then after
19 this conversation he proceeded to Gbarnga. Do you know if
10:13:30 20 anything happened with relation to this request?

21 A. Yes, Mr Sankoh went to Gbarnga and he returned with
22 some quantity of arms and ammunition before Mohamed
23 Tarawalli, Issa Sesay, Sam Bockarie, Morris Kallon, could
24 proceed for the Kono operation.

10:14:03 25 Q. When you say he returned from Gbarnga with some
26 quantity of arms and ammunition, how do you know that?

27 A. He travelled to Gbarnga and he came back to Sierra
28 Leone.

29 Q. How do you know he returned with ammunition - a

1 quantity of arms and ammunition?

2 A. When he returned he went to the G4 ground or the area
3 where arms and ammunition were kept and I was on the scene
4 and I saw it at that time before the troops could leave for
10:14:38 5 Kono.

6 Q. Was this while you were in Pendembu?

7 A. Yes, yes.

8 Q. When you say G4 area, what are you referring to?

9 A. It's where arms and ammunition are kept for
10:14:53 10 safekeeping."

11 Now, Mr Taylor, putting that together, what is being said
12 by the witness is this: There's that initial visit to Gbarnga by
13 Foday Sankoh after the initial installation of the radio in
14 Pendembu. Do you follow?

10:15:15 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. He then returns with those radio operators including Alfred
17 Brown. You follow?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. He now makes a second trip after the capture of this
10:15:31 20 artillery and other heavy weapons and in effect he exchanges
21 them, those heavy weapons, with you in return for lighter
22 weapons, AK-47s and G3 ammos, and it's that material provided by
23 you which thereafter enables an attack on Kono. Do you get it?

24 A. Yes.

10:16:01 25 Q. What do you say about that?

26 A. Well, I can tell you there is no contact after this time in
27 May/June 1992 so this witness is totally off. But there is
28 sufficient evidence before this Court to show that throughout the
29 period that I have accepted that I dealt with the RUF there was

1 always a problem with ammunition. It was always a problem with
2 the material that they are getting. Foday Sankoh demonstrated
3 his frustration with that. There was no quid pro quo. The heavy
4 155 millimetre cannon gun that was given before this break-up was
10:16:51 5 given - there was no quid pro quo attached to the giving of that
6 weapon. This whole nonsense about radio operators for the first
7 time just going back to Sierra Leone after May 1992 is all
8 hogwash. That's all it is. Trying to piece things together.

9 I have given the picture here and that's the story and if
10:17:15 10 you look at most of the other even Prosecution witnesses that
11 have testified here again they do not deal with any testimony
12 here that reflects this witness's recollection that there is
13 relationship between Foday Sankoh and Charles Taylor and their
14 movement of material, arms and ammunition, after the Top 20, Top
10:17:39 15 40, Top Final thing. So this witness's own recollection is
16 totally false. His recollection is wrong, especially as he deals
17 with dates and times it's totally wrong.

18 Q. Let me ask you specifically, Mr Taylor, so that we're all
19 clear about the position: You accept that you did receive a
10:18:15 20 piece of heavy weaponry from Foday Sankoh, yes?

21 A. Oh, yes. Yes.

22 Q. Did you give him anything in return?

23 A. No. He brought the weapon. I had always been giving
24 Foday Sankoh small amounts of arms and - I mean of ammunition.

10:18:35 25 So like I'm saying, there was no quid pro quo. We were not doing
26 a business to say there was a quid pro quo, but I had been giving
27 Foday Sankoh some material throughout the time that we were
28 cooperating on the border. So there was not a quid pro quo.

29 Q. So you're saying there wasn't any kind of deal between the

1 two of you in those terms?

2 A. No, no, no. He brought the weapon, I had been giving him
3 things. Whenever Foday Sankoh had problems I would give him what
4 I had. My security people were in there. I kept them busy
10:19:15 5 giving them supplies. But Foday Sankoh didn't come, "I'm
6 bringing you a weapon, please exchange it with this." Whether he
7 brought a gun or not, I was going to give him some ammunition to
8 protect that border to fight ULIMO so it did not take a deal.

9 There was no deal. If he had brought nothing but his hands
10:19:35 10 swinging and I had material to protect that border I would have
11 given it to him as I did on many occasions. So I wouldn't
12 mislead this Court about that. Yes, I - so it was not like we
13 were running some little game where, "Okay, you give me
14 something, I give you something back." No.

10:19:53 15 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: Mr Griffiths, if I might seek
16 clarification. Why was it necessary to return this artillery
17 piece to you, Mr Taylor?

18 THE WITNESS: Well, where they were, he really didn't need
19 it. This artillery piece, your Honour, is a piece that fires
10:20:21 20 155. We're talking about - and I could stand corrected on this -
21 maybe 18 to 21 kilometres. It's a long-range cannon. They were
22 in the bush and he felt that it was not safe and we were really
23 fighting mostly in the city area and so we needed it more than
24 they needed it.

10:20:49 25 MR GRIFFITHS:

26 Q. Tell me, Mr Taylor, as far as you were aware did the RUF
27 have the capabilities in terms of ammunition or training or
28 expertise to operate weapons of that kind? Did you know?

29 A. I would think so, yes, because they had several - from what

1 Sankoh said, they had several former members of the Sierra
2 Leonean armed forces working with them too so I would think they
3 did, yes.

4 Q. Let's move on, please, because in addition to describing
10:21:32 5 those two trips made by Sankoh to Gbarnga after the period
6 May/June which we know to be the timing of Top Final, the
7 witness, a radio operator, goes on to say this at page 4439, line
8 11:

9 "We used to have what we called prearrangement. Like what
10:21:59 10 I've just discussed with you in the past. Whenever Mr Sankoh
11 wanted to communicate to Mr Charles Taylor you have to make the
12 prearrangements and such communication can never be encoded.
13 They will speak to each other and make sure that the frequency on
14 which they were communicating was free from all other stations
10:22:25 15 except the two."

16 Page 4441, line 19:

17 "Q. Now you said commanders including you said when
18 Foday Sankoh wanted to communicate with Charles Taylor
19 there would be a prearranged frequency. What do you mean
10:22:51 20 by this?

21 A. For example, as I just said, the national frequency in
22 case you wanted to communicate to Mr Sankoh, you first come
23 to the national frequency and make a net call or call the
24 code name of Mr Sankoh's radio station. The operator would
10:23:12 25 answer and you would tell the operator to switch to so and
26 so frequency for arrangement and you people will have to go
27 there and make the arrangements for another frequency that
28 would be appropriate for that particular communication."
29 So in addition to visits by Sankoh, there were these

1 pre-arranged radio conversations going on, according to this
2 witness. What do you say?

3 A. That's not true. You know, I wonder if the question is
4 posed in trying to understand this witness's testimony, what is
10:24:04 5 Nya Lansana doing before this time? We haven't - because Nya
6 Lansana is featuring his dramatic return two weeks after Top
7 Final. This is where Nya Lansana - what is he doing before this
8 time?

9 And maybe another important question will be since he is a
10:24:34 10 trained radio operator, who is he operating as operator for?
11 Because this boy - we'll be running in circles with this liar and
12 we will not find it. Who is Nya Lansana working for prior to May
13 1992? Who is he working for? Because we don't trace Nya
14 Lansana. We know that he is trained, from his testimony, and we
10:24:59 15 know that he says he goes to Ganta to visit his people. He goes
16 into Sierra Leone and he is captured. He is brought into Vahun
17 and he goes back. But what we do not know is what is Nya Lansana
18 doing before this two weeks return to Sierra Leone? What is he
19 doing? Obviously Nya Lansana is lying here with his activities.

10:25:35 20 So is Nya Lansana suggesting to this Court, as he did, that
21 prior to his involvement as a radio operator for Foday Sankoh
22 there was no means of communicating with Foday Sankoh? I mean,
23 what is he suggesting to this Court? What is he suggesting to
24 this Court? That the real communication with Foday Sankoh starts
10:25:59 25 two weeks after he goes and installs a radio in Pendembu? I
26 mean, you know, if we look at it logically what is he doing? Who
27 does he work for? Is he operating a radio prior to his gallant
28 two weeks return? Who is he working for? This boy doesn't know
29 what he is talking about.

1 And I'm asking these rhetorical questions because it's at
2 the heart of his testimony. Here is a man that for the first
3 time is saying that he really becomes operational two weeks after
4 he goes back with a radio on this assignment. Prior to that he
10:26:34 5 has no assignment in Sierra Leone. At least I haven't seen it
6 yet in his testimony. His first assignment in Sierra Leone comes
7 two weeks after Top Final when Galakpalah sends him back. What
8 is he doing in Sierra Leonean before then? Is he operating a
9 radio? Is he operating a radio in Liberia? I mean, this - look,
10:26:59 10 he's just blowing smoke all over this place and you are talking
11 nonsense, okay. If you're a radio operator giving information
12 there is prearranged things and this, well, look, if you're a
13 radio operator in Liberia even calling from one station to
14 another you know it's prearranged, but nobody attracts Nya
10:27:17 15 Lansana here until after May 1992 and all of a sudden he is
16 centre stage, the only radio operator for Sankoh and he is doing
17 all this work. It is not true, your Honours. This man cannot be
18 right about what he is saying here.

19 Now, I had relationship with the RUF. Of course I did. I
10:27:42 20 said to this Court that Foday Sankoh came. I gave Foday Sankoh a
21 house in Gbarnga. Where is this radio operator Nya Lansana
22 throughout this whole period between August '91 and '92 when
23 Foday Sankoh is given a guesthouse in Gbarnga? Where is this
24 man? Look, there is relationship between us. You understand me?
10:28:03 25 But after Top Final when this man is supposed to be sent on this
26 special assignment and springs up where he is not accounted for
27 anywhere in Sierra Leone doing any radio work at that particular
28 time, all of a sudden he shows up is total nonsense. It is not
29 true. There is absolutely no contact. If there were contact I

1 would say so, because between May and June or July of course.

2 But there was none.

3 So unless we put these little logical pieces together about
4 this man who actually - if I'm placing Nya Korto now I'm placing
10:28:45 5 Nya Korto in the picture after Top Final. That's when I'm

6 looking at Nya Korto because that's when says he gets his orders
7 from Galakpalah to go in and he is lying unless he can define who
8 he was doing before, who he worked for in Sierra Leone, he is in
9 and out. In fact if he was in Liberia, what was he doing in

10:29:05 10 Liberia? So of course if you're a Liberian operator you know
11 that you are trained in 1990. You are trained. You know the

12 different stations. But picturing Nya Korto in Sierra Leone we
13 have to reflect on 1992 after Top Final which is May and Nya
14 Korto is lying on whatever happens after that because really he

10:29:29 15 is really a Johnny-come-late. That's all and he is just trying
16 to pick here and there.

17 Because all of the evidence like I see come here, if Nya
18 Korto or anybody, Foday Sankoh, had come on that road any time
19 after I would say July or August he would have encountered ULIMO.

10:29:51 20 He would have encountered ULIMO that had Lofa and in fact if they
21 were not in certain towns or villages they were in other villages
22 that it became a very militarised zone that no one could
23 penetrate so easily. So he is basically lying and he is a

24 latecomer and does not know what he is talking about when he
10:30:18 25 begins to talk about Alfred Brown and others that is a vanguard
26 who was in Sierra Leone long before him. No.

27 Q. Very well. Well, we're going to leave 1992 now and jump
28 ahead. I would like us to go, please, to page 4475, testimony of
29 21 February 2008. Could we begin, please, at line 7:

1 "Q. Did anyone outside Sierra Leone have access to the
2 codes, that is the codes that were used by the radio
3 operators?

4 A. If anybody else outside Sierra Leone had access to the
10:31:06 5 codes he should be an operator.

6 Q. Did this occur?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Who else had access to the codes?

9 A. Like I told you: Osman Tolo, Memunatu Deen who were
10:31:26 10 at the lodge or the guesthouse in Monrovia were all
11 operators and they also had access to these codes.

12 Q. The codes themselves, who was in charge of creating the
13 codes?

14 A. The code was brought from Liberia and it was a code
10:31:51 15 from the NPFL and we extracted them from the NPFL code
16 system.

17 Q. You mentioned Osman Tolo and Memunatu Deen as having
18 access to the codes. Is that correct?

19 A. Yes.

10:32:08 20 Q. How do you know that?

21 A. Because they were external delegates from the RUF side
22 based in Monrovia.

23 Q. Why did they have access to the codes? Do you know?

24 A. Yes. Because they were operators and they used to
10:32:24 25 communicate with the RUF as external delegates.

26 Q. How do you know that?

27 A. I knew that as an operator and it was agreed and they
28 sent them for that purpose, and even before they went to
29 Monrovia, they were with Mr Sankoh in Ivory Coast. And

1 Later after Mr Sankoh was dislodged, they escaped and
2 entered Monrovia.

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

10:33:03 5 A. Yes.

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

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Who?

10:33:17 10 A. Osman Tolo was an operator who had access to the RUF
11 codes. Another operator by the name of Memunatu Deen also
12 had access to these codes and many others who were assigned
13 with Benjamin Yeaten, otherwise referred to as 50. Some
14 were assigned in Vahun and Foya.

10:33:41 15 Q. Who was Benjamin Yeaten?

16 A. Benjamin Yeaten was the immediate coordinator,
17 according to how I understood it when I arrived in Monrovia
18 in 1999, 22 December. I was introduced to him by Mr Sankoh
19 and he explained himself to me that he had been the
20 coordinator between Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor and Sam

21 Bockarie."

22 Now, let's just take things slowly, shall we. Firstly
23 this: You accept, don't you, Mr Taylor, that the RUF did have
24 radio operators at the guesthouse in Monrovia? We've dealt with
10:34:31 25 this, yes?

26 A. Yes, that's 1998.

27 Q. Now, if we look, first of all, at page - at lines 6 and 7
28 on page 4476. I don't want this detail to escape us, so let's
29 deal with this. "They went to Monrovia. They were with

1 Mr Sankoh in Ivory Coast and later, after Mr Sankoh was
2 dislodged, they escaped and entered Monrovia." What do you know
3 about that?

10:35:19 4 A. But this is so clear. This is so clear. They were with
5 Mr Sankoh in Ivory Coast. When was Mr Sankoh in Ivory Coast?
6 Mr Sankoh is in Ivory Coast in 1996. That's when Sankoh is in
7 Ivory Coast. Sankoh is in Ivory Coast '96. He goes into Nigeria
8 early '97 and is arrested. Now, here we have an association with
9 '96 all the way up to 1998. Because the guesthouse is given to
10:35:57 10 the RUF when Sam Bockarie comes to Liberia, in fact, the second
11 trip in October 1998. So I don't know how this man can associate
12 these two periods. I don't, because you can't talk about
13 Foday Sankoh in Ivory Coast, like I say, in '96 and talk about
14 installation at the guesthouse, then you're talking about two
10:36:24 15 different time periods.

16 Q. But, Mr Taylor, was it the case that after Mr Taylor was
17 dislodged --

18 A. After Mr Sankoh.

19 Q. Mr Sankoh was dislodged and that occurs - and that is
10:36:38 20 linked in the context of this answer with the Ivory Coast, is it
21 the case that RUF operators escaped from the Ivory Coast and went
22 to Monrovia?

23 A. I really don't know. No, I do not know if Sierra Leoneans
24 entered Monrovia after Sankoh was arrested in La Cote d'Ivoire.
10:37:02 25 I don't know. I don't know.

26 Q. As far as you're aware, did the Ivorian authorities take
27 action against the RUF delegation in La Cote d'Ivoire following
28 Sankoh's arrest in Nigeria in March 1997?

29 A. I can say specifically they took no action. They did not -

1 like by action you mean like trying to arrest them that they were
2 threatened? No. In fact, the guesthouse was not taken from
3 them. People stayed there, from my understanding, what I got to
4 know, that they were not harassed in la Cote d'Ivoire at all.

10:37:48 5 Q. Well, in light of that answer, can you recall any need for
6 RUF members to escape from la Cote d'Ivoire following Sankoh's
7 arrest?

8 A. No need whatsoever. No. In fact, even if we look at the
9 record, even when Sankoh is arrested in Nigeria, he alone he's
10:38:12 10 arrested. He's also with other Sierra Leoneans that are not even
11 touched. Gibril Massaquoi is with Sankoh during his arrest in
12 Nigeria. There is no reason, in specific answer to your
13 question, for anyone to escape. No one is threatened. The
14 Ivorian authorities are not hostile to Sankoh people that are on
10:38:35 15 the ground, I mean, to the best of my knowledge, in Ivory Coast.

16 Q. And at the time of Mr Sankoh's arrest in the Ivory Coast -
17 in Nigeria, Mr Taylor, which is March 1997 --

18 A. That is correct.

19 Q. -- did the RUF have a guesthouse in Monrovia?

10:38:58 20 A. No. I'm not even elected President yet of Liberia. I am
21 not the President of Liberia in March 1997. The head of the
22 Council of State is Ruth Sando Perry. They do not have a
23 guesthouse in Liberia at that time, no.

24 Q. Now, the second aspect of this passage that I want us to
10:39:15 25 deal with is this: You will note that at line 8 the witness's
26 attention is brought forward to the time when Sam Bockarie is in
27 charge of the RUF.

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. And in that context you will see at lines 17, 18 and 19

1 these words: Having dealt with who had access to the codes, it
2 goes on: "Some were assigned in Vahun and Foya." "Some" in the
3 context of the answer must be a reference to radio operators who
4 had access to the codes. Now, the question, Mr Taylor, is this:

10:40:08

5 After Sam Bockarie took charge of the RUF, apart from the radio
6 operator based, as you accept, at the guesthouse in Monrovia,
7 were there further RUF operators based in Vahun and Foya?

8 A. No. But how would they be based there? What - how? Sam
9 Bockarie takes charge of the RUF in when? In 1997 March when

10:40:36

10 Foday Sankoh is arrested in Nigeria. Who is in charge of this
11 area? Who is in charge of Lofa in '97 March? ULIMO. ULIMO is
12 in charge of Lofa. When does ULIMO relinquish Lofa? It's after
13 my election in July. So who would be there? If there were
14 operators there, there had to be arrangements between the RUF and

10:41:04

15 ULIMO.

16 March 1997, how would I be having radio people in that
17 particular area? Impossible. Impossible. Impossible. That's
18 totally, totally, totally false, okay. So, I mean, to even
19 suggest this.

10:41:27

20 But let me just make a point about this code thing. Don't
21 forget, this man is a trained radio operator by the NPFL as far
22 back as 1990. So the knowledge of codes or the Liberian - you
23 know, the knowledge of codes, Nya Lansana knows the codes because
24 that's a part of the training and he took - he took, you know,
10:41:54 25 the training on how to do codes. It did not take anyone in
26 Liberia sending him a set of codes before he would know how to
27 put codes together. No. So he is totally - he is totally,
28 totally, totally making this up about having radio operators in
29 Vahun and other places after Sam Bockarie takes over. Well,

1 someone would argue, well, he's not talking about the early part.
2 He is talking about the latter part, which would still be false.

3 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, Foya and Vahun may have a significance
4 which may in due course be relied upon. So, consequently, let me
10:42:44 5 take you now, please, to page 4483 of the transcript and we see
6 how Vahun and Foya might figure in the overall picture. Line 19:

7 "Q. Now, in terms of the communications between Benjamin
8 Yeaten and Sam Bockarie" --

9 And, remember, Yeaten is supposed to be the coordinator
10:43:09 10 between Charles Taylor and Sam Bockarie.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. "Q. Now, in terms of the communication between Benjamin
13 Yeaten and Sam Bockarie, when Sam Bockarie was acting
14 leader of the RUF, do you remember any of the content of
10:43:25 15 those communications?"

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Can you explain?

18 A. Yes. Whenever Benjamin Yeaten was dispatching material
19 to Foya, or to Sam Bockarie, he will always send a message
10:43:39 20 or he will say that this particular person was coming with
21 some rations for you to your location. Upon the arrival of
22 the person, he will only come on the net to testify that he
23 has reached with that material. He will come with them and
24 a document. That was the procedure of communication that

10:44:04 25 was conducted during Sam Bockarie's time and Benjamin
26 Yeaten as mediator between Mr Charles Taylor and Sam
27 Bockarie.

28 Q. You said 'whenever Benjamin Yeaten was dispatching
29 material to Foya or to Sam Bockarie.' What do you mean by

1 the word 'material'?

2 A. When I talk about materials I mean arms and ammunition
3 or anything that had to do with war material. Most of the
4 time it is not explicit. It cannot be simplified on the
10:44:42 5 net. But as an operator it can be revealed to you that
6 there is a transaction to you. There is a transaction
7 between that individual and the next person who was
8 receiving that information."

9 So let's just pause, remind ourselves of those two

10:45:04 10 locations, Foya and Vahun. They are on the route from Monrovia
11 to Kailahun, aren't they, Mr Taylor?

12 A. Well, Foya, yes. Foya is on the route.

13 Q. And Foya is quite close to the border with Sierra Leone, is
14 it not, or close enough?

10:45:28 15 A. Close, yes. Okay, close enough, yes.

16 Q. Now, consider this scenario: Benjamin Yeaten is
17 coordinator and, as coordinator, he may well want the recipient
18 of this material to know when it had reached within striking
19 distance of that recipient. Do you follow?

10:45:56 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. So bearing that in mind, it might be of some use to have a
22 radio operator in a location like Foya. Do you follow?

23 A. Yes, I do.

24 Q. So that when the material reaches Foya, the RUF radio
10:46:15 25 operator there can get in touch with the troops over the border,
26 "Guess what, chaps. We're close." Do you follow?

27 A. Yes, I do.

28 Q. So that's the significance of it, Mr Taylor. So I'm asking
29 you again: Did you permit the RUF to have radio operators in

1 Foya and Vahun?

2 A. No. N-0, no. Every town and nearly every village in
3 Liberia, the NPFL at the time and even my government had a radio
4 installed. It did not take the RUF to have a radio in this place
10:46:59 5 for them to communicate. If communication had to be done it
6 could have been done from any one of the stations and that's why
7 these people's logic, you know - again this whole case - I think
8 Chris Santora in his work, they forgot to investigate the
9 presence of material in Liberia. You know this whole case rests
10:47:25 10 on the capacity of Taylor after he becomes President to provide
11 material to the RUF. If they had done their homework they would
12 have known that there was no material in Liberia.

13 And I tell you something, this is a shut and closed case.
14 If anyone believes that Liberia had arms and ammunition or
10:47:49 15 Charles Taylor had possession of those arms and ammunition in
16 Liberia between the time he becomes President up to about 2001
17 when I order material then really I'm already guilty in this
18 case. They did not do their work, they fabricated this lie on
19 the assumption that he had material, he had the stocks of
10:48:13 20 material in Liberia and he delivered them. That's where this lie
21 and everyone that comes here keeps talking about arms and
22 ammunition going. There are no arms and ammunition in the
23 possession of my government. The United Nations had all of them
24 and destroyed every last one. I do not know where I could have
10:48:36 25 pulled these arms out of a magical hat or whatever. It's a
26 blatant lie. Any arms that is alleged to have gone into Sierra
27 Leone from my government from the time I became President is
28 totally, totally a lie and that's how the lie was built and every
29 liar has been here talking about a bunch of arms. There's been a

1 lot of truth, I do not deny that small amounts of arms went
2 across that border, but my government did not send them. Whoever
3 bought their arms and things, fine. But that's the basis of this
4 lie.

10:49:07 5 And so this man is another one of them that have them
6 pushed right down the line. They have got to show that somebody
7 is supposed to be calling, "Guess what, the arms are almost
8 approaching. Is it there?" I have radios in those towns and
9 villages. If my government is sending arms why do we have to
10:49:29 10 install an RUF radio? If Benjamin Yeaten is sending an official
11 amount of arms from the Government of Liberia why do I need an
12 RUF operator? It's very simple. It's very simple. You use a
13 Liberian operator and Liberian securities would take them across
14 the border. It just doesn't make sense, but this is the basis of
10:49:47 15 my suffering because of this kind of lie on the assumption that,
16 well, if it's there he sent it. They just should have checked to
17 see if Liberia had arms at that time. They didn't.

18 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, the suggestion may well be that it's
19 precisely because there was a clandestine operation which you
10:50:11 20 didn't want the world to know about, but it was sophisticated
21 nonetheless, why you needed to use these outsiders. Do you see?

22 A. But which outsiders now?

23 Q. The RUF radio operators.

24 A. Yeah, but Benjamin Yeaten is supposed to be central to all
10:50:27 25 of this. Why would Benjamin Yeaten have to use an RUF operator?
26 These are not secret radios. These radios I'm sorry we need to
27 bring more to this. These radios, everyone and his grandmother
28 can listen to them. These are open air communications. There is
29 nothing cryptic - there is no cryptic thing here. These are

1 nothing but SSB radios that everyone and his grandmother can
2 listen to. Once you get on a frequency there's nothing secret,
3 so why do you need an RUF operator clandestinely with a radio in
4 a little --

10:51:01 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Taylor, I'm sorry to interrupt but the
6 court reporter cannot keep up and is having trouble getting this
7 down, so please slow down.

8 THE WITNESS: Okay, I will. I'm sorry. The point I'm
9 trying to make here is Benjamin Yeaten is central. If there is
10 supposed to be this movement a Liberian operator can be used, but
11 in fact if it is really clandestine why could do you need to call
12 at all? If it's really clandestine, one of the most senior
13 security people in the country is moving through an area with
14 arms and ammunition, why do you have to be calling at different
10:51:44 15 points? Did it get there? If it's really clandestine all you
16 have to do is put armed men and escort it. Why do you have to
17 call when you know everybody can listen.

18 And mind you what time are we talking about? Nobody in
19 West Africa is stupid. I surely am not stupid and I do not claim
10:52:02 20 that these intelligence agencies don't listen to telephone. You
21 know we've heard this Court listen to, "He's on the satellite
22 phone." Well, listen, a satellite phone is even more dangerous
23 in terms of listening from intelligence agencies just as a radio.
24 What is a satellite phone? You go up, link to a satellite, they
10:52:23 25 pick it up from the satellite as you link it down. So anybody
26 knows, even as President I knew, telephones operate at about
27 18,000 gigahertz and anyone - we had the capacity in Liberia, my
28 government, to intercept telephone calls, even from landlines.
29 So nobody is stupid here that somebody has got to be sneaking on

1 an open SSB to listen.

2 This is all - you know, trying to make up this cloak and
3 dagger business has got me in jail for four years trying to prove
4 a negative. That's all it amounts to. He had weapons; there
10:53:04 5 were no weapons. He's calling, "Vahun, Vahun, come in. Are the
6 materials there?" "Yes, it's passing." Nonsense. Total, utter
7 nonsense. You are operating clandestinely and you are on an open
8 communication. It didn't happen, but we have to go through it
9 this way.

10:53:30 10 This man is totally out of his league and there is nothing
11 going through but the little bits and pieces that people are
12 buying in Lofa that Prosecution witnesses have mentioned before
13 this Court and I'm in no position to disagree that small amounts
14 of arms and ammunition, and mostly ammunition, went across that
10:53:55 15 border by people that - ULIMO and other people that dug them up
16 and sold them. My government I am stating categorically did not
17 have arms or access to arms in Liberia to send it to Jesus if
18 possible.

19 MR GRIFFITHS:

10:54:16 20 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, remember to date in relation to this
21 witness we've been dealing with various means of communication
22 between you and the RUF in that period after May/June 1992. You
23 recall that, yes?

24 A. Yes.

10:54:38 25 Q. In that same vein let's move on to another allegation this
26 witness makes about your involvement in communication with the
27 RUF after that period. Page 4490, transcript of 21 February
28 2008, line 13:

29 "Q. When Foday Sankoh was arrested in Nigeria how did you

1 come to learn of this?

2 A. Foday Sankoh made a trip from Ivory Coast along with
3 Gibril Massaquoi, Martin Moinama, an operator, with the
4 intention of going to Libya and he was arrested in Nigeria
10:55:31 5 at the airport. Gibril Massaquoi escaped and he was in
6 Nigeria along with Martin Moinama. While in Nigeria he
7 used to visit Mr Sankoh.

8 Q. Who is 'he'?

9 A. Martin Moinama used to visit Mr Sankoh to get
10:55:53 10 information from Mr Sankoh and then transmit that
11 information to Liberia and from Liberia we received all
12 necessary communication into Sierra Leone. To set a bright
13 and clear example, Mr Sankoh was imprisoned in Nigeria.

14 When he promoted Sam Bockarie, Isaac Mongor, Morris Kallon,
10:56:25 15 Issa Sesay, Peter Vandi and many more saw communication
16 that they should cooperate until his release. That
17 particular communication was received from Martin Moinama
18 in a telephone conversation from Nigeria to Liberia and
19 from Liberia it was transmitted on the HF" - high
10:56:48 20 frequency, no doubt - "transmission into Sierra Leone.

21 Q. So while Foday Sankoh was in Nigeria, just to make sure
22 it's clear, we would - you said in this particular
23 communication as an example he would have Martin Moinama
24 visit him and Martin Moinama would use the phone to
10:57:11 25 transmit a message to Liberia and from that point on from
26 Liberia the message would be transmitted to the RUF in
27 Sierra Leone through the HF system. Is that correct?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Who in Liberia received the message from Martin Moinama

1 in this example?

2 A. Martin Moinama made me to understand this when he
3 returned to Sierra Leone after the AFRC coup that he used
4 to transmit that message, telephone communication to
10:57:43 5 Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor and then Taylor would download
6 the message or inform Benjamin Yeaten and from Benjamin
7 Yeaten to Sam Bockarie. Even the communication that we
8 received an order for us to join the AFRC was done through
9 the same process."

10:58:17 10 Do you see?

11 A. I see.

12 Q. So Sankoh got his radio operator Martin to call you,
13 Mr Taylor, and that's why you were the one who promoted Sam
14 Bockarie to general and Issa Sesay to general and ordered the RUF
10:58:34 15 to join with the AFRC. Do you see? You were the messenger boy
16 for Mr Sankoh. Is that right?

17 A. Well, I was not and as he explained it it's totally
18 erroneous. I think this Court doesn't need to be told any more.
19 They know the process through which the RUF and the AFRC got
10:59:01 20 together. It's been cleared here that Foday Sankoh spoke to
21 Johnny Paul Koroma. The conversation was recorded and played on
22 the radio and the BBC. And his own account that - I don't know
23 how these people let these people come and do this kind of thing.
24 Somebody he said escaped from Nigeria but he used to go to Sankoh
10:59:28 25 to get information. Now, when I hear the expression escaped,
26 that I equate - you know, I associate escaping with flight, fear.
27 How will you escape and you will be able to go in Nigeria? You
28 escape from Nigeria but you've brave enough - you are under
29 threat and fear but you are right in the presence that you can

1 get messages. What is he talking about? Did these people
2 escaped? What are these people talking about?

3 So this account, your Honours, is just incredible for me
4 that I - you know, I have heard testimony and I have read
11:00:13 5 statements provided by the Prosecution of one of the individuals
6 provided whose name is mentioned here. His account of this - he
7 hasn't been brought to this Court yesterday, but his account of
8 this is quite different. He's given letters when they leave
9 Nigeria. They are - in fact, Foday Sankoh is in communication,
11:00:37 10 because for Foday Sankoh to be able to speak to Johnny Paul
11 Koroma and record a message, it simply means that there is a
12 degree of freedom with Foday Sankoh while he's in Nigeria. But
13 everything is done - the promotion is done by Foday Sankoh.

14 Mind you, the same witness has said I ordered Sankoh. Then
11:00:56 15 Sankoh is a very, very terrible officer. How dare Sankoh promote
16 people without my instructions? He's a terrible officer under me
17 to do that. All this fabrication is just what it is. I have
18 nothing to do with any promotion of Bockarie and the rest. I
19 have nothing to do with the AFRC and the RUF coming together. It
11:01:20 20 is all Foday Sankoh that does this.

21 Q. Well, help me with this, Mr Taylor: This man, Martin
22 Moinama, line 16, page 4490, an operator, one assumes in this
23 context a radio operator, can you help us. Why would Mr Sankoh
24 take a radio operator with him?

11:01:47 25 A. I don't know. I don't know why. I'm sure - well, to help
26 the Court, when - when Sankoh - I understand, while he was in La
27 Cote d'Ivoire, he was given a guesthouse and installed at the
28 guesthouse was communication that he will stay in contact with
29 his people behind him in Sierra Leone.

1 Q. Yes.

2 A. That is my understanding.

3 Q. Yes. So help me, Mr Taylor, if Sankoh had that facility in
4 Cote d'Ivoire, why was he using you as his messenger boy?

11:02:25 5 A. I don't know why. And, in fact, just to add to it, at this
6 particular time that this witness is talking about, I'm still not
7 elected President of Liberia. He's still referring to it. I'm
8 not elected President of Liberia, and so the fact that there's an
9 operator in Monrovia, I don't know where he would be, and so I'm
11:02:41 10 still not President. I guess, mixing it up, he associates this
11 period with my presidency, which is not the case.

12 Q. Now, just help me, please, with this, because given what is
13 said about your direct involvement in downloading the message or
14 informing Bockarie, I want to ask you about the technicalities of
11:03:09 15 these things, Mr Taylor. Do you follow?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So when we return to page 4491, we see at line 19, the
18 witness is asked:

19 "Q. In terms of the transmissions from Liberia to Sierra
11:03:24 20 Leone, you said it was over HF. Is that correct?

21 A. No.

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

24 A. From Liberia to Sierra Leone it was done through the HF
11:03:42 25 communication and from Nigeria to Liberia it was done
26 through telephone conversation."

27 So help me, Mr Taylor. If you're receiving these telephone
28 calls from Nigeria, what were you downloading?

29 A. I don't - I don't know. When I hear download, technically,

1 I think that it mostly refers to internet activities, to download
2 something.

11:04:21 3 Q. Well, you were supposed to be doing it, Mr Taylor, that's
4 why I'm asking you to provide us with an explanation. What were
5 you doing?

6 A. There was no such thing that anyone could download because
7 I would not work for Foday Sankoh. On the one hand, I can't be
8 ordering Foday Sankoh and working for him at the same time, so
9 there is no such thing. And there would not be what - if a
11:04:38 10 telephone - maybe he is trying to say that maybe a telephone
11 conversation came and instruction - he is using big words that he
12 doesn't understand, but there is no way you can download a
13 telephone call. I don't know how - I have never downloaded one
14 even for myself. I don't know if technically it's possible to
11:04:56 15 download a telephone call.

16 But, again, this is a reflection of the incredible nature
17 of these statements that these witnesses have been prompted to
18 come here with and they just go off talking nonsense. Total
19 nonsense.

11:05:16 20 Q. Page 4492, same topic, line 8:

21 "Q. Now, you said there was also a message related to the
22 AFRC.

23 A. Yes, that was another one.

24 Q. Explain this message.

11:05:35 25 A. We received that instruction from Sam Bockarie that
26 Mr Sankoh had agreed with Johnny Paul Koroma that the RUF
27 should join the AFRC junta in Freetown. That message was
28 sent from Sam Bockarie. According to him, it was a
29 communication that was received from Martin Moinama to

1 Gi bri l Massaquoi that we were to comply with with immediate
2 effect. According to him there were details that were
3 recorded. Upon his arrival in Freetown it would be
4 presented to the hard core of the RUF.

11:06:22 5 Colonel Isaac Mongor refused to obey that command. He
6 asked Sam Bockarie to clarify that report before his troops
7 could join the AFRC in Matotoka. Sam Bockarie reiterated
8 to Isaac Mongor that he was to comply with this instruction
9 notwithstanding. When Martin Moinama and Gi bri l Massaquoi
11:06:50 10 were invited to Freetown after the AFRC coup, they
11 themselves - I mean Martin Moinama and Gi bri l Massaquoi
12 made it very he clear that every conversation that was
13 going on between Mr Sankoh on to Liberia and then
14 transmitted on the HF to Sam Bockarie were conducted by
11:07:10 15 them. "

16 Over the page. He is asked again in relation to this
17 message regarding the AFRC, line 5:

18 "A. Martin was in Ni geria. He had a means of
19 communication with Mr Sankoh and in return send a telephone
11:07:33 20 message to Mr Charles Tayl or in Li beria. After that
21 conversati on he would communicate all necessary messages
22 that will be received on to Sam Bockarie through the HF
23 radi o. "

24 Then he continues, line 18:

11:07:55 25 "A. When the AFRC overthrew the NPRC in 1997, Martin
26 confirmed the communications that we used to receive from
27 Sam Bockarie through Benjamin Yeaten on the orders of
28 Mr Charles Tayl or having been received from Martin and
29 Gi bri l Massaquoi from Ni geria. "

1 Nothing could be clearer, Mr Taylor.

2 A. Yes, that's true. Based on his explanation, he thought it
3 was clear. But there's nothing truthful about this. And I don't
4 need to repeat this. I think there's sufficient record before
11:08:42 5 this Court that Foday Sankoh spoke to Johnny Paul Koroma and
6 Johnny Paul Koroma recorded that message and played it on Sierra
7 Leonean radio and on the BBC. So this whole thing is nothing but
8 a fabrication on his part that there was supposed to be some
9 communication from Sankoh to me downloaded, in a call Bockarie
11:09:08 10 and Bockarie then told them - it's all nonsense and just a lie,
11 like a host of other lies that they have been telling.

12 Q. Mr Taylor, I want us to deal with this allegation very
13 briefly. This witness also suggests that Issa Sesay was sent to
14 you with diamonds in exchange for arms. What do you say,
11:09:41 15 quickly?

16 A. Never. Never. No. Never.

17 Q. Thank you. Let's move on to another topic. At page 4571,
18 testimony of this witness of 22 February 2008, the witness said
19 this, line 1:

11:10:15 20 "Q. Did you remain in Sierra Leone for all of 1999?

21 A. No. After the Lome Peace Accord was signed we were the
22 first batch that Mr Sankoh instructed to disarm in Port
23 Loko. I joined Superman and we disarmed over 2,000 troops
24 in Port Loko and I was asked by Mr Sankoh to move to
11:10:40 25 Freetown."

26 The question is repeated:

27 "Q. The question was in 1999 did you remain in Sierra Leone
28 the whole time?

29 A. No. After the disarmament in Port Loko I moved to

1 Mr Sankoh in Freetown and every document in respect of my
2 travelling was put in place and on 21 December I travelled
3 to see my family in Monrovia and I was in Monrovia from the
4 22nd" - that's 22 December 1999, Mr Taylor, yes?

11:11:25 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. "... up to April 2000." Okay?

7 A. Uh-huh.

8 Q. So this was a man with family links to Liberia and to
9 Sierra Leone, do you follow?

11:11:36 10 A. Yes, yes.

11 Q. "During my stay in Monrovia Mr Sankoh introduced me to
12 Benjamin Yeaten." Pause there. Tell me, in that period,
13 December 1999 to April 2000, was Mr Sankoh in Monrovia?

14 A. December 1999, yes. Mr Sankoh did go to Monrovia in
11:12:08 15 December of 1999. In fact, late in December there's a
16 discussion, remember, between he, Foday Sankoh, when he meets
17 Obasanjo and myself. So he is in Monrovia in December 1999.

18 Q. And just remind us. What was the purpose of that Sankoh
19 visit?

11:12:29 20 A. This was at the height of the conflict between he and Sam
21 Bockarie. He had come for what I would call a final discussion
22 on Sam Bockarie agreeing to two things: accept his orders and
23 commence the disarmament process in Sierra Leone. That's when I
24 invited Obasanjo to come for us to have this final decision on
11:13:05 25 moving Lome.

26 Q. I'm grateful. Moving on:

27 "During my stay in Monrovia Mr Sankoh introduced me to
28 Benjamin Yeaten in order to meet Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor and
29 explain to him the issues of misunderstanding that went on

1 between Sam Bockarie and Superman. But during my stay in
2 Monrovia I was not fortunate to speak with Mr Charles Ghankay
3 Taylor one to one. I frequently met with Benjamin Yeaten at his
4 residence and he made me to understand that there wasn't any need
11:13:36 5 of meeting with Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor and according to him
6 they had investigated and came to know the truth and that the
7 misleading informations that were given to them by Sam Bockarie
8 and based on that fact he was the one who received Sam Bockarie
9 from Lofa County. Sam Bockarie was under his control in Monrovia
11:14:01 10 and he was under serious monitoring and he was under perfect
11 security protection and in due course he was going to face the
12 consequences of what he did in Sierra Leone, but they needed
13 sufficient proof about the disorderly conduct in Sierra Leone."

14 Now, what's that about, Mr Taylor?

11:14:29 15 A. I really don't know. I really don't know what nonsense
16 this boy is talking about. I have no idea of what he is talking
17 about.

18 Q. Let's try and unpack it carefully, shall we? What's this
19 misleading information which was given by Sam Bockarie, please?

11:14:50 20 A. Nothing. I have no idea what it is. Nothing. In fact,
21 being there to - who is he that he - that Sankoh - he is there to
22 meet me one on one. I mean all this gibberish is just that.
23 Nothing of this sort that there's some misunderstanding. What
24 does this boy know? Nothing. I don't know what he is talking
11:15:12 25 about really. It doesn't amount to anything, what he's saying
26 here.

27 Q. And help me, please. "In due course he was going to face
28 the consequences of what he did in Sierra Leone." Was it your
29 intention to put Mr Bockarie on trial, Mr Taylor?

1 A. No, never.

2 Q. So what are these consequences that the witness speaking
3 of, please?

4 A. This boy does not know, counsel, what is he talking about.

11:15:42 5 Nothing. Sam Bockarie is in Liberia as a free man moving around.
6 There was no intention on the part of the Government of Liberia
7 to investigate, arrest or anything with Sam Bockarie or any of
8 his people. This boy is talking pure nonsense.

9 Q. Well, let's go over the page to page 4572 and see if we can
11:16:04 10 some clarification on this because if we look at commencing line
11 24 we see this:

12 "What I'm trying to say is that there was a
13 misunderstanding or misinformation that Sam Bockarie used to pass
14 on to Benjamin Yeaten and that Superman and the entire Liberian
11:16:21 15 troops that were under his command were breakaway factions and
16 that they a different intention, different from the RUF agenda."

17 Over the page, line 6:

18 "The information was given to Benjamin Yeaten by Sam
19 Bockarie. He explained a lot to me" - that's Benjamin Yeaten -
11:16:50 20 "regarding what was going on. Especially the thing in respect of
21 the infighting that took place in Makeni and Koinadugu and even
22 the time of our stay at Lunsar."

23 Line 15:

24 "Benjamin Yeaten said that even if Mr Charles Taylor were
11:17:05 25 to send for Superman or any commander in Liberia were to send for
26 Superman, Superman will never be brave enough to go to Monrovia
27 because he knew what he had done and he knew the plans that he
28 was carrying on with presently with the SLA and he knew the rules
29 and regulations of the RUF code of conduct."

1 Now, you see the implication of that, don't you, Mr Taylor?
2 That such was your control over the RUF that, in effect, you
3 would be dishing out discipline where they broke the rules and
4 regulations of the RUF code of conduct. You do follow, don't
11:17:52 5 you?

6 A. Yes, I do. I see what he is trying to say here.

7 Q. Well, is that the case?

8 A. That's not the case. I mean, this is so far off of what is
9 associated with my knowledge or understanding of what is going on
11:18:15 10 during this period that I don't even - I can't - I can't lay any
11 hands on what this young man is trying to say. I mean really
12 because when you look at it, we have evidence that Superman comes
13 to Monrovia. Superman comes to Monrovia, he travels back to
14 Sierra Leone. There is no intention on the part of my government
11:18:36 15 to embarrass or arrest or harm anybody, Sierra Leoneans come in
16 and go. So I cannot associate what is he talking about. He is
17 just for me way out in left field talking nonsense about Superman
18 would not do this and all of --

19 Q. But, Mr Taylor, it's my fault entirely. Can I just draw
11:18:58 20 your attention back to page 4571, because I omitted to deal with
21 one aspect of the testimony which I would like you to have an
22 opportunity to comment on. Going back to that page, 4571, you'll
23 recall the witness saying at line 13:

24 "During my stay in Monrovia Mr Sankoh introduced me to
11:19:23 25 Benjamin Yeaten in order to meet Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor and
26 explain to him the issues of misunderstanding."

27 So he was, on my understanding, due to speak to you on
28 behalf of Mr Sankoh. Now he goes on to say, "I frequently met
29 with Benjamin Yeaten," and he has this discussion with Benjamin

1 Yeaten, lines 18 to 28.

2 And then he goes on, line 29:

3 "So as a matter of fact there was no reason for me to meet
4 Mr Charles Ghankay Taylor as I was instructed by Mr Foday Sankoh
11:20:06 5 in Monrovia."

6 Now help me. Mr Sankoh was in Monrovia in the December,
7 wasn't he?

8 A. Yes, he was.

9 Q. And did you prevent him from speaking his mind to you on
11:20:21 10 any issue, Mr Taylor?

11 A. No, Foday Sankoh met with me during that stay several times
12 and if there was anything that he wanted to discuss with me he
13 would have discussed it with me because remember now Foday Sankoh
14 is in a heated something with his under man Sam Bockarie, we're
11:20:39 15 trying to settle it, another colleague of mine come in. So
16 there's nothing that Foday Sankoh wanted to say to me that he
17 could not have said, that he would have had to wait for him to
18 explain it to me.

19 Q. Because the witness is saying that Sankoh introduces him to
11:20:54 20 Yeaten in order for the witness to be able to explain to you what
21 Mr Sankoh wanted to tell you, so help me.

22 A. It doesn't make sense. I mean wasn't it easier - isn't it
23 logical for Sankoh to bring him to me in a meeting to say, "Well,
24 look, here is a young man that was on the ground." Why does
11:21:16 25 Sankoh have to take this man, introduce him to Benjamin Yeaten
26 who is supposed to explain something to me when all Sankoh has to
27 do is to bring the man along with him. That's how these people -
28 that's how they make up things, okay. What is it so much that is
29 going on that Sankoh cannot either explain to me himself or bring

1 this Nya Korto man.

2 The only suggestion I can make here is this, it's good for
3 the Court to - Nya Korto is a Mano man from Nimba County.

4 Benjamin Yeaten is a Gio man from Nimba County. The Gios and the
11:21:58 5 Manos are like brothers. You speak Gio, you understand Mano.

6 You speak Mano, you understand Gio. All I can suggest here, and
7 it's a mere suggestion, is that this Nya Korto, because as far as
8 the work that I have done that Lansana was a fake name that he
9 put up in Sierra Leone. He is Korto. He is a Mano boy from

11:22:30 10 Nimba County. He returns to Liberia and probably meets a brother
11 like Benjamin Yeaten and wants help and that's why he is visiting
12 Benjamin all the time.

13 Because, let's face it, here is a radio operator that once
14 served as radio operator for Foday Sankoh, as he alleges. And
11:22:55 15 here is someone that is not featured - because Foday Sankoh comes
16 to Monrovia in 1999 and Nya Korto is not featured anywhere in the
17 staff that Foday Sankoh leaves in Monrovia. He is not a radio
18 operator. He is nothing in Monrovia. He doesn't feature. So
19 what my head is telling me here is that Nya Korto probably leaves

11:23:20 20 and is returns to Liberia and is trying to seek assistance from
21 Benjamin. Because one would say at this particular guesthouse in
22 Monrovia there are people and, for a senior person like him, one
23 would want to believe that he could be utilised in Monrovia even
24 between '99 up to the 2000 that he suggests that he is in
11:23:42 25 Liberia. But there's something funny about his presence in
26 Liberia where he does not participate in any RUF activities
27 besides staying there waiting to explain the unexplainable what
28 he is trying to allege here.

29 So I think there is something suspect here about his

1 presence in Liberia and I think he went to Liberia on his own and
2 maybe trying to seek assistance from a brother from Nimba County
3 because the Manos and the Gios are very close.

4 Q. A couple of other matters I want to deal with in relation
11:24:19 5 to this witness, Mr Taylor. Let us go back to page 4573, please.

6 Line 21:

7 "Q. So what was Benjamin Yeaten's assessment, if you know,
8 of the situation?

9 A. He came to know the truth during the time that Sam
11:24:39 10 Bockarie challenged the leadership of Foday Sankoh, saying
11 that he was no longer going to take any mess from
12 Foday Sankoh and that he was prepared to declare himself as
13 another leader and that report was sent to Mr Charles
14 Ghankay Taylor. And Mr Foday Sankoh made his report

11:24:58 15 categorically clear that this had been the honest
16 misunderstanding and that Sam Bockarie was now defying his
17 authority. So he said, 'Big brother, I am kindly asking
18 you to intervene and see how best you can calm down Sam
19 Bockarie in respect of his new decision' and, under the
11:25:21 20 command of Mr Charles Taylor, Sam Bockarie was ordered to
21 pack up and leave Sierra Leone to Liberia."

22 True, Mr Taylor?

23 A. No. Not under my command. Sam Bockarie was brought to
24 Liberia under the auspices of ECOWAS and the United Nations and I
11:25:44 25 say that because the United Nations - the special representative
26 of the Secretary-General --

27 Q. I think we can deal with this fairly briefly, Mr Taylor,
28 because we've got five minutes and I would like to --

29 A. Okay. ECOWAS was present, so his explanation of under my

1 order is just total nonsense.

2 Q. What about this report allegedly sent to you by
3 Foday Sankoh, where is it?

4 A. There was no report sent by Foday Sankoh.

11:26:13 5 Q. Just a couple of other matters for completeness. Can we go
6 to page 4583, please. There the witness told us this during the
7 course of his cross-examination:

8 "Q. You told us you went by a nickname of C0 Nya?

9 A. Yes.

11:26:52 10 Q. Now Foday Lansana is not the name you answered when you
11 were growing up in Liberia, is it?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Your father's name or your family name is Nessian, is
14 it not?

11:27:08 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In fact your full name given to you by your father is
17 Nyahn Korto Nessian?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You were born in Nimba County, correct?

11:27:21 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And you're a Mano man, that's your tribe, is it not?

22 A. Yes."

23 And then finally when we go to page 4574 of the transcript
24 we learn that this witness was arrested on 7 May by the Sierra
11:27:43 25 Leonean authorities. He was accused of being a Liberian
26 mercenary working as a mediator between Foday Sankoh and Charles
27 Ghankay Taylor, page 4575, lines 20 and 21. He says he was
28 seriously tortured and taken to Pademba prison. He was
29 thereafter put on trial for shooting with intent to murder and

1 conspiracy to murder arising out of the 15 May incident outside
2 Mr Sankoh's residence at Spur Road in Freetown and he was
3 sentenced to 150 years' imprisonment.

4 Now, Mr Taylor, given that this man was born in Liberia
11:28:28 5 what did you do about this punishment imposed on a Liberian
6 citizen?

7 A. Nothing. This is just a traumatised man that they managed
8 to seduce to come here and lie unfortunately. He is just a
9 traumatised individual. He was tortured, given 150 years. I
11:28:48 10 would lie myself I guess.

11 MR GRIFFITHS: Would that be a convenient point
12 Mr President? That's all I ask about witness.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, we're almost out of tape anyway,
14 Mr Griffiths, so we'll take the morning break and resume at 12
11:29:03 15 o'clock.

16 [Break taken at 11.29 a.m.]

17 [Upon resuming at 12.00 p.m.]

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis, yes.

19 MS HOLLIS: Thank you, Mr President, before we move on to
12:03:02 20 the next witness, prosecution would like to place on the record
21 its objection that Defence counsel has misstated and
22 mischaracterised portions of the testimony of this witness Foday
23 Lansana, and we will deal with that in cross-examination.

24 Mr President, while I'm on my feet, we would also note that
12:03:24 25 we have not received the two-week notice regarding witnesses and
26 exhibits for next week. Now, we know the Defence had estimated
27 that this accused would continue to be on direct examination for
28 next week. We have received no written notice of that, nor have
29 we received anything in writing relating to exhibits for next

1 week, and we would ask that we be provided this information
2 today. Thank you.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Ms Hollis. Well firstly, the
4 Prosecution objection to the first point raised, is now a matter
12:03:58 5 of record.

6 And the other matter raised regarding the notice,
7 Mr Griffiths, do you have anything to say about that?

8 MR GRIFFITHS: Save that all exhibits to be relied upon
9 have long been served upon the Prosecution.

12:04:18 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: So there is nothing more to expect?

11 MR GRIFFITHS: Nothing more to expect.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Does that satisfy your query, Ms Hollis?

13 MS HOLLIS: As to the exhibits, yes. And could we get
14 verification about the witness for next week, if direct will
12:04:35 15 continue in or through next week?

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I note you did anticipate two weeks.

17 MR GRIFFITHS: [Microphone not activated].

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: So in other words, going along with that
19 estimation, the witness for next week will be Mr Taylor only?

12:04:56 20 MR GRIFFITHS: I anticipate that. And thereafter I
21 anticipate some cross-examination by the Prosecution, which I
22 presume might last a little while. So from our point of view
23 there are no surprises in terms of witnesses to come.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you, Mr Griffiths.

12:05:14 25 Well, there you have it, Ms Hollis.

26 Yes, please go ahead.

27 MR GRIFFITHS:

28 Q. Mr Taylor, we are going to move on to deal with another
29 witness. This witness is witness TF1-571, Karmoh Kanneh, who

1 gave evidence in open session in May of last year. Now, the
2 first point I want to deal with in relation to this witness,
3 Mr Taylor, is the circumstances in which he came to join, as he
4 explained, the RUF, and there are particular questions that I
12:06:00 5 want to ask you about that. Now, the witness told us this on 8
6 May 2008 at page 9315, line 1:

7 "Well, when they came and attacked the town, they started
8 shooting all around. Most of our colleagues escaped but
9 some of us who were unable to escape, they captured us.

12:06:30 10 Q. When you say 'us', how many of you were captured?

11 A. In all, myself plus 16 others. All of us who were
12 captured were men.

13 Q. What ages were you?

14 A. Well, there were two people amongst us who had about 10
12:06:50 15 years of age and then the other - the remaining others were
16 above 23 years of age.

17 Q. What do you mean by 'captured'?

18 A. Well, then we they captured the town those of us they
19 met around they assembled all of us and we were the men
12:07:10 20 amongst the women who were captured, so they assembled all
21 of us it together and then they warned us asking that we
22 join them and they said we should not attempt to escape at
23 all. They said if anybody attempted to escape, if that
24 person was caught he or she would be killed."

12:07:31 25 Now, bear in mind, Mr Taylor, this is said to be occurring
26 in 1991. And when we go to page 9316, quickly, he goes on to
27 mention at line 14 that - well, perhaps for completeness sake I
28 ought to go back to 9315 and pick up.

29 "Q. When you say 'they', do you know the person who was

1 saying this to you? Did that person have a name?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. What was the person's name?

4 A. One Man One.

12:08:23 5 Q. And what was that person's position, if you know?

6 A. Well, he was in control of all the rebels who entered
7 on the Pujehun front. He was the leader amongst them
8 there.

9 Q. How did you know that he was the leader?

12:08:39 10 A. Well, he was later introduced to us as the leader.

11 Q. Where was he from?

12 A. Liberia.

13 Q. With what happened to you after you were captured?

14 A. After some days, they told us they were going to take
12:08:52 15 us to the base.

16 Q. How do you know that the person One Man One was a
17 Liberian?

18 A. Well, he was speaking in Liberian tongue and at the
19 same time later after I had joined them I came to know."

12:09:07 20 And he goes on to mention that he was familiar with
21 Liberian English and then says at line 22, "After some days they
22 told us they were going to take us to a base."

23 At page 9317, that base was at Gisiwolo, a training base.

24 Line 11, that is: "Those who entered through Pujehun, that was
12:09:37 25 where they had their training base."

26 Line 19:

27 "Q. What did you do when you were at Gisiwolo?

28 A. Well, they started training us. They started training
29 us."

1 Now, I've read all of that, Mr Taylor, to ask this. First
2 of all, One Man One, is that name familiar to you?"

3 A. Well, yes, I have heard it here, but I don't know --

4 Q. Pardon?

12:10:01 5 A. I have heard it in this courtroom, and I will explain my
6 knowledge of that expression as I have known it. That was not an
7 individual's name that was - it was used, was a description like
8 an aka of a particular weapon.

9 Q. An alias?

12:10:30 10 A. An alias, yes.

11 Q. Very well. But outside of this courtroom, does that name -
12 that alias, One Man One, mean anything to you?

13 A. Yes. It means - for me, that's what I am saying, when I
14 hear "One Man One" it refers - it's a description of a weapon. I
15 have never heard it as associated with a name of someone.

16 Q. Oh, I see.

17 A. So I have heard the name, yes.

18 Q. Very well. But in any event, Mr Taylor, the reason why I
19 have begun with this passage is straightforward. You appreciate
12:11:12 20 that the allegation here is people speaking Liberian English were
21 forcefully conscripting individuals into the RUF. Do you follow?

22 A. Yes, I do.

23 Q. By extension, one possible interpretation is that your NPFL
24 forces in Pujehun were forcefully conscripting Sierra Leonean
12:11:52 25 citizens into the RUF. Do you follow?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Now, the first question I want to ask you is this: Was
28 such forceful conscription a policy adopted in Liberia by the
29 NPFL?

1 A. No, it was not.

2 Q. Had the NPFL at any stage during the Liberian conflict
3 employed such strategies?

4 A. No.

12:12:29 5 Q. Had you instructed NPFL soldiers to adopt such strategies
6 in Sierra Leone?

7 A. No. I was not involved in this 1991 operation in Sierra
8 Leone, so I could not have instructed any NPFL soldier. As far
9 as I am concerned, there were not NPFL soldiers involved in

12:12:58 10 Sierra Leone and if they were, they were on their own. So there
11 were no instructions given to anyone in Sierra Leone.

12 Q. During that period when you accept that you cooperated with
13 Foday Sankoh in Sierra Leone, did you instruct, condone,
14 acquiesce in the forceful conscription of Sierra Leonean citizens
12:13:24 15 into the RUF?

16 A. No, but let me clarify that "no". The operations that were
17 conducted in Sierra Leone between '91 and '92 had nothing to do
18 with training of Sierra Leoneans. I sent a security force to the
19 border that operated against ULIMO. The force that went into

12:13:47 20 Sierra Leone was not a force of cooperation that dealt with
21 training for the advancement of a war in Sierra Leone. I sent
22 men that were involved in combat against ULIMO in Sierra Leone
23 and I withdrew those men. So I want to draw a distinction. So I
24 did not send a unit for any - to help the RUF in their training
12:14:12 25 in tactics and weapons to fight their war, no. My involvement in
26 Sierra Leone was purely security for Liberia.

27 Q. Now, that may well be your position, Mr Taylor, but I need
28 to ask you nonetheless: Were you aware of any NPFL forces that
29 you sent to Sierra Leone behaving in the manner I have suggested,

1 that is, forcefully recruiting Sierra Leonean citizens into
2 combat?

3 A. No. Absolutely no.

4 Q. Were you aware of the presence of a training base at a
12:15:12 5 place called Gisiwolo in Sierra Leone?

6 A. No, I was not aware.

7 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, do you recall when we were dealing with the
8 testimony of Foday Lansana this morning I took a little time to
9 outline in order to place in context Sankoh allegedly returning
12:15:46 10 to Liberia after Top Final, after the RUF's penetration into
11 Pujehun had been repelled? Do you remember me asking you about
12 that?

13 A. Yes, I do.

14 Q. Well, this witness also deals with that episode. So let us
12:16:06 15 look at his account. Page 9332, the witness says this at line
16 10:

17 "Finally we were pushed and we were attacked from all
18 fronts. They attacked us and they even captured Bo
19 Waterside and all of us ran away into Liberia.

12:16:33 20 Q. Whereabouts in Liberia did you run to?

21 A. The first place we went to was Tiene."

22 Now you remember us mentioning Tiene before, Mr Taylor?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And Tiene is in which country?

12:16:49 25 A. Tiene is in Liberia.

26 Q. "Q. Did you stay in Tiene?

27 A. No.

28 Q. Where did you go from Tiene?

29 A. Well, we went to Bomi Hills.

1 Q. Did you remain for any time in Bomi Hills?

2 A. Well, we were there for just a few days."

3 Now pause there. Help us. Mr Taylor, were you aware of a
4 force of RUF combatants retreating in the face of an onslaught
12:17:23 5 from Sierra Leonean government forces into Bomi Hills in Liberia?
6 Were you aware of that, such a movement of people?

7 A. No, I was not aware. But let's be very clear about this
8 now, counsel. The period this witness I think is referring to is
9 1991, am I correct about that?

12:17:44 10 Q. Based on my reading of his evidence, yes.

11 A. Okay. So if he is talking about 1991, then this is
12 unrelated to the Top Final thing that this other man is talking
13 about. This now he is talking about - early in that conflict I
14 am not aware that there is this movement into Liberia from across
12:18:08 15 the border. This is around March/April 1991. No, I am not aware
16 of that.

17 Q. And he continues, line 22:

18 "Q. What happened whilst you were there" - that's in Bomi
19 Hills?

12:18:26 20 "A. Well, that same commander, the battle group commander,
21 One Man One, we met all of them there, because that was
22 where all the senior commanders stopped, so we all went and
23 stopped there.

24 Q. You said you were there for just a few days. What
12:18:46 25 happened during those few days that you were there?

26 A. Well, we were there when we saw Foday Sankoh and at the
27 same time we saw Mr Taylor. All of them came.

28 Q. How did Mr Taylor come? Do you know how he came
29 there, what method he came there?

1 A. Well, we just saw him. He was in the vehicle. They
2 came on board a vehicle. And where we were based they all
3 came there, he and Foday Sankoh.

4 Q. Did he and Foday Sankoh come together?

12:19:26 5 A. No, Foday Sankoh came first - first came.

6 Q. When you say Mr Taylor, who are you talking about?

7 What's the full name of that person, if you know?

8 A. Well, that name, Charles Ghankay Taylor, that is what
9 we normally called him by.

12:19:48 10 Q. Had you ever seen him before that time?

11 A. No, that was my first day - first day to see him.

12 Q. What did Charles Taylor do?

13 A. Well, they called us to a formation and then all of us
14 were briefed. They gave us courageous words. They said we
12:20:13 15 shouldn't fear. We will have to return. They said we
16 shouldn't fear.

17 Q. When say they gave you courageous words, who was
18 speaking?

19 A. Well, he himself. Charles Taylor, was the first person
12:20:31 20 who spoke and then later he buttressed by Foday Sankoh.

21 Q. What did Charles Taylor say exactly at that formation?

22 A. Well, he said he had come with armament, materials and
23 all other things and he said we were going to get ready and
24 back to Sierra Leone.

12:20:57 25 Q. Did he say anything else?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. What did he say?

28 A. He said he was going to divide the group into two."

29 Over the page, page 9334, picking it up at line 23:

1 "It was Mr Ghankay first who spoke and Foday Sankoh spoke
2 later. It was Foday Sankoh.

3 Line 28:

4 "Q. You also said previously that Charles Taylor said he
12:21:37 5 was going to divide the group into two. He told us that.
6 Did he divide the group into two?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. How many were in the one group before it was divided?

9 A. Well, we were many, but our group that we went with,
12:21:53 10 that is the one I will be able to give an account about.

11 Q. How many were placed into the group that you were
12 placed into?

13 A. Well, in our group that we moved with initially when we
14 moved to Bomi Hills, although some later added, but we were
12:22:11 15 initially 500.

16 Q. How many were there in the group that you were placed
17 into?

18 A. Where we went, Mano River, the group that we moved
19 with.

12:22:24 20 Q. The big group was divided into two, is that so?

21 A. Yes, yes.

22 Q. You were put into one of those new groups, is that
23 right?

24 A. Yes.

12:22:34 25 Q. How many in the group that you were put into?

26 A. 250.

27 Q. Did the group that you were placed into have a name?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Who gave the group the name, if you know?

1 A. It was Mr Taylor.

2 Q. And what was the name of the group?

3 A. It was called Black Kadaffa."

4 Over the page:

12:22:59 5 "Q. When you were placed into that group, was there
6 someone who was in charge of the group?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Who was that?

9 A. General Pepe.

12:23:11 10 Q. Where was General Pepe from?

11 A. He was an NPFL general.

12 Q. Was there a person who was his - was reporting to him
13 in the group? Who was that?

14 A. General Devon."

12:23:31 15 Pause there. Now, Mr Taylor, there is a lot there for us
16 to digest. Firstly, this witness attaches you with presence in
17 Bomi Hills in company with Foday Sankoh following this retreat
18 from Pujehun in Sierra Leone, do you see?

19 A. Yes, I do.

12:23:57 20 Q. And you addressed that group, put simply, geeing them up
21 for further combat and providing them with war materials, yes?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And you note, of course, how this testimony synchronises
24 with what we looked at this morning with Foday Lansana. Sankoh

12:24:28 25 returning to Liberia at some stage following the expulsion of the
26 RUF from Pujehun and returning later with radio operators who had
27 been part of that group expelled, including Albert Brown and
28 others, do you see? What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

29 A. Well, in the first place, this is not true. But, again, I

1 may be missing you. I may be missing out on what you are
2 referring to again, because again I think we may be talking about
3 two different times here. But he also associates me with Black
4 Kadaffa.

12:25:15 5 Q. Yes, you gave the name to the group, Mr Taylor?

6 A. And this is the same group that is planning to destroy me
7 and the whole NPFL and Degbon and the rest. Well, Degbon doesn't
8 have - there is no one - Degbon is a Special Force and a very
9 senior and a very educated man. And there is no way that there
10 is a General Pepe that he talks about here.

12:25:38

11 Q. Can I interrupt briefly just to seek some clarification on
12 something?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And please hold the answer - continue with your answer in
15 due course. General Pepe, known to you?

12:25:51

16 A. No, that's what I am saying. I don't know a General Pepe,
17 okay. The only - if we want to help the Court, I know a General
18 Dry Pepper, which is Anthony Mekunagbe. So I am not sure now if
19 this is - but Degbon would not work under Mekunagbe because

12:26:20

20 Degbon would be senior to Anthony Mekunagbe. I have mentioned to
21 this Court General Degbon was amongst the top in the NPFL, very
22 educated. He had a master's degree from a major European
23 university in geology and was educated. Anthony Mekunagbe was a
24 little - he had been just an under high school graduate and a

12:26:45

25 police officer before. Degbon was most senior to Mekunagbe, so
26 he cannot be referring here to - I can't see him mixing Dry
27 Pepper with Pepe. So I am just suggesting - I don't know what he
28 is talking about here. But, in any case, Black Kadaffa is not a
29 group associated with me. It's an anti-NPFL group. We've talked

1 about it. That's how Degbon and they rest of them get arrested,
2 charged, tried and all of that.

3 So this account that he is giving referring to - and I am
4 not sure, counsel, maybe I am missing something. I cannot still
12:27:24 5 associate this with this return in 1992. But, anyway, we will go
6 on with this. But I think this retreat he is talking about could
7 be a different line and I am sure of what I am saying, but there
8 is no association with me being in Bomi in direct answer, one,
9 with Foday Sankoh. There is no association of me being a part of
12:28:07 10 or naming the Black Kadaffa. I went after Black Kadaffa. Black
11 Kadaffa and the leadership were arrested and tried for the
12 anti-revolutionary activities. And so for anyone to suggest
13 this, it shows that he is up to something that is not true
14 because I went after Black Kadaffa and following the arrest of
12:28:32 15 Degbon, Oliver Varney, Anthony Mekunagbe and the rest of them
16 that were charged, prosecuted and executed for wanting to kill me
17 and the rest of the NPFL and what they were doing, Black Kadaffa
18 failed to exist. So for somebody to come here and say I stood
19 before Black Kadaffa and named them and all that type of
12:28:53 20 nonsense, that's totally untrue.

21 Q. We may get a hint, bearing in mind what you said about Pepe
22 or Dry Pepper, because on that same page, the testimony of the
23 witness continued in this way. Mr Munyard intervened at line 25
24 and said: "Not in the document that I have got from the
12:29:29 25 Prosecution that gives these very names double P in the middle."

26 And then the witness is asked: "Do you know how Dry Pepper
27 spelt the name Pepe?"

28 Do you see that?

29 A. Yes, I do.

1 Q. And the Dry Pepper you were talking about is who?

2 A. Anthony Mekunagbe.

3 Q. And you have already mentioned to us how you say Anthony
4 Mekunagbe was implicated in the Black Kadaffa plot?

12:30:04 5 A. Definitely.

6 Q. Along with General Degbon?

7 A. Degbon, Oliver Varney and the rest of them, yes.

8 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: If I may seek clarification. How did the
9 name Black Kadaffa come about?

12:30:24 10 THE WITNESS: I really don't know, your Honour, how they
11 came up with that name to call it Black Kadaffa. I really don't
12 know how they came up with that name. It could have been one of
13 Degbon and their own construction because of what they were
14 trying to do, they just called it Black Kadaffa. I have no
12:30:44 15 attachment to my understanding of why or how they came up with
16 that.

17 JUDGE SEBUTINDE: So it was not a group that existed
18 officially in the NPFL and later became renegade?

19 THE WITNESS: No, no it was not - it was a group that they
12:31:02 20 just came up and put together that operation that was stopped
21 when we arrested them. I understand your question. Was it a
22 group that became a renegade? No. It was a non-existing
23 official NPFL group. It was an entire group that they just came
24 up with in their diabolical work.

12:31:29 25 MR GRIFFITHS:

26 Q. Now I am moving on, Mr Taylor. Because at page 9354, the
27 witness moves ahead and speaks of attending a meeting with Foday
28 Sankoh, line 7, and he says this:

29 "Well, Foday Sankoh went to Abidjan to sign the peace

1 accord on our behalf. On his return, that was the time
2 that I met with him.

3 Q. Were you the only person who met with him, or were
4 there others who met with him at that time?

12:32:12 5 A. There were other people there. But when he came, at
6 first he called for a formation. The soldiers with whom we
7 were, officers and soldiers, we all assembled at the
8 grounds for the formation. Well, he addressed, told us
9 about the peace that he had signed and he said he had done
12:32:30 10 it in the interests of the movement, for all of us. That
11 was what he told us at the formation. He said he had
12 signed the peace on our behalf, but that does not mean the
13 war has ended. He said during times of peace, those are
14 times that we should prepare for war. He said we should
12:32:51 15 not forget. Yes, because by then the Kamajors were behind
16 us and they had dislodged us from some of our areas -
17 Zogoda and some other areas - and so I believe that that
18 was the reason why he said that."

19 Line 17:

12:33:09 20 "Q. What happened after the formation?

21 A. Well, he informed the senior officers that they should
22 tell all of us, the officers who were present, for us to
23 assemble at his place where he was staying so that we would
24 have an officers' meeting.

12:33:27 25 Q. Who was it that informed you to assemble at his place?

26 A. It was General Issa Sesay. All of us met there."

27 And then he continues:

28 "Where he was staying, the EMG ground", Executive Mansion
29 Ground, no doubt, "where he always stays - where he always stays,

1 that was where we met."

2 He goes on to mention that Foday Sankoh was present and
3 then he names others present: Bockarie - Colonel Bockarie,
4 Mosquito, Issa was there, Jungle was there, AB was there, FOC was
12:34:17 5 there, Jackson Swarray was there, and he goes on to name others.
6 Abubakar, so on and so forth. And then we come to this at page
7 9358:

8 "Q. Now, at the time meeting who spoke?

9 A. Well, Foday Sankoh spoke.

12:34:42 10 Q. What did he say?

11 A. Well, in the first place we saw him hand over his
12 satellite phone to Mr Bockarie, Sam Bockarie.

13 Q. When you say 'satellite', what is satellite?

14 A. Satellite. Satellite phone.

12:34:59 15 Q. Did he say anything when he handed the phone - the
16 satellite phone to Sam Bockarie?

17 A. Well, in the first place he told us that we should take
18 all orders from Sam Bockarie and at the same time he was
19 going on a political tour. He said he was going to Libya
12:35:18 20 and other areas. He said we should all take instructions
21 from Bockarie while Bockarie should be taking instructions
22 from Mr Ghankay. That was why he gave him that satellite
23 so that we would be having links."

24 Line 18:

12:35:40 25 "Q. Who is Mr Ghankay?

26 A. That is the NPFL leader, Charles Ghankay Taylor.

27 Q. Did he say anything else when he was at the meeting?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. What did he say?

1 A. Well, he introduced Jungle to us as Mr Taylor's
2 representative for us there."

3 Note "introduced".

4 "Q. Did he refer to Jungle in any particular way?

12:36:08 5 A. Well, he said he was the Pa's representative. They had
6 been discussing that and so he was trying to introduce him
7 to us. He said he was Charles Ghankay Taylor's
8 representative, Jungle.

9 Q. Did Jungle say anything at the meeting?"

12:36:29 10

11 Let's pause there, Mr Taylor. Now, just to put this in
12 context, you recall after the signing of the Abidjan Peace
13 Accord, Sankoh did indeed return to RUF-controlled areas in
14 Sierra Leone to, in effect, quote unquote, sell the idea of the
12:36:58 15 peace agreement so his soldiers on the ground. Do you remember
16 that?

17 A. Yes, I do.

18 Q. We have been told that by more than one witness how he
19 arrived by helicopter. Do you recall that?

12:37:09 20

A. Yes, I do.

21 Q. And had made various lightning visits. Now first of all,
22 were you aware - no, let me start before that. Up to that time -
23 and remember we are talking about - November 1996 is the signing
24 of the Abidjan peace accord.

12:37:27 25

A. Yes.

26 Q. Were you were you in contact with Foday Sankoh by satellite
27 phone?

28 A. Not at all, no.

29 Q. I ask for this reason: Were you aware that he had given

1 his satellite phone to Sam Bockarie?

2 A. No, I was not aware.

3 Q. And I ask that in turn for this reason. At line 12:

4 "He said he was going to Libya and other areas. He said we
12:37:55 5 should all take instructions from Bockarie, while Bockarie should
6 be taking instructions from Mr Ghankay. That was why he gave him
7 that satellite so that we would be having links."

8 So he is giving Bockarie this satellite phone so that
9 Bockarie can receive orders from you. The unspoken conclusion is
12:38:22 10 you had already been in communication with him via this phone and
11 so it was a normal, agreed line of communication. Do you follow?

12 A. Yes, I do.

13 Q. Now, what do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

14 A. I say this is awful. This is awful. What is going on?

12:38:46 15 This is totally awful. It's a lie and it's awful. Foday Sankoh
16 goes to Abidjan, and from testimony here he is given two
17 telephones and a fax machine. And Foday Sankoh goes back to -
18 based on testimony I have heard here - goes back to the region
19 for two reasons that have been told to this Court. The first
12:39:14 20 reason is to sell the peace agreement, but there is a second
21 reason. The second reason is to tell his people to get involved
22 in mining that they can raise material. That's the evidence
23 before this Court.

24 Q. You are talking about the Mohamed Talibi letters?

12:39:33 25 A. Exactly. So it's so awful that - it's so - it's horrific
26 that these people can put together these kind of lie. I don't
27 know how they do it. Foday Sankoh and I have no contact. Those
28 telephones are given him, and in fact I listened to testimony in
29 this Court that one of those telephones, if I am not mistaken,

1 was given to him by someone from International Alert, Dr Seboe.
2 I stand corrected on that. So here I am now, boom, Charles
3 Taylor back in the centre. How do I get a telephone to Foday
4 Sankoh when I am not involved in the entire process? I am a
12:40:14 5 member of the council of state in 1996 in Liberia. I am not
6 President of Liberia in 1996. I have nothing do with that peace
7 accord going on in that place. No contact. Foday Sankoh is down
8 there. We've introduced letters here exchanged between he and
9 Mohamed Talibi and monies that he has received and wanting more.
12:40:39 10 My God, what do I have to do with it that somebody now comes with
11 this blatant lie before this Court and say, Charles Taylor
12 gave - he gave Sam Bockarie a telephone that he would be in touch
13 with Ghankay. Total nonsense. It's not true, and it's awful
14 that these lies are just as diabolical as they are.

12:41:02 15 Q. Now, at this time, Mr Taylor, late 1996, were you aware of
16 a trip that Sankoh was proposing to make to Libya?

17 A. I had no contact with Sankoh. I had no knowledge of it.
18 None whatsoever. Absolutely none.

19 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, I want you to bear very much at the
12:41:30 20 forefront of your mind what we've heard about the origins of this
21 man Jungle. Now, bearing that in mind, we were being told by
22 this witness that in late 1996 Jungle was being introduced as
23 your representative. What do you say about that?

24 A. That is false. But we have already been told when Jungle
12:42:01 25 got cut off behind the line, we go all the way back to '92. So
26 Jungle now is invisible in that particular area all the while,
27 and mind you a principal - and I want to believe a principal
28 witness brought by this Prosecution - and I think one of the
29 witnesses that I am sure we will deal with - sat here - and I

1 can't mention the name because he is a protected witness - I can
2 just say he came very close to the end of the Prosecution's case,
3 said how Jungle got over there, and the introduction of Jungle by
4 Sam Bockarie to Foday Sankoh. Now, here is Foday Sankoh
12:42:44 5 introducing him to them, 1996, okay, after he had been with them
6 some four years. That figures.

7 Q. Now, Tongo Fields, Mr Taylor; what do you know about that
8 location in Sierra Leone?

9 A. Nothing whatsoever.

12:43:13 10 Q. You have heard testimony in this Court and evidence
11 generally that it's a major diamond mining area in Sierra Leone,
12 haven't you?

13 A. Yes, I have.

14 Q. Well, help me. This witness says, page 9369, that he was
12:43:33 15 involved in an operation to capture Tongo Fields and he was asked
16 this at line 11 on page 9369:

17 "Q. After you captured the place Tongo Field and you were
18 the commander of that mission, did you speak to anyone
19 about the fact that you had accomplished the mission?

12:43:55 20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. Who did you speak to?

22 A. Mr Bockarie.

23 Q. And what was said?

24 A. When I spoke - well, all of us went on the mission. He
12:44:06 25 thanked us a lot.

26 Q. Were you thanked by anybody else apart from Sam
27 Bockarie?

28 A. Well, that was later. Later we received praises and
29 thanks. That was at the time that we were based there,

1 when we told Mr Taylor that we have captured so and so.

2 Q. What do you mean by 'so and so'?

3 A. When we captured - after we had based we

4 informed - first we informed Johnny Paul and he thanked us

12:44:41 5 and later he informed Mr Taylor."

6 What do you say, Mr Taylor?

7 A. I never spoke to Johnny Paul Koroma throughout. The first

8 time I got in contact or spoke personally voice to Johnny Paul

9 Koroma was in August 1999, that I, Charles Ghankay Taylor, ever

12:45:10 10 spoke to Johnny Paul Koroma. First time. And that was in

11 relations to arrangements to have him taken from his

12 incarceration in Sierra Leone and brought to Liberia. Never

13 ever, ever spoke to Johnny Paul Koroma.

14 Q. Not according to this witness, Mr Taylor, because the

12:45:34 15 witness continues, line 28:

16 "Q. How do you know that later Johnny Paul Koroma informed

17 Mr Taylor? How do you know that?

18 A. No, it was not Johnny Paul who informed Mr Taylor. It

19 was Sam Bockarie, Sam Bockarie. The first information went

12:45:54 20 to Johnny Paul that we had accomplished the mission. It

21 was later that Sam Bockarie did this.

22 Q. How do you know that he did that?

23 A. Well, it was through a satellite phone for them to have

24 links. That was why Foday Sankoh had come with that

12:46:12 25 satellite phone.

26 Q. So when you say it was through a satellite phone, what

27 happened with the satellite phone in relation to the

28 accomplishment of the mission?

29 A. Well, they communicated. They communicated. Because a

1 satellite phone, they did not talk - he did not talk with
2 Johnny Paul through the satellite phone. The satellite
3 phone was just between himself and Mr Taylor.

4 Q. Who is the 'himself'?

12:46:43 5 A. Sam Bockarie.

6 Q. And did you hear Sam Bockarie talking on that satellite
7 phone to Mr Taylor?

8 A. Yes, sir.

9 Q. What did Sam Bockarie say?

12:46:52 10 A. Well, he said we have captured the mining area, which
11 is Tongo Field. And so the Pa too - we were close to
12 him - he thanked him a lot.

13 Q. Who thanked him?

14 A. Pa Taylor.

12:47:06 15 Q. When you say 'we were close to him', what do you mean
16 by that?

17 A. We were in a room, that was Sam Bockarie's room, where
18 this communication was going on.

19 Q. And you said he was thanked. Could you hear the voice
12:47:17 20 on the other end of the phone?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. How were you able to hear that voice?

23 A. Well, it was not the voice that mattered, because at
24 that time we were all doing things in common and so they
12:47:32 25 were not hiding most of the things from me. So they told
26 me - he told me that he was talking to Mr Taylor and Jungle
27 too was there.

28 Q. Who told you that he had been talking to Mr Taylor?

29 A. Sam Bockarie.

1 Q. You said that Jungle too was there. What was Jungle
2 doing?

3 A. Well, always Jungle was by the commanders. As long
4 - because he was introduced to us as the Pa's
12:48:05 5 representative. He was always with the top commanders,
6 from one commander to another.

7 Q. Now you said that the civilians were doing the mining
8 and they were not doing it voluntarily. Did you ever see a
9 civilian who did not wish to do mining?

12:48:21 10 A. Yes, it used to happen."

11 Now, Mr Taylor, there are a couple issues of there I want
12 to tax you with. The first is this: Do you recall an occasion
13 when you spoke to Sam Bockarie on a satellite phone and
14 congratulated him on the capture of Tongo Fields?

12:48:48 15 A. No, never did. Never did.

16 Q. Secondly, by implication, the sting in the tail of this
17 account is this: The telephone conversation is associated with
18 knowledge of slave labour being used for the mining in Tongo
19 Fields. Do you get it?

12:49:11 20 A. Yes, I do.

21 Q. Were you aware that slave labour was being used by the RUF
22 to mine diamonds in Tongo Fields, or anywhere else in Sierra
23 Leone for that matter?

24 A. No, I was not aware.

12:49:29 25 Q. Did you order such a thing?

26 A. No, never did.

27 Q. Did you, with knowledge that such things were happening,
28 acquiesce or condone such behaviour?

29 A. No, no. But maybe to just maybe help for the context of

1 this, the reference here to a report being made to Johnny Paul
2 Koroma but Sam Bockarie conveying that to me, I'm not sure - it
3 does not reflect the time but in my head, and probably this could
4 help, what this witness is referring to now, it could be proper
12:50:29 5 to assume that we are talking about prior to February 1998. I am
6 saying this because February 1998 is the intervention, so the
7 control of Johnny Paul Koroma where somebody would report to him,
8 we know it ceases after the intervention. So I'm not sure - I
9 don't know when this so-called Tongo Field is supposed to be
12:50:58 10 captured. So that means it is captured in 1997 or up to February
11 of 1998.

12 Now, we would have to probably look at it because to unpack
13 these people's lies we have to look at it very seriously because
14 he is talking about Tongo Field and a report to Johnny Paul
12:51:22 15 Koroma, who Johnny Paul Koroma congratulates everybody and then
16 Sam Bockarie passes the message. And the intervention occurs in
17 February of 1998. So what he is talking about now must occur in
18 1997. I can't reflect off the top of my head now when this Tongo
19 operation occurs, whether it is post February 1998. It may help
12:51:46 20 us to unpack this lie. I know nothing about this, but just in
21 terms of how he has given this lie and my knowledge of the
22 testimony that has been given here in assigning dates, we may
23 unpack this by determining when this Tongo operation is supposed
24 to go on because that means that Johnny Paul Koroma must be in
12:52:10 25 control where he congratulates everybody and that's got to be
26 before February 1998.

27 But in the direct answer to your question, it is no to all
28 of them. I did not order. I did not condone. I knew nothing
29 about any Tongo operation. Neither did Sam Bockarie call me at

1 that time. I don't know if Sam Bockarie - he is alleging here
2 that Sam Bockarie had a telephone but let me just reflect on
3 another thing. Don't let's forget, this witness claims that
4 Foday Sankoh returns from - that's around November.

12:52:58 5 Q. Abidjan?

6 A. Yeah, from Abidjan of 1996 and asks everybody to pay
7 attention to Sam Bockarie as the commander. So that means Sam
8 Bockarie - and I know based on testimony given here, he does
9 leave a fax and a telephone with Sam Bockarie, definitely not
10 from me. But I am not aware of what is going on in Sierra Leone
11 at this particular time. No, I am not.

12 Q. Again, Mr Taylor, for completeness, we need to look at, and
13 I hope we can deal with this briefly, two specific allegations
14 made by this witness in relation to you and diamonds, okay? And
15 let's try and do it as quickly as possible because we have dealt
16 with this diamond issue ad nauseam. Page 9380, and he is dealing
17 with the mining in Tongo Fields. Line 8:

18 "The first diamond that we had, we took that diamond and
19 brought it to Mr Bockarie.

12:54:07 20 Q. What did Bockarie do with the diamond?

21 A. Well, he called me, Jungle, JR and Lion, we all
22 assembled at his place."

23 Line 25:

24 "Q. And what happened to the diamond?

12:54:23 25 A. Well, we showed the diamond to Sam Bockarie. All of us
26 were present and he thanked us a lot. That was the
27 diamond. We counted those diamonds, parceled them and the
28 diamonds were taken to Liberia."

29 Over the page, line 12:

1 "I said we parceled them and we wrote the total on the
2 paper.

3 Q. What was the total?

4 A. The first one was 43" - specific number - "pieces of
12:54:58 5 di amond.

6 Q. What happened to the package?

7 A. Well, Mr Bockarie called Mr Taylor and informed him
8 about the work that we had done. He told him about the
9 total and he too told him that we should hand them over to
12:55:15 10 Jungle who would in turn travel with them.

11 Q. How did he talk to Mr Taylor?

12 A. Well, he sent a satellite. They spoke through a
13 satellite phone.

14 Q. Could you hear Mr Taylor's voice?

12:55:31 15 A. Yes, because a satellite phone is not like the other
16 communication. When people are conversing you will know.
17 And he told us that he had contacted him, so the two of
18 them were talking.

19 Q. Did you hear what Mr Taylor said?

12:55:46 20 A. Yes, he thanked him a lot and he told him to hand over
21 the diamond to Jungle who would be able to travel with it.

22 Q. Did he hand over the di amond to Jungle?

23 A. Yes, when we handed the di amond over to Jungle they
24 gave the - they handed over the mic to Jungle and Jungle
12:56:04 25 confirmed the total to him.

26 Q. To who?

27 A. To Mr Taylor. "

28 Package, 43 di amonds, Mr Taylor; yes or no?

29 A. No. But, counsel, there is something interesting here. I

1 know we don't want to deal with it, but there is something - I
2 think we have to attach some time. We are talking about Tongo
3 and he has just said previously that Johnny Paul had
4 congratulated them, but the congratulatory message was passed to
12:56:43 5 me by Sam Bockarie. So this demonstrates some control on the
6 part of Johnny Paul Koroma. He is in authority somewhere. So I
7 think - because, you know, it's a matter of credibility how they
8 put together these lies.

9 Let me inform this Court, any human being on this planet
12:57:03 10 who from these Sierra Leonean people come here saying that he
11 explained earlier that Sam Bockarie is in his room and making a
12 satellite phone call is on something. I don't know what he is
13 smoking, because nobody on these satellite phones can make a
14 satellite phone call from in your bedroom. It's a lie. That's
12:57:24 15 the first lie.

16 The second lie - now, what would be Johnny Paul's role in
17 this thing? So Sam Bockarie now just takes the diamonds and he
18 sends it away. Who is in authority over there? So you can see
19 how the lie unravels, okay. They are supposed to be with these
12:57:42 20 diamonds. Does Johnny Paul Koroma know anything about these
21 diamonds? So Sam Bockarie takes the diamonds and he sends it off
22 by a Jungle to me. I mean, who is in control at this time?
23 Because if we are saying that - because we know from this Court
24 that Johnny Paul is humiliated, okay, shortly after he arrives.

12:58:01 25 The humiliation occurs when Johnny Paul Koroma is arrested, strip
26 searched and the diamonds taken away from him and he is put into
27 incarceration.

28 So my head logically will be telling me that if Johnny Paul
29 is playing any substantive role in what this witness is talking

1 about it has got to be before he is humiliated. It's got to be
2 before February of 1998. So if he is in control, that means that
3 Sam Bockarie is acting ultra vires to what is expected in this
4 organisation. So this lie cannot stand. It's a lie, okay, that
12:58:42 5 Sam Bockarie would send me diamonds. There is really no such
6 thing going on. And based on his own analysis, his statements of
7 what's going on, it has to be a fabrication. That's all it is.

8 Q. And we can get some further assistance as to timing,
9 Mr Taylor, because the witness talks on the same page about the
12:59:06 10 means by which Jungle, the messenger, carried these diamonds.

11 Line 12:

12 "Q. What did he do after he confirmed the total" - that
13 being Jungle?

14 "A. Well, he told him that he should move with it.

12:59:20 15 Q. Move where?

16 A. Liberia, because Foya was always the station.

17 Q. The station for what?

18 A. That was where the helicopter would pick him up to
19 Monrovia.

12:59:34 20 Q. Do you know whether Jungle left Tongo Fields?

21 A. Yes, Jungle left with an escort. Mr Bockarie gave
22 somebody, that is CO Lion, who escorted him up to Foya.

23 Q. Do you know where he went after Foya?

24 A. Well, Lion stopped there. I was there when a
13:00:00 25 helicopter picked him up and Lion returned and met us in
26 Tongo.

27 Q. So you also went to Foya?

28 A. At that time, no, I was in Tongo?"

29 So that's occasion number one. So Tongo Fields, Bockarie

1 sends 43 pieces of diamonds transported to you by helicopter in
2 the safe hands of Colonel Jungle, and you say that didn't happen,
3 Mr Taylor, yes?

13:00:46 4 A. It definitely did not. Look, if this Prosecution produces
5 any evidence to this Court that my government, after being
6 elected in July 1997, going into the time that Johnny Paul Koroma
7 up to February 1998, had a helicopter, I submit my guilt. Total
8 lies. The Government of Liberia did not even have a bee, not to
9 let's talk about a helicopter. A blatant, blatant - just even on
13:01:21 10 the assertion that there is a helicopter going to pick up
11 diamonds from Togo that Johnny Paul has already congratulated
12 people for capturing Togo is total, outright nonsense. A lie.
13 That's all it is. That's all it is.

14 Q. Very well. Well, let's deal with the second allegation
13:01:46 15 regarding diamonds so far as this witness is concerned, shall we.
16 Page 9383, line 7:

17 "Q. Was there ever another occasion when RUF diamonds were
18 handed over to Sam Bockarie?

19 A. Yes, during that month that I was there it happened
13:02:09 20 twice when we brought diamonds to Sam Bockarie.

21 Q. You've told us about one time. I want to ask you to
22 tell us about the second time it happened. This time how
23 many diamonds were involved?

24 A. Well, the second one we met - by the time Jungle came
13:02:30 25 back we had got 18 pieces. Among them we had a big one,
26 which was not among the 43 that was first taken.

27 Q. So you had 18 pieces, including a big diamond. What
28 did you do with the 18 pieces?

29 A. Well, it was the same procedure. When Jungle came the

1 diamonds were shown to him at Mr Bockarie's place, because
2 he too wherever - when he was doing it he would have a
3 witness and they will be around when he does the handing
4 over.

13:03:05 5 Q. Who would have a witness?

6 A. He, Bockarie. He did not do it alone.

7 Q. Did you do anything to those 18 diamonds?

8 A. Yes, we parceled it just like we did the first one, we
9 wrote the total on it and we followed the same procedure as
10 the first one.

13:03:25

11 Q. Were there any calls made on this occasion?

12 A. Yes, it's the same way. Mr Bockarie informed Mr Taylor
13 and he told him the total and Jungle too confirmed the
14 total.

13:03:39

15 Q. Could you hear this particular conversation?

16 A. Yes, sir, all five of us were in the same place. He
17 told us that he was calling Mr Taylor and they were
18 conversing. They were talking.

19 Q. When you say all five of you, who was there? Who were
20 the five?

13:03:58

21 A. I was there, Mosquito was there, Jungle was there, Lion
22 and Junior Vandi, who was Sankoh's bodyguard attached to
23 Mosquito.

24 Q. What happened after the calls to Charles Taylor?

13:04:15

25 A. Well, they explained the same thing to him that they
26 have got so and so amount and that we've parceled it. Then
27 he said they should give the parcel to Jungle, so they
28 thanked the man a lot that he should keep it up.

29 Q. Who thanked the man?

1 A. Mr Taylor.

2 Q. And which man did he thank?

3 A. Sam Bockarie.

4 Q. And was the parcel given to Jungle?

13:04:41 5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. What did Jungle do with the parcel?

7 A. He was given the same escort to the border."

8 And then he goes on to say that - well, we needn't trouble
9 with that.

13:05:02 10 Now, Mr Taylor, what's your answer to that second occasion
11 within a month?

12 A. It never happened. Never. It's a lie. We listened to
13 another witness here, I think earlier during the week, explaining
14 Bockarie in late 1998 taking diamonds, but he could not see me
13:05:24 15 and he left it to be turned over for material that he could not
16 get when he went. Here is another witness now saying that this
17 is far earlier, and still we do not know the period that he is
18 talking about. But there is no such thing about no 40 - now 18 -
19 pieces of diamond coming with somebody called Jungle. That's
13:05:47 20 totally, totally false. Totally false.

21 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, if we just pause and just take stock for a
22 moment. Bockarie was bringing you diamonds, not always
23 successfully because on one occasion he didn't meet you. Issa
24 Sesay brought you diamonds, although he lost them. Jungle was
13:06:14 25 bringing you diamonds, and other named individuals were bringing
26 you diamonds at the same time.

27 A. Eddie Kanneh.

28 Q. Yes. What did you do with them, Mr Taylor?

29 A. There was nobody bringing me any diamonds. I don't know

1 how they got these people awfully and shamefully to put these
2 lies together. Not one of them, the Eddie Kanneh or the Issa
3 Sesay, nobody, no human being in Sierra Leone - and mind you, all
4 of these people that are talking about these diamonds were never
13:06:47 5 there when they were presented, but they were presented according
6 to them. So - now Jungle is supposed to bring them. Jungle is
7 dead. So maybe those that are alive, if they are brave enough to
8 come to the Court, will be able to tell the truth. But I never
9 received diamonds from any human being in Sierra Leone. Never.

13:07:08 10 Q. Very well. Let's briefly look at another version of a
11 topic which we are now familiar with, Mr Taylor. Let's look at
12 page 9395, line 2:

13 "A. Well, he", that being Sam Bockarie, "left us in Sierra
14 Leone and went to Monrovia and we were - we used to call
13:07:38 15 him Colonel Bockarie and then he came with two
16 promotions and those were high promotions. He was called general
17 now, he and Issa Sesay, and he said it was
18 President Taylor, Pa Taylor, who gave them that promotion.

19 Q. What did he tell you about the second thing he told
13:08:01 20 you, the command structure between you said 'us and the
21 AFRC'?

22 A. Well, it he made it clear to all, that being Sam
23 Bockarie, all the AFRC men who were present that AFRC was
24 no longer in power and that where we had now come it was
13:08:21 25 called the Jungle and that everybody was supposed to be
26 under the RUF command and that the RUF - anywhere the RUF
27 was serving as a commander the AFRC should serve as a
28 deputy."

29 So we can place this. This is after the intervention?

1 A. That's it. That's what I am saying.

2 Q. You promote Bockarie to general, didn't you, Mr Taylor?

3 A. No, I did not.

4 Q. And you were handing out these promotions willy-nilly?

13:08:51 5 A. No.

6 Q. Because Issa Sesay at the same time was promoted, wasn't
7 it - according to this - by you?

8 A. That never happened, and then it conflicts very seriously
9 with testimony before this Court that those promotions were made
10 by Johnny Paul Koroma after he retreated from Sierra Leone - from
11 Freetown in February 1998, Johnny Paul Koroma held a meeting and
12 he made these promotions in which Sam Bockarie became, well, the
13 chief of defence staff in Sierra Leone. Now he is attributing
14 that to me. Never, ever gave any suggestion or recommendation
15 for any promotion or anything closely related to that in Sierra
16 Leone. Never did.

13:09:08 17 Q. Well, according to this witness, Mr Taylor, your hand in
18 this was much greater than you are letting on to us, because he
19 goes on to say this.

13:09:35 20 "Q. What did Sam Bockarie say about the role of Jungle at
21 the meeting?

22 A. Well, he put it clear to Pa Paul, Pa Johnny Paul, that
23 that was the man who the leader had introduced to us to be
24 Pa Ghankay's own representative in the RUF territory. So
13:10:22 25 he was the person that always linked us to Pa Taylor and he
26 wanted them to know that for them to recognise him.

27 Q. Who did he want? Who is 'them'? Who did he want to
28 know that?

29 A. Well, the new men that joined us, that is the AFRC

1 group, Johnny Paul and his men."

2 Now, Mr Taylor, I thought you had been in touch with Johnny
3 Paul Koroma during the period of the junta?

13:11:00

4 A. Never. That's I mean. Never, never been in touch during
5 the period of the Jungle.

6 Q. So help me then. Why hadn't you told Johnny Paul, during
7 the course of that communication, that Jungle was your
8 representative? Why hadn't you told him that?

13:11:16

9 A. Because I am not in touch with him. Just not in touch with
10 him. That's a part of the lie. Never in touch with him. And
11 like you say, if I am in touch with him, of course I will be:
12 Well, listen, Johnny Paul, you are in there now. My man on the
13 ground is Jungle. That would be logically what one would expect.
14 No, I don't do that if I am in touch with him all that time.

13:11:36

15 Only at this particular time now, there is someone in a meeting
16 after he comes out to say: Oh, guess what? Here is a man.
17 There is no such thing. No such thing.

18 Q. And it goes on at page 9396:

13:12:07

19 "Another thing you said was discussed at the meeting was
20 the Fitti-Fatta mission."

21 Now, bear in mind, Mr Taylor, this is after the
22 intervention, yes?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. "What was said about that particular mission?"

13:12:20

25 A. Well, he said he would want us to go and clear the
26 mining area, that is Kono, and that the Pa had told him
27 that nothing goes for nothing and that he had no machine to
28 make arms, that they were materials. He also bought them
29 from some other areas. So he said - he said we should go

1 and capture the mining area so that we would be able to get
2 money from there and get the materials.

3 Q. Just so it's clear who is this person, the Pa, that you
4 just referred to?

13:12:59 5 A. That is Mr Taylor - Mr Charles Taylor. Former
6 President Taylor."

7 Now, Mr Taylor, what about that? You, in effect, ordered
8 the Fitti-Fatta mission, the capture of Kono, and the reason for
9 it is quite plain and simple: I'm not giving you arms for free.

13:13:32 10 If you need them, you are going to have to pay for them. The
11 only way you are going to pay is diamonds, so capture Kono.
12 That's the reasoning. What do you say?

13 A. Yes. Totally no. It's false. But you can see the
14 falsehood, how it develops. It's on the basis that there is
13:13:53 15 material, and so that's how it's going. There is no such thing.
16 So there is Fitti-Fatta now, so this is supposed to be around
17 about what? March, April 1998. Because now Johnny Paul is
18 already up-country and this operation is supposed to be going on.
19 There is no such thing. I have no knowledge and/or involvement
13:14:18 20 in this thing. And diamonds must come in because it has to be
21 proven that diamonds are going to Charles Taylor when he is
22 supposed to produce material, only that there are no materials in
23 Monrovia. So the whole diamond thing falls like a house of cards
24 because there is no materials, and they should have known that
13:14:39 25 there is no material in Monrovia for anyone.

26 So you can say maybe: Oh, well, he took the diamonds and
27 didn't provide the material. But to say that Taylor took
28 diamonds and provided materials; total lies. Total lies.

29 Q. Before we move on, Mr Taylor, we note from the passage when

1 according to this witness you gave orders for Fitti-Fatta, yes?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Now, the witness continues in this vein, same page 9396,
4 and remember this is a meeting the witness is talking about, the
13:15:40 5 famous Waterworks meeting following the intervention, yes?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. "Q. Another thing that you said was discussed at the
8 meeting was Sam Bockarie's travel to Burkina Faso with
9 General Ibrahim, is that right? Was that discussed at the
13:16:05 10 meeting?

11 A. Yes, yes, yes, we discussed that.

12 Q. What did Sam Bockarie say about that?

13 A. He said that Mr Taylor told him that he would link him
14 in with Blaise Compaore, the President of Burkina Faso, and
13:16:25 15 it was Mr Ibrahim Bah who was going to travel with him. He
16 was to move with him.

17 Q. Move with him where?

18 A. To Burkina Faso.

19 Q. Did Sam Bockarie say when this was to take place?

13:16:42 20 A. Well, he did say that it was not going to take a long
21 time and it was going to be in the same month. After the
22 month that we held the meeting, after the Fitti-Fatta
23 operation, then he moved on this mission."

24 Now, Mr Taylor, as far as you're aware, when did Sam
13:17:11 25 Bockarie travel to Burkina Faso in company with, inter alia,
26 Ibrahim Bah?

27 A. November late, early December 1998.

28 Q. Yes. And remind us, when was the intervention?

29 A. February 1998.

1 Q. And this meeting in the Waterworks?

2 A. This had to be somewhere around February/March 1998.

3 Q. According to the witness, Bockarie was going on this
4 mission in the same month, yes?

13:17:48 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Are you aware of Bockarie travelling to Burkina Faso, you
7 having set up the connection, on any other occasion other than
8 late November 1998?

9 A. No, I am not aware of that. And if he did, he didn't come
13:18:06 10 through Liberia.

11 Q. Now, on the same topic he continued, 9397, line 22:

12 "Q. Did Sam Bockarie say why Charles Taylor was going to
13 link him to Burkina Faso - send him to Burkina Faso?

14 A. Yes, because he said he told him about the mission that
13:18:54 15 we would take to free the leader and it was a mission that
16 involved heavy materials because we were supposed to clear
17 the ECOMOG force before we get to Freetown, so he said he
18 was going to link us up where we would be able to get
19 direct material so that we would bring them over and be
13:19:14 20 able to run the mission.

21 Q. When he referred to this mission to free the leader,
22 what mission was he referring to?

23 A. Well, that was Operation Free the Leader and that was
24 the material he went for for us to come and run the mission
13:19:36 25 to capture Freetown and free the leader."

26 And then he goes on to say that this Waterworks meeting
27 lasted for some eight hours. Now, Mr Taylor, again we have
28 another witness linking you to the forward planning behind the
29 Freetown invasion, do you follow?

1 A. Yes, I do.

2 Q. Now, on this version, what you do is this, and I am putting
3 it in simple terms to give you an opportunity of dealing with it.
4 You link Bockarie with Blaise Compaore because for the capture of
13:20:32 5 Freetown a lot of material will be required. Bockarie travels to
6 Burkina Faso where the desire for sufficient material is met and
7 it is that material which is used in Operation Free the Leader.
8 You follow that, don't you?

9 A. Yes, I do.

13:21:02 10 Q. And you were the one who, through your contacts,
11 facilitated that. Do you follow me?

12 A. Yes, I do.

13 Q. What do you say about that, Mr Taylor?

14 A. It's a lie. But, you know, the logic of this thing is why
13:21:23 15 do - I mean, I have material in Liberia. Mind you, I have been
16 delivering this material, so why at this particular time I have
17 to go outside and get somebody else if --

18 Q. You'd probably run out, Mr Taylor. You had been sending so
19 much, you see, you'd run out?

13:21:41 20 A. But, mind you, I am supposed to also be delivering in 1999.
21 I am supposed to be delivering material up to 1999 where there
22 are other operations that I am sending. There is an unending
23 supply of ammunition. So that's the way the lies go. I mean, I
24 am supposed to hook him up. These people had some well planned
13:22:03 25 people outside. Don't forget Ibrahim Bah who they keep talking
26 about. Where is Ibrahim Bah living at this time? Ibrahim Bah is
27 living in Burkina Faso. Evidence before this Court, he comes
28 from Burkina Faso to meet Foday Sankoh in 1996 in Abidjan. When
29 the junta comes to power, he goes to Freetown according to

1 evidence led in this Court. So if there is any hook up, I am the
2 only one to hook up. Am I in command of Blaise Compaore that I
3 would link them and Blaise is supposed to send this heavy amount
4 of material? I don't know how they made it up, but I did not
13:22:40 5 link Sam Bockarie up with Blaise Compaore. They made their own
6 contacts and that was the contact that had been explained that
7 granted them with ECOWAS and the United Nations freeing up a few
8 of them to travel to where they wanted to go and that's how they
9 made their contacts. So that is totally false.

13:23:09 10 Q. Let's move to page 9424. Now the witness is speaking of a
11 second meeting at Sam Bockarie's house in Buedu. This is after
12 he had obtained arms from Burkina Faso and this was a meeting in
13 mid-December 1998 and he says this, page 9424, line 1:

14 "When Mr Bockarie came he called on us because there was no
13:23:44 15 need for him to call all the officers again. So those of
16 us who were close to his location, he invited us. We came
17 to Buedu and then he explained to us that he has brought
18 ammunition, he has brought enough logistics so that we will
19 be able to run any kind of mission. So he said we should
13:24:05 20 now plan how to take the move and that the first target
21 should be Kono, to Makeni, up to Freetown. And then the
22 next target should be Segbwema and Daru, that is heading
23 towards Kenema, and to go to the southern province. So
24 those were the things we discussed and the issue of
13:24:28 25 SAJ Musa's disloyalty that he has been doing all along.
26 That was also something we discussed.

27 Q. When you say the first target should be Kono to Makeni
28 up to Freetown, what do you mean by that the first target
29 was to be Kono?

1 A. Well, Kono is a mining area. In that whole country
2 that is the place we know for high level productivity for
3 diamonds, so we believed that if we were able to capture
4 there first it would have been good for us. That was the
13:25:09 5 reason why Kono - he said Kono should serve as the first
6 target that we should capture.

7 Q. Were any particular commanders given the role of
8 capturing Kono?

9 A. Well, yes.

13:25:24 10 Q. Who?

11 A. Well, Sam Bockarie told us that this plan was designed
12 in Monrovia with Mr Taylor. He said it was designed in
13 Monrovia so he only brought it to brief us, that that
14 should be the way we should do things so that we will be
13:25:47 15 able to succeed in the war."

16 Plan hatched in Monrovia, Mr Taylor?

17 A. That sounds like legal language to me. It sounds like
18 legal. This whole response sounds like very, very, very legal
19 language; the whole thing was planned and designed there in
13:26:12 20 Monrovia. It was designed in Monrovia, so he brought us the
21 brief. This sound like legal language. He was really put
22 together. He was really put together with this lie. And nobody
23 designed or planned nothing. I did not know about what was going
24 on in Sierra Leone. Never met Sam Bockarie. Never knew what
13:26:32 25 they were doing in Sierra Leone about no invasion of Sierra Leone
26 or Freetown to put anything together. And whoever put this lie
27 together, it's just a lie. That's all it is.

28 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, based on the suggestion being made by the
29 witness, let me ask one or two questions. Firstly, were you

1 aware of this issue of SAJ Musa's disloyalty?

2 A. No, never knew of SAJ Musa. Never heard of him, no.

3 Q. Well, when you were designing the move to Freetown,
4 Mr Taylor, did you not advise Sam Bockarie as to what to do about
13:27:20 5 such an important issue as SAJ Musa's disloyalty?

6 A. No, never.

7 Q. Why didn't you?

8 A. Because I never spoke to him about it, about any of the
9 things that they were doing.

13:27:36 10 Q. Because you see when we go on to page 9426 it appears that
11 that particular issue loomed quite large at the time. Line 18:

12 "After the meeting" - this is the meeting he has just
13 described - "but there had been arguments even before the
14 meeting, before this mission there had been an argument. Just at
13:28:01 15 the time Sam Bockarie sent the message to all the stations, right
16 from that time SAJ Musa was not happy about it. He was
17 disgruntled right up to this mission time and after they had held
18 the meeting he sent the same order to SAJ Musa and he refused
19 even before the Kono thing."

13:28:23 20 Why were you allowing this to happen, having spent so much
21 time designing this mission, Mr Taylor?

22 A. I knew nothing about it, so that's a fabrication. So it's
23 not that something I would let happen or not let happen. I don't
24 even know what they are doing in Sierra Leone.

13:28:47 25 Q. Because it continues, you see, over the page on page 9427,
26 line 3:

27 "Q. Now the second issue that you said was discussed at
28 the meeting was SAJ Musa.

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. What was it about SAJ Musa that was discussed at the
2 meeting?

3 A. Well, Sam Bockarie told us that the complaint had gone
4 up to Mr Taylor, that the man's complaint had been lodged
13:29:13 5 about his disloyalty towards the mission, and he too gave
6 his own piece of advice.
7 Sam Bockarie lodged a complaint to Mr Taylor against
8 SAJ Musa record regarding his attitude. He said he was a
9 man who did not take any order from people who is disloyal
13:29:31 10 to the command.

11 Q. At the meeting was there any other discussion about
12 SAJ Musa?

13 A. Yes, Mr Bockarie made us to understand that that man
14 should not live to tell the story." That's SAJ Musa.
13:29:50 15 And over the page, line 8:

16 "He said he should go all out to ensure that the man should
17 not live to tell the story."

18 So, according to this, Mr Taylor, SAJ Musa's disloyalty was
19 brought to your attention when you're planning the meeting. So I
13:30:11 20 am asking you again: What did you do about it?

21 A. I did not know what was going on, so I couldn't have done
22 anything about it. I have no idea about what man is talking
23 about me giving - receiving a complaint on SAJ Musa. I have no
24 idea of what this witness is talking about. Because no such
13:30:34 25 thing occurred, whether it is a message from - or complaint from
26 Sam Bockarie or nothing. I have no idea what is going on. None.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: That might be a good time, Mr Griffiths.

28 MR GRIFFITHS: Very well.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: We will break for lunch now and resume at

1 2. 30.

2 [Lunch break taken at 2. 30 p.m.]

3 [Upon resuming at 2. 30 p.m.]

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Ms Hollis?

14:31:55 5 MS HOLLIS: Mr President, we simply notice a change of
6 appearance for the Prosecution this afternoon. Mr Santora is not
7 with us this afternoon.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. That's noted.

9 MR GRIFFITHS:

14:32:11 10 Q. Right, Mr Taylor, we're continuing with the same witness,
11 Karmoh Kanneh. Now, you recall before the luncheon adjournment
12 we were looking at various things said by this witness to have
13 occurred during a meeting at Sam Bockarie's address. Now, he
14 tells us at page 9429, testimony of 9 May 2008, that that
14:32:46 15 meeting, line 20, took place on a night, line 27, in December
16 1998. Now, he went on to suggest this, and I'm looking now at
17 page 9431 - yes, he says this, dealing with the plan which you
18 had designed in Monrovia, do you follow?

19 A. Yes.

14:33:34 20 Q. Line 2:

21 "Q. And what leader was to be released from Pademba Road?

22 A. Foday Sankoh.

23 Q. The person Jungle who you discussed yesterday, was he
24 at this meeting?

14:33:48 25 A. Yes, yes, he was part of this 12-man meeting.

26 Q. Did Jungle speak to the meeting?

27 A. Yes, later after the plan had gone on Sam Bockarie
28 spoke to Mr Taylor about the plan, how the mission was to
29 carry on."

1 Line 16:

2 "A. They briefed President Taylor, the former President,
3 about the plan, how it was set. After that Jungle too
4 buttressed the same topic to him, how the plan had been
14:34:29 5 made, and he in turn thanked them and told them to carry on
6 and that he said he would pray that the mission would be
7 successful."

8 Over the page on the same note, line 5:

9 "Q. What did Jungle say in the meeting?

14:34:58 10 A. Well, in the first place, Jungle himself told us about
11 the material that Mr Bockarie had brought and that we
12 should not fear this time round and that there was no force
13 that could withstand us. That was what he said in the
14 meeting. And he said he had discussed it with the Pa in
14:35:18 15 Monrovia even before they came.

16 Q. And did he say what the Pa had said in Monrovia?

17 A. Yes, it was just what Sam Bockarie told us. He just
18 spoke about the same issues Sam Bockarie had spoken about,
19 that the Pa had said our first target should be Kono before
14:35:44 20 we should proceed."

21 And then the learned judge, her Honour Judge Sebutinde
22 asked: "Well, Mr Taylor was not in the meeting." And Ms Baly
23 responded:

24 "I know, your Honour, the questions I have asked you are
14:36:06 25 about what Jungle said in the meeting and you've told us that
26 Jungle said he had some discussion with the Pa in Monrovia about
27 the plan."

28 Then this response, line 26:

29 "A. Yes, that is what I explained. I said they were the

1 ones who came, so he told us about the materials that had
2 been brought for the mission and that the Pa - that they
3 had discussed with the Pa how the mission should go. That
4 is Pa Taylor."

14:36:48 5 Over the page, line 13:

6 "Q. Now, apart from Jungle telling you that he had
7 discussed the plan with the Pa in Monrovia, did Jungle say
8 anything else at that meeting?

9 A. Well, that is what he said. That is what he said."

14:37:05 10 Now, Mr Taylor, you understand now, don't you, this is
11 evidence which attaches you with direct complicity in the
12 Freetown invasion? You appreciate that, don't you?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. You are - based on the testimony of this witness, you will
14:37:28 15 be depicted in due course undoubtedly as the architect of that
16 design. Do you follow?

17 A. Yes, I do.

18 Q. Were you?

19 A. No, I was not.

14:37:52 20 Q. Now, on the same note, the testimony continues in this way,
21 line 13, page 9434:

22 "Q. You gave some evidence earlier when you used the
23 phrase 'they briefed President Taylor'?

24 A. Yes, yes. After the meeting and during the meeting are
14:38:22 25 not the same questions. I spoke about after the meeting
26 and after the meeting everybody went to bed.

27 Q. Who briefed President Taylor?"

28 Line 25:

29 "A. First it was Sam Bockarie, he held the phone and spoke

1 to the Pa. He briefed him about the arrangement we had
2 done about the mission and later Jungle himself went on the
3 same phone and spoke on the same topic to President Taylor
4 that we had arranged everything to run the mission.

14:39:01 5 Q. Where was this phone?

6 A. It was the same veranda at the back of Mr Bockarie's
7 house. The veranda at the back. That was where the phone
8 was.

9 Q. What type of phone was it?

14:39:22 10 A. It was a satellite phone."

11 So, Mr Taylor, just so we understand the sequence of
12 events, Bockarie goes to Monrovia. You link him to Blaise
13 Compaore. He comes back with a lot of material. You then make a
14 plan with him, a plan which involves the capture of Kono, Kenema,
15 Makeni, Lunsar and in due course Freetown. Bockarie goes back to
16 his redoubt in Kailahun province where he holds a meeting in
17 mid-December. Having briefed everyone on the discussions he had
18 with you and assured them that they were now in possession of the
19 necessary material, he then calls you on the satellite phone,
14:40:22 20 discusses the matters with you and also with your agent, Jungle.
21 That in a nutshell is the scenario described. Mr Taylor, in
22 December 1998, were you so engaged?

23 A. No, I was not. I was not. And in fact, the whole thing is
24 just - it's just very, very, very painful. The man - if this
14:40:57 25 account is true, Blaise Compaore, President of a country,
26 chairman of the OAU, is supposed to give the RUF a large amount
27 of arms and ammunition and doesn't know what it's for - if the
28 story is true. It is only Taylor who - so they just go there and
29 Blaise said: Well, here's some arms and ammunition. A whole

1 lot, if this account is correct. And Taylor sits down and he - I
2 didn't plan any operation or nothing with them. Never did.
3 Never did. It's beyond me. It's beyond my comprehension how -
4 how these people manage this. I don't understand it. I don't
14:41:47 5 understand it. I do not understand it. I never under this
6 heavens, under this - on this planet with Charles Taylor sitting
7 down arranging for someone to go to a grown man like Blaise
8 Compaore, just go there, hook you up, got there, get ammunition,
9 come in, sit down. I don't know Sierra Leone. I have never -
14:42:16 10 besides going to Freetown to see Joseph Momoh earlier, I don't
11 know any other part of this place. We sit down and plan and do
12 this and that; it never happened. But, I mean, how they get them
13 to come here and say this, it beats me. It beats me. I swear I
14 don't know.

14:42:34 15 Q. Now in addition - because some of this witness's evidence
16 was not dealt with in chronological order, the witness also at a
17 later stage in his testimony spoke of events earlier in 1998, and
18 I begin at page 9448, line 1:

19 "A. I had a call from our high command who was Sam
14:43:18 20 Bockarie who called me at his base in Buedu.

21 Q. What did Sam Bockarie say to you?

22 A. He said Pa Taylor was to send some ammunition for the
23 RUF, that we were to go and collect it.

24 Q. Did he say to you why you were selected to go and
14:43:42 25 collect it?

26 A. Well, one of the reasons was that I was one of the
27 commanders in that Kailahun area where he was based and the
28 second was I had a vehicle. That was the reason why I was
29 involved in that ammunition issue.

1 Q. What kind of vehicle did you have at that time?

2 A. I had a Land Rover.

3 Q. What did you do after the phone call you had with Sam
4 Bockarie?

14:44:14 5 A. When he called me he told me that ammunition was to be
6 brought to Foya, so we should go and collect it and I was
7 happy because if you are fighting a war and you are without
8 material that is not good. But if there is material that
9 is a success to you.

14:44:32 10 Q. What did you do? What action did you take?

11 A. So I joined him and we travelled. We took his two
12 jeeps that he had and mine and we moved to Foya.

13 Q. Who did you join?

14 A. Mosquito. I joined Mosquito.

14:44:54 15 Q. And you said, 'We took his two jeeps that he had and
16 mine and we moved to Foya', so how many jeeps went to Foya?

17 A. Three. Three vehicles.

18 Q. And who were the people that went to Foya?

19 A. I went - the two of us went with few of his security
14:45:15 20 men.

21 Q. What did you do when you got to Foya?

22 A. Well at that time we went but the helicopter had not
23 arrived yet."

24 Note, helicopter, Mr Taylor?

14:45:34 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. "Because the helicopter was to bring the materials and we
27 went to the commander.

28 Q. Who was the commander that you went to?

29 A. One Commander Joseph.

1 Q. Where was this Commander Joseph?

2 A. In Foya near the roundabout. We were based there until
3 my commander told me to wait until the helicopter would
4 land and we will go to the field."

14:46:02 5 There was then a break. Now, later he goes on to say that
6 he took the materials to his base at Bayama and these were
7 materials that Sam Bockarie gave him out of that assignment,
8 those being specifically AK rounds and RPG rockets, and then he
9 spoke of another occasion when he made such a trip to pick up
14:46:39 10 arms and ammunition, and this is page 9458:

11 "Q. When was this second occasion?

12 A. That was in 1998 still."

13 So note, Mr Taylor, a helicopter, 1998 still.

14 "Q. When abouts in 1998?

14:47:01 15 A. Well, after this mission because this other one was
16 around March to April, it was not too long. It was a short
17 time. That was the time ULIMO and LURD forces invaded
18 Lofa.

19 Q. At the time that the ULIMO and LURD forces invaded
14:47:23 20 Lofa, where were you?

21 A. I was in Baiima with my battalion.

22 Q. And how did you become involved on that occasion in
23 obtaining the arms and ammunition?

24 A. The commander called me again - that is Mosquito - at
14:47:45 25 the same place, Buedu, and explained the issue to me, that
26 that was what the Pa had told him that those men had
27 invaded his men at Lofa County."

28 Q. And who was that person?

29 A. Mr Taylor."

1 So, Mr Taylor, twice in earlyish 1998 you send war materiel
2 by helicopter to Foya to be picked up by Sam Bockarie for use in
3 Sierra Leone. Is that true?

4 A. Totally false. That is not true. But this guy goes
14:48:39 5 further. He has a telephone too, so he's big in this
6 organisati on. He has a telephone. 9448, line 16 he talks about
7 a telephone conversati on that he holds with Sam Bockarie. So we
8 have another telephone over there. Sam Bockarie is not the only
9 one with this other lie. 16.

14:49:07 10 Q. Yes, I've got it.

11 "Q. What kind of vehicle did you have at the time?

12 A. I had a Land Rover.

13 Q. What did you do after the phone call you had with Sam
14 Bockarie?"

14:49:20 15 A. So he's talking with Sam Bockarie. See what I mean? He
16 has a phone, because you can't talk on one phone after the
17 phone - so even he has a phone now. So maybe there's a second
18 satellite, just like all the many other lies. It's just
19 incredible. I don't know how to respond to all of this except
14:49:35 20 just say it plainly, that it is totally unfounded of what this
21 gentleman is explaining here to the point of holding telephone
22 conversati ons with Bockarie and getting instructi ons. I don't
23 know, it's just - it's not true. It's not true.

24 Q. Now, the witness was asked for further clari ficati on
14:50:07 25 regarding these shipments of arms. Page 9451, line 18:

26 "Q. Can I take you back to just before the break. You
27 said you had gone to Foya and you went to a person by the
28 name of Commander Joseph near a roundabout at the main
29 junction. Can I ask you do you know this person Commander

1 Joseph's full name?

2 A. No, that is the name I knew for him, because that was
3 the first day I saw him.

4 Q. And I just want to clarify the timing of this event a
14:50:44 5 little bit. You said it was just after the ECOMOG
6 intervention. When was it in relation to the death of
7 Abacha who you've referred to earlier?

8 A. This happened - it took some months before Abacha died.

9 Q. What do you mean when you say, 'It took some months
14:51:18 10 before Abacha died'?

11 A. Well, this mission took place, then Abacha died
12 thereafter."

13 And then at the last line, agreed fact number 11, Abacha
14 died in June 1998. So he's being very specific, Mr Taylor, about
14:51:54 15 the time frame he's talking about. Now help us, what were you
16 doing around about that time?

17 A. In fact around this time, we're talking around about around
18 about June of 1998, I am responding, in fact, to I would say a
19 near citation. The President of the Security Council has already
14:52:33 20 held a meeting with the Liberian ambassador, Mr Wisseh, and had
21 talked about Liberians being involved in the operations in Sierra
22 Leone and had asked for a response. Now, depending on that, in
23 fact, Abacha dies in June, I rush off to Nigeria. In July Kofi
24 Annan comes, so I'm very busy with this whole intervention and
14:53:03 25 the issues that follow thereafter by June of 1998 around this
26 time.

27 Q. Yes.

28 A. If you remember, counsel, following the February situation,
29 by March/April Okelo has already sent this memo to the Security

1 Council saying that most of the individuals involved in the
2 Freetown situation are Liberians. To be followed by the
3 President of the Security Council inviting Mr Wisseh, my
4 ambassador charge in New York holding a meeting and asking for a
14:53:55 5 response. So this is the sequence that's going on at this
6 particular time. I am very busy now having to respond to
7 Mr Okelo's memo to the Security Council concerning his assertion
8 - I mean, at least - that this whole situation that Liberians are
9 the ones that are involved in the Sierra Leonean crisis because
14:54:17 10 of the number of them that have been arrested or killed during
11 the February operation. So I'm not there playing games with
12 these people.

13 Q. And returning briefly to page 9458, Mr Taylor, the witness
14 explains at line 10:

14:54:44 15 "Q. When abouts in 1998?

16 A. Well, after this mission because the other one was
17 around March to April, it was not long. It was a short
18 time. That was the time ULIMO and LURD forces invaded
19 Lofa."

14:54:58 20 Was there such an incursion by ULIMO and LURD in
21 March/April 1998?

22 A. Never. No. Except he knows more than I know about ULIMO.
23 What I know about 1998, there is a little situation where there's
24 a Mosquito Spray. I don't know. ULIMO is not involved, to my
14:55:21 25 knowledge, in any attacks on Liberia at this time, or LURD. We
26 don't get to know who or what this whole thing is until somewhere
27 about late '99/2000 before the name LURD starts coming up. Other
28 than that, we don't know.

29 Q. Now, you've mentioned the Okelo situation and your

1 ambassador to the United Nations being summoned by the President
2 of the Security Council. Now in light of that, Mr Taylor, I
3 mention this. At page 9453 he's talking about this same delivery
4 by helicopter:

14:56:11 5 "Q. You said you were waiting for a helicopter. How long
6 did you wait for?

7 A. We were there for up to an hour because when we went
8 there it did not take long.

9 Q. Was this in the day or was this at night?

14:56:31 10 A. It was daytime.

11 Q. What happened after the hour had expired?

12 A. We saw a helicopter coming.

13 Q. Where did the helicopter come to?

14 A. It came to Foya. It was flying over Foya.

14:56:44 15 Q. Where did it land?

16 A. Foya Airfield.

17 Q. Can you describe this helicopter, please?" Line 29.

18 Over the page:

19 "A. It was a military helicopter.

14:56:58 20 Q. What do you mean by military?

21 A. It had a green colour.

22 Q. Did you see how many people were in this helicopter?

23 A. I saw the two pilots that were there and I saw up to
24 five people, those who alighted the helicopter that I saw.

14:57:18 25 Q. After they came did you come to know any of the five
26 people?

27 A. Yes, later there was introduction.

28 Q. Where did the introductions take place?

29 A. After we had unloaded the materials and brought them

1 into the vehicles that was when the introductions were
2 done.

3 Q. Who were you introduced to?

4 A. Mr Bockarie introduced me to a man whom he said was
14:57:44 5 Mr Taylor's chief bodyguard. He said his name was Benjamin
6 Yeaten and they used to call him Director."

7 Now, broad daylight, military helicopter ferrying military
8 supplies to Foya airfield. Mr Taylor, why were you behaving so
9 blatantly in light of your ambassador to the UN being summoned by
14:58:14 10 the President of the Security Council? Didn't you care?

11 A. No such thing happened. In fact, now, Sam Bockarie is at
12 the airport. It is not him now going for this material because
13 his commander calls him, but Sam Bockarie is present in Foya.
14 This is what he's saying. Sam Bockarie is also present in Foya.
14:58:39 15 I thought first that his commander had called him and he had gone
16 for this material.

17 Q. Well, let's not worry about those details, Mr Taylor. Just
18 deal with the essential point. Why are you acting so blatantly?

19 A. But there's no such thing happened, so that's how, you
14:58:58 20 know, you crack up this whole nonsense. There's no such thing
21 that happened, I mean, because it would be silly. In fact, I
22 don't have a helicopter --

23 Q. I was coming to that.

24 A. -- at this particular time. And, in fact, any technical
14:59:11 25 person that we call upon, an Mi-2 helicopter with five
26 individuals on board and a shipment of ammunition on an Mi-2
27 helicopter? Because the first helicopter we even get in Liberia
28 in 1999 is an Mi-2, which is a very small chopper, and nobody,
29 the Russians on down, ask, will you tell you it's impossible to

1 bring two pilots, five individuals, seven, with a load of
2 ammunition on an Mi -2.

3 Q. But, Mr Taylor, despite your protestations, I fear I have
4 to continue with the description given by the witness, same page,
14:59:53 5 line 24:

6 "Q. Were you introduced to any of the other men who had
7 come on the helicopter apart from Benjamin Yeaten?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Did you see the person who was the pilot of this
15:00:06 10 helicopter?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Can you describe what that person looked like?

13 A. He was white. They were white people.

14 Q. When you say 'they were white people', how many of the
15:00:22 15 five were white people?

16 A. Two.

17 Q. Did you know where they had come from?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Apart from the fact that the pilot was white, was there
15:00:35 20 anything else that you can describe about that particular
21 person?"

22 And then he was asked to clarify:

23 "Q. Did you know where this helicopter had flown from?

24 A. Yes, sir.

15:00:48 25 Q. Where?

26 A. Monrovia."

27 And then he goes on to say that he learnt from Sam Bockarie
28 that the two white men were Ukrainians. Mr Taylor, did you
29 employ Ukrainian helicopter pilots in or about March/April 1998

1 after the ECOMOG intervention to ferry arms to Sam Bockarie in
2 Foya by helicopter?

3 A. No, I didn't. I didn't have a helicopter at this time.

4 Q. Did you have access to Ukrainian pilots at this time?

15:01:33 5 A. No. What would they fly? I didn't have a helicopter, no.

6 Q. And for completeness, the witness goes on to describe the
7 consignment sent. Page 9456, line 6:

8 "Q. Can you remember what the materials were?

9 A. Yes.

15:02:05 10 Q. What were they?

11 A. They were AK rounds and there were RPG rockets and
12 there was RPG tube.

13 Q. How many AK rounds - or how much AK rounds were there?

14 A. Forty boxes of AK rounds were there.

15:02:23 15 Q. How many RPG rockets were there?

16 A. We had 10 boxes of RPG rockets.

17 Q. And how many RPG tubes?

18 A. I didn't count that one. It was just a few. And some
19 arms were there too.

15:02:41 20 Q. What arms?

21 A. AK-47s.

22 Q. How many?

23 A. I cannot recall."

24 And then he goes on to say how the ammunition was

15:03:00 25 thereafter transported to Sierra Leone. Let's try and move on
26 from that then, Mr Taylor.

27 Now, you note that reference was made by the witness to
28 there being an incursion by ULIMO, LURD at or about this time.

29 Did you at that time, Mr Taylor, seek the assistance of the RUF

1 to repel those invaders?

2 A. No, I did not.

3 Q. Because the witness goes on to say this, page 9458, line
4 28:

15:04:21 5 "Q. Who were those men who invaded and who were his men?

6 A. The LURD forces.

7 Q. And who had the LURD forces invaded?" Page 9459.

8 "A. Charles Taylor.

9 Q. And what else did Sam Bockarie tell you?

15:04:39 10 A. So he said we were to put men together and to go and
11 help to clear the enemy from that place.

12 Q. And what did you do when you were told to put men
13 together and to go and help to clear the enemy?

14 A. Well, he gave me my own task that I was to go and
15:05:04 15 prepare men in Kono."

16 Line 17:

17 "A. I was to go and prepare manpower for that same
18 mission and he said he had told Issa and Morris Kallon to
19 do the same preparation in Kono.

15:05:18 20 Q. Did you prepare manpower?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. What did you do in relation to the manpower?

23 A. I brought them to Buedu.

24 Q. How many men did you bring to Buedu?

15:05:31 25 A. One platoon.

26 Q. How many in one platoon?

27 A. Sixty-two in number.

28 Q. What did you do when you got to Buedu?

29 A. We waited for the troops. All the troops were brought

1 together and we called a formation.

2 Q. What happened then?

3 A. We divided the number into two groups and we divided
4 them and told them that they were to enter at two flanks.

15:06:03 5 Well, Sam Bockarie and I were to enter by the Foya axis.

6 And the other flank, they too were to enter by Vahun.

7 Q. And did you and Sam Bockarie enter by the Foya axis?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And what did you do?

15:06:24 10 A. We attacked the Foya Town.

11 Q. Who did you attack?

12 A. The LURD forces.

13 Q. Were you successful in attacking the LURD forces?

14 A. Yes, we chased them and we went to that same Kolahun.

15:06:39 15 Q. Where did you chase them to?

16 A. Voijnama.

17 Q. What happened when you got to Voijnama?

18 A. When we got there that was their base. We fought
19 against them for the whole day. Thankfully we were able to
15:06:51 20 capture the place.

21 Q. When you say thankfully you were able to capture the
22 place, what place did you capture?

23 A. Voijnama.

24 Q. What happened after you captured Voijnama?

15:07:07 25 A. We had an order from Benjamin Yeaten to chase the men
26 right to where they'd come from.

27 Q. Where they'd come from?

28 A. They said they had come from Guinea.

29 Q. Did you chase them to Guinea?

1 A. Yes. "

2 Now, when was this occasion, Mr Taylor, when a town in the
3 sovereign country of Liberia was captured by RUF soldiers from
4 neighbouring Sierra Leone?

15:07:38 5 A. At no time. No time did the RUF capture any town.

6 Q. Voinjama?

7 A. In fact, Voinjama, if we look at the UN report here of the
8 attack on Voinjama, from the best of my recollection, and the
9 looting of my forces in Voinjama, this occurred in 1999. So I

15:08:00 10 don't know how this Voinjama business comes back up, because 1999
11 we know that as people are moving to Lome, there is some little
12 problems in the Voinjama area and people have to be picked up.

13 Mind you, according to all of the UN documents brought
14 here, where are people picked up from to go to Lome? Vahun.

15:08:27 15 That's where the helicopter finally lands, in Vahun. If you look
16 at all of the - according to the UN reports, the first two
17 individuals that go are - just a reminder - are Ibrahim Bah and
18 Golley, but they are picked up in Vahun. Now, he's supposed to
19 be attacking - some other group is supposed to be attacking in
15:08:47 20 the Vahun axis and all this nonsense. But the people are picked
21 up - the UN helicopters go to Vahun to pick up the people.

22 The crisis in Voinjama, that's in 1999, so I don't see what
23 he's talking about here, because what I understand, this is
24 happening in 1998 with all these operations - I do not want to
15:09:12 25 say that I'm misquoting what he said, this looks like, again,
26 we're talking about around Abacha's situation.

27 Q. That's the period from - my understanding of the testimony
28 of this witness --

29 A. So we're talking about June 1998, and we know from UN

1 documents here that the Voinjama situation occurs in 1999. So it
2 is not true. And this attack from the Vahun axis again, that's
3 where the United Nations helicopters go to pick up all the
4 people. All of the reports here, the delegation from Sierra
15:09:49 5 Leone are picked up in Vahun. So I don't know what attacks are
6 going on in Vahun that the UN would avoid Lofa and go to Vahun
7 for because attacks are going on there. It's not true.

8 But, I mean, these things are just so many that you just
9 keep saying, "No, it's not true. It's not true." It is really
15:10:07 10 not true. What he's saying here is not true.

11 Q. Let's see if we can conclude the rest of the account given
12 by this individual, because he continues, page 9461, line 12:

13 "Q. What happened after you chased them to Guinea?

14 A. We captured a town that was called Bayalo in Guinea.

15:10:46 15 Q. What did you do after you captured the town?

16 A. We received order to burn the entire town and that we
17 did.

18 Q. Who did you receive the order from?

19 A. From Benjamin Yeaten.

15:11:05 20 Q. What happened after you had burnt the entire town?

21 A. We withdrew back to Voinjama.

22 Q. And what happened after you got to Voinjama?

23 A. We passed the night there and in the morning we put our
24 men together and we returned to Foya. Then we left the
15:11:27 25 Liberians there.

26 Q. Where did you go?

27 A. Then Sam Bockarie took me to go to Monrovia.

28 Q. Did Sam Bockarie tell you why you were going to
29 Monrovia?

1 A. He said Mr Taylor had invited him for us to go and
2 receive morale boosters.

3 Q. Did you go to Monrovia?

4 A. Yes.

15:11:57 5 Q. Who went to Monrovia?

6 A. I went and Sam Bockarie went too and one of his
7 bodyguards called Magazine. All of us went.

8 Q. Did anybody else go?

9 A. Well, we were the ones who went.

15:12:16 10 Q. How did you get to Monrovia?

11 A. That same military helicopter with the combat colour
12 picked us up from Foya.

13 Q. And where did you go when you got to Monrovia?

14 A. We landed at a field that I did not know. That is in
15 the Monrovia city.

15:12:36 16 Q. Had you been to Monrovia city before?

17 A. No.

18 Q. When you landed in this field that you didn't know,
19 where did you go to from there?

15:12:53 20 A. A vehicle came to receive us and we drove together with
21 Benjamin Yeaten and we went to Benjamin Yeaten's place,
22 White Flower.

23 Q. Where did you meet Benjamin Yeaten?

24 A. Well, this helicopter that came, all of us travelled in
15:13:14 25 it."

26 He goes on to explain that they met Benjamin Yeaten in
27 Foya, that on arrival in Monrovia they went to Benjamin Yeaten's
28 place at White Flower. Over the page, 9463, pick it up at line
29 14:

1 "Q. How long did you spend in Monrovia on this occasion?

2 A. We spent some days in Monrovia.

3 Q. How many days?

4 A. Like three days.

15:13:46 5 Q. What did you do during the three days you were in
6 Monrovia?

7 A. I was at Mr Benjamin's place and in the morning the two
8 of them would go out to meet with the President. They'll
9 say they were going to meet with the President.

15:14:01 10 Q. Who are the two of them?

11 A. Benjamin Yeaten and Sam Bockarie.

12 Q. Did you yourself ever go to meet with Mr Taylor on that
13 occasion some.

14 A. No.

15:14:10 15 Q. Did you speak to Sam Bockarie after he had met with
16 Charles Taylor?

17 A. Yes, he told me that they had come from the President's
18 and that was the Mansion Ground.

19 Q. Did he tell you what had taken place in this meeting
15:14:28 20 with Charles Taylor?

21 A. The Pa said we should wait, that he had promised to
22 give us morale booster and some ammunition for us to go
23 back with.

24 Q. And did you wait?

15:14:39 25 A. Yes. The day that we were to move was when I saw some
26 ammunition and Sam Bockarie told me that the Pa had given
27 \$10,000. The ammunition was AK rounds and some RPG
28 rockets. Can't recall how many."

29 Over the page:

1 "Q. You said that Sam Bockarie told you that the Pa had
2 given \$10,000. Did you see \$10,000?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Where did you see the money?

15:15:13 5 A. He told me there and when we got to Foya all of us met
6 together with Issa and others and they got out the money
7 and it was counted."

8 Now, Mr Taylor, bearing in mind when this is supposed to
9 occur, remember ULIMO/LURD March/April 1998, you seek assistance
10 from Sam Bockarie across the border.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. He comes over with men; they successfully capture Voinjama;
13 drive the invaders back into Guinea; burn a town on the way; and
14 then, no doubt as a vote of thanks, they are taken back to
15 Monrovia, where they're given further weapons and \$10,000, yes?

15:16:03 16 A. Yes. Total, total false. Total false, and maybe one of
17 the things we ought to consider, we have to get the technical
18 information on an Mi-2. Forty boxes of AK ammunition on an Mi-2,
19 it would never get off the ground. Added to that ten boxes of
15:16:39 20 RPG, five human beings --

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Did the evidence actually say the
22 helicopter was an Mi-2?

23 THE WITNESS: But that's the only helicopter that we got in
24 1999. So even if he's talking about that, I'm trying to say the
15:16:59 25 helicopter that finally the Government of Liberia gets is an Mi-2
26 in 1999, okay?

27 MR GRIFFITHS:

28 Q. Just to be clear, Mr Taylor, apart from that Mi-2, did the
29 Government of Liberia at any stage have access to any larger

1 helicopters?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. When?

4 A. In 2000 we get an Mi-8 - in 2000 when the war intensifies.

15:17:33 5 But what we have on the ground beginning 1999 is an Mi-2. They
6 are parked now at the Spriggs Payne Airport in Monrovia.

7 Q. And I want to be clear about this. Prior to getting the
8 Mi-2, did you have access to a helicopter?

9 A. No, the Liberian government did not have a helicopter at
15:18:03 10 that time, no.

11 Q. All right.

12 A. No.

13 Q. Was there any body in Liberia prior to 1999 who had access
14 to helicopters?

15:18:20 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Who?

17 A. There was an aircraft company there. Weasua had an Mi-8
18 helicopter that was leased by the United Nations and other
19 places, people - painted white, but they had an Mi-8.

15:18:37 20 Q. What colour was it?

21 A. White.

22 Q. Sure it wasn't camouflage paint?

23 A. No, no, no, no. A white Mi-8 that was used by NGOs, United
24 Nations. It was painted white to demonstrate that it was used

15:18:52 25 for legal international purposes. No, it was an Mi-8 painted
26 white, owned by Weasua.

27 Q. Did your government ever use it?

28 A. No, we did not. We did not use it as a government, no.

29 The UN leased it on a few occasions.

1 Q. Now, the witness goes on to suggest, Mr Taylor, that in
2 addition to the various occasions when he went to collect arms -
3 do you remember he spoke of two trips to Foya to pick up arms?

4 A. Yes, yes, yes.

15:19:46 5 Q. He says at page 9469:

6 "Q. Was there a third occasion when you yourself were
7 involved in obtaining arms and ammunition for the RUF?

8 A. Yes. I was involved in another one again.

9 Q. When was this other one?

15:20:04 10 A. 2000, after the May incident that occurred in
11 Freetown."

12 Now, the May incident in Freetown is what, Mr Taylor?

13 A. Well, to the best of my knowledge, the May incident in
14 Freetown must be the assault on Foday Sankoh's house, if I'm
15 correct.

15:20:30

16 Q. After that event did you send a shipment of arms to the
17 RUF?

18 A. No, I didn't. How would I send? No, I didn't. No.

19 Q. Now, who is Damate Conneh?

15:21:01

20 A. Damate Conneh ended up being the last leader of LURD.

21 Q. Now, the witness mentions his name in relation to another
22 incursion by LURD when once again he received - page 9474, line
23 24 - a similar instruction from Mr Sesay that "I should put men
24 together to go and join Benjamin Yeaten at Kolahun." What about
25 that one, Mr Taylor?

15:21:34

26 A. No. I'm not aware of that, no. But you asked a question
27 about May 2000 and what is going on at that time. If we look at
28 to see how this witness is not telling the truth, what's also
29 going on in May 2000? We dealt with this also with another

1 witness. There are UN hostages, right, that have been taken -
2 more than 500 of them that have been taken. We begin the
3 negotiations for the release of those hostages in May, and the
4 United Nations is on the ground and everybody is on the ground.
15:22:22 5 We finally get those people released. So now here I am at this
6 particular time trying to get more than 500 UN peacekeepers
7 released; I'm sending ammunition to Freetown. So I just wanted
8 to put in perspective that period that he's talking about to
9 demonstrate that it is not true.

15:22:45 10 Q. And once again the witness says at page 9478 that following
11 the successful capture of Voinjama once again he's taken in the
12 same military helicopter to Monrovia - page 9478 - and he goes on
13 at page 9479, line 12:

14 "Q. Where did the helicopter take you?

15:23:26 15 A. Straight back to the main field where myself and Sam
16 Bockarie had landed. That was the same playing field that
17 we landed in Monrovia.

18 Q. Where did you go after you arrived?

19 A. White Flower.

15:23:40 20 Q. Who was on that trip?

21 A. Benjamin Yeaten and me.

22 Q. Anybody else?

23 A. No."

24 And then he says that they did meet some person:

15:23:53 25 Q. Who was that person who met you there?

26 A. General Sesay."

27 Now, what's this, Mr Taylor? A trip to Monrovia, White
28 Flower, by Benjamin Yeaten, Issa Sesay and this man Karmoh Kanneh
29 taken there by helicopter following their assistance to your

1 government in Lofa to fight off LURD sometime in 2000. What do
2 you say?

3 A. That's not true. That is not true. So he meets Issa Sesay
4 in Monrovia?

15:24:36 5 Q. Well --

6 A. Is that my understanding?

7 Q. I can only look at what is recorded in the testimony at
8 line 23, page 9479:

9 "Q. Was there anybody else in Monrovia that you met after
10 you arrived?"

11 A. Well, no. We did not meet some other person but
12 somebody met us there.

13 Q. Who was the person that met you there?

14 A. General Sesay, Issa Sesay."

15:25:14 15 So Sesay is in Monrovia. Yeaten and this man come to
16 Monrovia and meets him there. That's the sequence.

17 A. That's not true. That's not true. What is he, some VIP?
18 What is he - because we're talking about 2000 now. We're talking
19 about Issa Sesay as leader of the RUF. Issa Sesay is now RUF

15:25:38 20 leader, okay, because we've passed the incident of the arrest of
21 Foday Sankoh. So except where Issa Sesay has now ordered he's
22 some top individual - I don't know him as being so senior in the
23 RUF that the Issa Sesay is on the ground waiting for him. That
24 beats me. But it didn't happen as he says it here, no.

15:26:13 25 Q. Now, he goes on. On that occasion, he says - remember, he
26 meets Issa Sesay in Monrovia. And it goes on at page 9481, line
27 10:

28 "Q. The person you met or who met you in Monrovia you said
29 was Issa Sesay. Whereabouts did he meet you?"

1 A. Well, he met us at Benjamin Yeaten's place which is at
2 the back of the President's house.

3 Q. How long were you in Monrovia?

4 A. For about four or five days?

15:27:05 5 Q. What did you do during those four or five days?

6 A. Well, after Mr Issa Sesay had arrived I did not
7 actually know what their discussion was and my meeting -
8 even my meeting with the President was cancelled."

9 Pausing there. So you were scheduled to meet him,

15:27:25 10 Mr Taylor, but the meeting was cancelled.

11 A. I had no meeting with this person here, ever. Why would
12 Issa Sesay be in Monrovia? Because if Issa Sesay met him, that
13 means that Issa Sesay got in Monrovia before he got there. Who
14 is this man that I had a scheduled meeting with, for God's sake?

15:27:54 15 No. Who is this man?

16 Q. Very well. The witness then goes on to speak of meeting
17 Sam Bockarie at Sam Bockarie's house in Monrovia. Page 9490.

18 And I will ask you about this. He was asked:

19 "Q. Whereabouts in the house did you meet?

15:28:40 20 A. It was at the front of his house, John Benjamin,
21 because he lived at the back of the President's house, the
22 former President's house, Mr Taylor.

23 Q. Who was present, apart from yourself, when you met Sam
24 Bockarie?

15:28:52 25 A. I was there, Director, that is Benjamin Yeaten himself
26 was there, Sam Bockarie was there and Benjamin's security
27 officers were there and his signal man too was there.

28 Q. Can you name any of the security officers who were
29 present?

1 A. I can recall one of them was called Varney. That I can
2 recall."

3 He cannot recall the name of the signal man:

4 "Q. On Friday you said that you and Sam Bockarie exchanged
15:29:29 5 greetings. Did you have any further conversation with Sam
6 Bockarie at that time?

7 A. No, we spoke and what we said was that we greeted each
8 other and after the greetings he made an appointment with
9 me to meet him at his base, because Director was there. He
10 wanted us to discuss, but director was there.

11 Q. What do you mean 'He wanted us to discuss but Director
12 was there'?

13 A. That was why he made an appointment with me. He said I
14 should meet him and that there was something he wanted us
15:29:58 15 to discuss, but because Benjamin Yeaten was present that
16 was why he deferred it so that I would meet him at his" -
17 Sam Bockarie's - "house.

18 Q. Did you meet him at his house?

19 A. Yes, sir.

15:30:14 20 Q. Where was his house?

21 A. His house around ELWA Junction. The road that led to
22 his house was called Four Houses Road.

23 Q. Had you been to this house before?

24 A. No, that was my first time to go.

15:30:35 25 Q. Did you go there with anyone else apart from yourself?

26 A. No.

27 Q. Did you meet with Sam Bockarie?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Was anybody else present apart from yourself and Sam

1 Bockarie?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. Who?

4 A. I saw his child, they used to call his child Copal, and
15:30:57 5 I saw his mother and his clerk was called Jabbati and his
6 wife and some other people that I did not know.

7 Q. Did you see anyone else there apart from his child, his
8 mother, his clerk Jabbati and his wife?

9 A. Yes, sir.

15:31:14 10 Q. Who did you see?

11 A. They were both men and women. I could not recognise
12 them because I did not know them before that time.

13 Q. Did you speak to Sam Bockarie?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15:31:23 15 Q. Where did you speak to him?

16 A. He invited me to his bedroom where he used to sleep.

17 Q. In the bedroom, who was in the bedroom apart from
18 yourself?

19 A. We met his wife. His wife was in the room. She was
15:31:38 20 the third person.

21 Q. What was said?

22 A. At first when we entered it was about the RUF business
23 that he told me about, the way the RUF had treated him. He
24 said the RUF had been ungrateful to him, that he was not
15:31:52 25 expecting, but from that time that he had left the RUF and
26 he had put a curse on the movement and he will continue to
27 put a curse on the movement on a daily basis, when he would
28 go to bed he would curse the movement that the movement
29 will never succeed. He said that he was just sorry for

1 some of us that what - the way he was using us during the
2 war, he was just sorry for us, but that the movement will
3 never be successful. That was the first topic that he
4 spoke about. "

15:32:27 5 And then he continues, line 27:

6 "A. He said he was discouraged, because he had just come
7 from the police station as the President Mr Taylor had made
8 him to be invited to the police station and he was in open
9 detention for between three and four days and I asked, I
10 said, 'Why, why were you invited?' He said the President
11 Mr Taylor said he had a lot of pressure from the
12 international community to hand over Sam Bockarie. He said
13 he was there for three days and he said what he told him,
14 if he was going to hand him over, that is Sam Bockarie, he
15 would explain everything, all the deals that were between
16 RUF and Mr Taylor, he the Sam Bockarie would explain that
17 to the Special Court, and that was what he said and after
18 that day - after the two to three - three to four days he
19 was released again and he returned to his house.

15:33:16 20 Q. Did he tell you what happened to him after he had been
21 released and returned to his house?

22 A. He did not tell me about any other thing that happened
23 to him, but I don't think anything happened. He said when
24 he said that the Pa sent an order for his release, but he
15:34:03 25 told me that he was worried about this, for his life.

26 Q. Did he tell you why he was worried for his life?

27 A. He said the Pa said he had a lot of pressure for him to
28 be arrested, so that was why he said he was worried for his
29 life and at the same time he said the Pa had said he had a

1 mission for him, but he did not tell me what mission it
2 was. "

3 Now, there's a lot there, Mr Taylor. But let's just break
4 it down. Whilst in Monrovia, 2000, witness meets up with Sam
15:34:45 5 Bockarie at Benjamin Yeaten's address. Bockarie tells him, "Need
6 to speak to you alone." So he goes to Bockarie's address, meets
7 with Bockarie who tells him that you, Charles Taylor, President
8 of Liberia, ordered, in effect, his arrest because you were under
9 pressure from the international community to hand him over and
15:35:19 10 that, in effect, Bockarie, through fear for his life, was
11 blackmailing you, saying, "If you hand me over, I'll tell
12 everything about the deals you and I did." Is that true,
13 Mr Taylor?

14 A. Your Honours, Sam Bockarie was never arrested in Liberia,
15:35:50 15 not even for a second. Never. The whole while Sam Bockarie was
16 in Liberia before he left, and mind you, I do not know - well,
17 he's talking about early in 2000. Sam Bockarie leaves Liberia in
18 late 2000. Sam Bockarie is never, ever arrested. So this other
19 one about Sam Bockarie being arrested and kept for four or five
15:36:22 20 days or picked up at the police station is as unfounded as it
21 gets. He was never sent to the police station. Every newspaper
22 would have picked it up. Every radio station would have picked
23 it up. It never happened. Never was Sam Bockarie ever
24 embarrassed in Liberia in this way about being sent to the police
15:36:50 25 station. I don't know how this man can bring - can say this. It
26 never happened, ever. As simple as that. So all this other
27 nonsense, that's all I can put it to. It looks like a
28 well-written script and he is just following the script.

29 Sam Bockarie arrested in Monrovia at the time? Mind you,

1 before this Court there was a lady that says she was Sam
2 Bockarie's radio operator, that when Sam Bockarie got into
3 Monrovia they set up a radio at Four Houses, and the question was
4 asked whether I was aware of it. I don't know of any of those
15:37:42 5 that accompanied Sam Bockarie to Monrovia that testified here,
6 Jabbati Jaward, I forgot the lady's name who was the radio
7 operator, there was another young man, I'm not sure if he was a
8 protected witness, who says he was an operator working in
9 Benjamin Yeaten's yard. All the people that went with Sam
15:38:03 10 Bockarie, I know of none of them that have told this Court about
11 Sam Bockarie being embarrassed, including this gentleman who is
12 also protected that was supposed to have escorted Sam Bockarie
13 around Africa and wherever he went. Sam Bockarie was never
14 picked up and arrested.

15:38:22 15 Q. That's TF1-579.

16 A. Never arrested. Never embarrassed at any time. When it
17 was time for Sam Bockarie to leave, we sent him out of the
18 country. He was never arrested. So all of this stuff is a
19 blatant, really unfortunate lie.

15:38:41 20 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, there is a matrix of facts being
21 established here which you need to have clearly in mind because
22 what the witness is saying and what is being relied on is this:
23 You knew, in effect, that this Special Court was on your trail
24 and you were being blackmailed by Sam Bockarie about that.

15:39:11 25 That's the crux of the allegation. You do get it, don't you?

26 A. But that was never the case. Sam Bockarie never, ever
27 threatened in any way because there was nothing - I really - I
28 did not know, quite frankly, that any court, Special Court, was
29 on my trail. Never. Never. Not from my wildest imagination,

1 no. And Sam Bockarie - there was no discussion with Sam Bockarie
2 where there was some - well, if you knew all of this, then why
3 let him leave the country?

4 Q. 2000.

15:39:45 5 A. Yes, but why would he leave? If you know that he holds the
6 key to me, then the best thing to do is not to let him leave.

7 Q. Well, you see, what the witness is saying is that you had a
8 particular mission for him. Remember that being mentioned?

9 A. Yeah.

15:40:06 10 Q. Now, we know what that mission is, don't we? Where does he
11 end up, Mr Taylor?

12 A. He ends up in La Cote d'Ivoire.

13 Q. Right. So he's got a choice then, unpacking the evidence
14 of this witness. Go on this mission or - that's the choice you
15 gave him.

16 A. Come on, no.

17 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, listen, it's not a question of "come on".

18 A. No, no.

19 Q. These are very serious allegations being made against you
15:40:39 20 by this Prosecution.

21 A. Yes, but it's a foolish accusation. I mean, they will want
22 to put it - you want somebody that has the key to getting you
23 arrested and killed, and you send him out of the country. What's
24 the best thing? If you want to arrest or kill the man, he's in
15:40:54 25 your hands; what do you do? You do it. But, no, you take him
26 and you send him, say "Go and fight a war." So the man leaves
27 the country. Do you have control over him? It would be silly
28 for anybody to even - I mean, only sick minds would believe that.
29 Let's be honest about this. I mean, I know what this whole case

1 is about, but it is sick if anyone would say Bockarie, who holds
2 the key to getting me whatever, he's in my hands and I let him
3 go. He goes, I send him off to a war. It doesn't make sense. I
4 mean, anybody wanted to believe that, I can't stop them from
15:41:30 5 believing that. You've got the man, he's supposed to be
6 threatening you. Instead of - you want to destroy him. Instead
7 of you do it, you send him out of the country. What control do
8 you have when he's gone out of the country? None. So it doesn't
9 make sense. So all these silly things that these people have
15:41:50 10 lead these people here to talking about, I have no control over
11 it. But logically, no sound person would look at this as being
12 anything sensible, that this man has the key but I sent him out
13 of the country to go and fight a war. Come on. I mean, why let
14 him go? He goes and he tries to fight his way back into the
15:42:09 15 country. Does this look like a man that is threatened by me?
16 No. So, I mean, the logic as they have lead these witnesses
17 through it is just totally warped, and I don't understand it.
18 But you are right, there is a major allegation here. But, I
19 mean, it's like - you know, it's almost like pick what you want.
15:42:27 20 I mean, it's just a maze of - it's like, you know, something like
21 the Rubik's Cube. You've got to fight your way out of this.
22 Here is somebody that - here's Chief Foday - Issa Sesay is in
23 Monrovia; he comes. Here is a man that is supposed to be wanting
24 to meet me that - it's cut off. I don't even know how important
15:42:53 25 he is, if he was an important individual in the RUF - because
26 they talk about those that were very important - he probably
27 would have been arrested himself and probably going through the
28 Special Court of Sierra Leone. This man is virtually nothing,
29 but he's got a meeting with me. I'm just trying to point out

1 there's a crop and crop of total, total fabrications made up and
2 it does not lead to anything logical. None.

3 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, later in the testimony of the witness the
4 witness was allowed to offer this opinion during the course of
15:43:40 5 his testimony, page 9496:

6 "Q. Did you learn whether anything happened to Sam
7 Bockarie?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What?

15:43:52 10 A. Later I heard over the same BBC that Sam Bockarie was
11 dead, so I just recalled when he said he was worried for
12 his life and I recalled again that - I thought again that
13 Mr Taylor would never hand that man over because of that
14 statement. I was not there" - and then he offers this
15:44:16 15 opinion - "but I just concluded that that could have been
16 the reason why he killed that man: For him not to ever
17 come to this Court and explain anything."

18 That is the hidden conclusion. And the point being made,
19 Mr Taylor, is this: You don't cover your tracks unless you've
15:44:42 20 got something to hide. Do you get it? It's a guilty man, they
21 say, who commits murder to silence potential witnesses. You get
22 it? That's how significant this is.

23 A. Well, I tell you something. I don't care who the person
24 is, if this kind of logic holds, then I don't - then I'm guilty.

15:45:08 25 Because nobody who is educated would believe this nonsensical
26 logic that Sam Bockarie, who leaves the country far out of my
27 reach, returns to Liberia, and all of a sudden he gets killed
28 because I'm trying to hide something when the man is in Liberia.
29 He fights his way back into the country. Sam Bockarie is there

1 in the first instance. He's there. He suggests that in 2000 -
2 before Sam Bockarie leaves in 2000, he suggests that Sam Bockarie
3 is at a police station in 2000 and he's kept. But because he
4 threatens me in 2000, I have to let him out. And what do I do?
15:45:47 5 I tell him you have a choice of going out to go and fight a war.
6 2003 Sam Bockarie, who has left the country for more than two
7 years, okay, is out there and now he comes and he's supposed to
8 be killed because of what I did not accomplish in 2000 when I let
9 him go, I accomplished it in 2003. Then that type of logic I
15:46:14 10 don't need to sit in this Court, because that logic would not
11 suffice. It's a silly logic, I mean, for him to even draw, that:
12 Well, Mr Taylor did this because of that. When you say before in
13 2000 - the man threatened me in 2000 and he left the country. So
14 what did I do, throw a hook and hook him and bring him back into
15:46:32 15 Liberia? Do I have extraterritorial powers to go to Ivory Coast
16 or Burkina Faso and arrest Sam Bockarie and bring him to Liberia
17 and kill him? I mean, these are the type of things that make
18 this whole case just reel when you have this kind of thinking. I
19 mean, this is total, total, utter nonsense, I would call it, with
15:46:55 20 this kind of logic that he proposes here.

21 Q. The final matter I want to put to you with regard to this
22 witness, Mr Taylor, is this. The witness speaks of a large
23 consignment of arms and ammunition being brought to Sierra Leone,
24 and he says he was later told why that was done by Issa Sesay.

15:47:47 25 Line 26:

26 "Q. What did he tell you?

27 A. At one time I was at my base in Pendembu and he invited
28 me, because he was based in Kono. When I went there, he
29 told me about the mission."

1 And I should add that this at a time when UNAMSIL have
2 deployed in Sierra Leone.

3 "Q. What mission?

4 A. The reason why the materials were brought. He said
15:48:16 5 Mr Taylor had given those materials and the weapons and
6 that we were to attack Guinea from two flanks from the
7 Sierra Leone end. He said those were the materials and
8 even the money that he had told me about was for the
9 mission. That was what he told me.

15:48:34 10 Q. What money?

11 A. That the trip that we went on, we brought with us
12 \$50,000. He gave us \$50,000 that we brought from Monrovia.
13 I thought when we would get to Pendembu he will share it
14 amongst us, but we did not do that. He said President
15:48:59 15 Taylor had given us the money together with the material.

16 Q. Who had he given the money to?

17 A. Issa Sesay."

18 Now, Mr Taylor, effectively what's being said is you were
19 paying the RUF to do your fighting for you by attacking Guinea.

15:49:24 20 A. From Sierra Leone?

21 Q. Yes.

22 A. For what reason? Never gave Issa Sesay any arms or
23 ammunition.

24 Q. Well, let me offer you a reason so you can deal with it.

15:49:34 25 A. Okay.

26 Q. Lansana Conte never liked you. His country was being used
27 a base for raids into Liberia. What better way to respond to him
28 than unleashing your boys from across the way in Sierra Leone?
29 You get it?

1 A. Yeah, but if I'd wanted to do that --

2 Q. That's the logic.

3 A. Yeah, I would do that myself. I would not have to use
4 anybody. And in fact, we did - I did follow. In 2001/2002, I
15:50:08 5 did follow LURD forces into Guinea and - on a search-and-destroy
6 mission and it didn't take - I mean, well, I had larger, stronger
7 forces by this time - by this time we have written the Security
8 Council and I have other weapons in Liberia and we have certain
9 capacities, and I did go after LURD forces in two towns in

15:50:34 10 Guinea, Liberian forces. So here I am now paying RUF forces out
11 of Sierra Leone to go and attack Guinea. That's not true.

12 That's not true. In fact, I think there is evidence before this
13 Court that there were some clashes between Sierra Leonean and
14 Guinean forces for reasons that were good for the RUF, but not
15:50:55 15 for my side, no. No, I wouldn't have done that, and I wouldn't
16 have given Issa Sesay any money or ask him to do anything.

17 Q. All right. Mr Taylor, that is all I ask you about this
18 witness. In the same vein we're continuing one of the themes
19 raised by that witness. We're now moving on to a witness
15:51:30 20 TF1-579.

21 A. Is that protected?

22 Q. It's a protected witness, but it's a witness who dealt with
23 certain movements regarding Sam Bockarie. You remember?

24 A. Okay.

15:51:58 25 Q. Let's set it in context, shall we. Let's put it in
26 context. Let's start - this person gives evidence, and I want to
27 start with the evidence he gave on bonfire night, 5 November
28 2008, starting at page 19795, line 1:

29 "Q. What else did Sankoh say about his mission that you

1 can recall?

2 A. I remember that he was telling Oliver that this
3 revolution that we are here to launch, I do not want any
4 looting. I do not want my citizens to be harassed. That
15:53:02 5 was what I heard him say.

6 Q. Did Sankoh indicate how he would get the men and the
7 equipment to do this invasion?

8 A. Yes, Sankoh said his men were trained at Naama and that
9 most of them were Liberians at that time and the supplies
15:53:18 10 were given to him by Mr Taylor and that every support for
11 that movement came from Mr Taylor.

12 Q. Do you know whether or not Oliver Varney was surprised
13 to see Sankoh come and say he was bringing men through Bomi
14 Hills?

15:53:36 15 A. No, I was not surprised, because Oliver, Sankoh and
16 others, all of them came from Libya together. According to
17 him, he said all of them were there and that he was a
18 friend to Mr Taylor and he was friendly to all of them and
19 so all of them came together. So it was not a surprise to
15:54:01 20 me, nor Oliver.

21 Q. Was there any communication before the arrival of
22 Sankoh?

23 A. Yes, the communication took place in the radio room
24 whilst I was standing there and it came directly from
15:54:17 25 Mr Taylor in Gbarnga to Oliver and he said Sankoh was en
26 route and that he should make sure that he gives him every
27 support he needed. "

28 In there from the beginning, Mr Taylor, directing Oliver
29 Varney, who, according to you, is involved in this dreadful

1 conspiracy with others and Sankoh behind your back, and there you
2 are, according to this witness, instructing Oliver Varney to
3 provide every assistance to your friend from Libya, Foday Sankoh.
4 See?

15:55:09 5 A. Yes, I see. I never, never called Oliver Varney at any
6 time to give him any instructions of such. Never.

7 Q. But you agree that there came a time, did there not, when
8 you did provide Foday Sankoh with accommodation in Gbarnga?

9 A. Oh, yes. Yes, I did.

15:55:39 10 Q. Just a little detail: Was that in an area called Sugar
11 Hill?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And do you recall whether there were any SBUs based at that
14 address?

15:55:55 15 A. No.

16 Q. What about a task force?

17 A. No, at this time I'm not - there was a police - yeah, I
18 think there was a task force. There was a task force, but it was
19 very near the Executive Mansion in Gbarnga.

15:56:25 20 Q. What was very near to the Executive Mansion in Gbarnga?

21 A. The task force headquarters.

22 Q. And were there any SSS based at that address in Sugar Hill?

23 A. No. At that time we had not put together the SSS yet, no.

24 Q. For completeness, page 19814, line 13:

15:57:01 25 "When I came under Benjamin Yeaten's command Foday Sankoh
26 was given a house right at the area called Sugar Hill, Sugar
27 Hill, and that is where he stayed. At this house there were
28 SBUs, task force and some SSS personnel assigned at the house,
29 not far away from Benjamin Yeaten's house and not far away from

1 the mansion, and we used to go there and speak to him. That was
2 where I saw him again. "

3 That's the testimony of the witness, Mr Taylor.

4 A. How can a whole unit of SSS and task force be at wherever
15:57:45 5 Foday Sankoh is? Foday Sankoh has a house in Gbarnga. I gave
6 him a house in Gbarnga. The police headquarters, the task force
7 is attached to the police at the time. They have a headquarters
8 in the building near the mansion because they have to protect the
9 mansion too. At this particular time the SSS is not really put
10 together. The SSS is a creation of the government of Liberia and
11 it's an old organisation.

12 We had with us behind the line, we're talking about way
13 back in '91 and '92, we had some senior officers that had managed
14 to reach to Gbarnga and what we were trying to do at this
15:58:32 15 particular time, we started using them to begin to train the
16 people in VIP protection. So by this time in '91/'92, while
17 Sankoh is there, the SSS is still not put together, no. We only
18 have bodyguards provided by the Executive Mansion Guard, but even
19 that terminology or acronym SSS is not actually in place at this
15:58:57 20 time yet.

21 Q. Mr Taylor, at this time when the Executive Mansion was
22 based in Gbarnga, was there an ammunition dump at the Executive
23 Mansion?

24 A. Yes, we had something like - well, you call it an arm dump.
15:59:22 25 We had something like a container where we kept supplies outside
26 of the fence but within the security zone in the general area. I
27 would say just maybe about a hundred yards or more from the
28 Executive Mansion.

29 Q. And did the NPFL have a G4 position or section within its

1 hierarchy?

2 A. Well, I can say yes, but --

3 Q. Was it called that?

4 A. Yes, but let me just get one thing clear. Every unit had
16:00:14 5 an S4. But the S4 is at the unit level and they kept their
6 material, but a general G4 at that particular time, we didn't
7 have an assigned individual as a G4.

8 Q. No?

9 A. I beg your pardon?

16:00:44 10 Q. You didn't?

11 A. No. We had supplies and we had people at the warehouse.
12 That G4, just to explain for - I'm sure there are military people
13 here that understand. The S4, G4, they carry out the same
14 function except that the G4 is on the overall level. It's the
16:01:04 15 highest position. We did not have a G4, because as supplies
16 came, they had to go out so quickly. But each unit in the field
17 had their S4 that took care of the ammunition and they had their
18 ammo dump under what we call the S4.

19 Q. And was that controlled by a man called Moses?

16:01:27 20 A. No. This Moses that keeps running around - Moses is not
21 even a third grade student. He can hardly read and write, this
22 Moses, and I'm referring to Moses Duo that has been flaunted
23 around this Court. Moses Duo can barely read and write. No, he
24 was not.

16:01:52 25 Q. Because, just to put everything together, the witness says
26 this, he is asked whether or not Foday Sankoh was staying at his
27 residence in Gbarnga or sometimes travelling, page 19815, line
28 20:

29 "A. Sankoh used to travel and come to Gbarnga.

1 Q. Where was he going?

2 A. I don't know.

3 Q. When you were in Gbarnga, did you receive any
4 assignments at any time to go to other parts of Liberia?

16:02:36 5 A. Yes. I was Gbarnga at the mansion when at one time an
6 enemy hit. ULIMO hit some part of Lofa and there was a
7 supply to take to Lofa at that time and I was part of that
8 convoy. Mr Yeaten gave the order and we drove to that
9 place. The RUF came from in and repelled the attack. I
16:03:07 10 met with one of the commanders called Yellow Man and the
11 supply was turned over to them. That was one of the
12 assignments that we had.

13 Q. Do you recall what year this was that you travelled to
14 Lofa?

16:03:23 15 A. It was in the same 1992."

16 He then explained that the supply he was talking about was
17 ammunition. Line 15:

18 "Q. Where in Gbarnga was the ammunition kept?

19 A. The ammunition was kept right at the mansion. There
16:03:40 20 was a G4 section right at the mansion. That was where the
21 ammunition was kept.

22 Q. Can you explain what you mean is brought back by the
23 RUF came in and repelled the attack?

24 A. Yes, when we were in Gbarnga the RUF - because their
16:04:04 25 supply used to come from Gbarnga to reach them and so that
26 was their supply route, so any attack that would block
27 their route they will come from in to repel that attack
28 because Mr Taylor used to send them supplies and so that
29 route was not supposed to be blocked.

1 Q. Did you ever make any other trip to Sierra Leone or
2 trips?"

3 No, we'll come back to that in a moment. And he goes on to
4 mention that the person from whom they received the ammunition at
16:04:38 5 a place near to your house was a man called Moses. Now, let's
6 look at two aspects of that, firstly. After ULIMO began
7 attacking Liberia, Mr Taylor, did you at any stage seek the
8 assistance of the RUF to enter into Liberia to repel them?

9 A. No.

16:05:12 10 Q. Never?

11 A. Never. Never.

12 Q. Now, the witness goes on. He is asked:

13 "Q. Did you ever make any other trip to Sierra Leone or
14 trips?"

16:05:39 15 A. Yes. The second time was with Zigzag Marzah, Jungle,
16 Daniel Tamba" --

17 MS HOLLIS: Could I ask for a page reference, please?

18 MR GRIFFITHS: I'm sorry. 19837, line 16:

19 Q. "Q. Did you ever make any other trip to Sierra Leone or
16:06:01 20 trips?"

21 A. Yes, yes. The second time was with Zigzag Marzah,
22 Jungle, Daniel Tamba, Sampson Weah and I. When we drove to
23 Benjamin Yeaten's house, and Yeaten told us to follow him
24 to the warehouse and we followed him to the warehouse and
16:06:25 25 that was right at Mr Taylor's house, that is on the
26 left-hand side of the house, that was where they had the
27 warehouse. We went there and Yeaten took a list of those
28 things that we were supposed to carry and he presented it
29 to the G4 section. The commander there was Moses Duoh and

1 we also received another supply of ammunition, mortar guns,
2 RPG rockets, LAR, AK rounds and that was Zigzag, Sampson,
3 Jungle and I, we left and we went to Buedu, along with
4 three bodyguards who were on top of the car and one of them
16:07:12 5 was called Enforcer, so we went there.

6 Q. Sir, you said this second trip began - you said you
7 went to Benjamin Yeaten's house. Where was Benjamin
8 Yeaten's house?

9 A. Benjamin Yeaten's house was right at the back of
16:07:33 10 Mr Taylor's house, sloping down the hill. No sooner you
11 slope down the hill you see the house on the right-hand
12 side. That was Benjamin Yeaten's house.

13 The warehouse was attached right on Mr Taylor's house.
14 That is when you come to the front side of the house, by
16:07:53 15 the left-hand side you will see the warehouse.

16 This warehouse is right at Mr Taylor's house, the left-hand
17 side of Mr Taylor's house. When you stand at the front of
18 the house you watch at the left side, you just walk by the
19 side of the road, then you go down and you will see the
16:08:16 20 warehouse and it was attached directly to Mr Taylor's
21 house.

22 Q. When he presented the list to Moses Duoh, do you recall
23 any conversation?

24 A. He presented the list to Moses and he got back into his
16:08:41 25 car and left and we stayed there. We started going through
26 the list so that we received those supplies of ammunition."
27 Now, just in terms of the physical layout, Mr Taylor, was
28 there such a warehouse - and we need to be careful here, we're
29 not talking about Gbarnga here, we're talking about Monrovia.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Was there such a warehouse attached to your residence in
3 Monrovia?

4 A. No, no.

16:09:16 5 Q. Was there ever a Moses Duoh employed effectively as G4,
6 let's put it in ordinary language, warehouse man at your address?

7 A. No. There is a Moses Duoh, he is not G4.

8 Q. What is he?

9 A. Moses Duoh is one of the workers in the SSS warehouse that
16:09:45 10 is located right outside - I mean, in the vicinity of White
11 Flower. The man in charge of that warehouse is a man called Kai.

12 Q. Kai?

13 A. Kai Sony [phon].

14 Q. And what was Kai's responsibility at the warehouse?

16:10:13 15 A. Kai was responsible for maintaining the - he held the keys.
16 Everything, everything that had to do with that warehouse. It
17 was a warehouse - it's an office - it's a building, it's a
18 building that hosts the SSS. At the top floors you have the SSS
19 offices. At the bottom floor, that's where the SSS keep their
16:10:38 20 supplies that are needed for presidential protection and Kai is
21 responsible for the keys for that.

22 Q. Just give us an idea, Mr Taylor, and we'll come, not this
23 afternoon, perhaps tomorrow, to look at the location in a bit
24 more detail.

16:11:00 25 A. Okay.

26 Q. But for now, just help us to this extent: This warehouse
27 attached to the SSS, how far from your residence would it be?

28 A. It is separated by the fence. It is right next to the
29 fence of my house. Right next to it.

1 Q. So I just want to be clear. When you say "right next to
2 it", does it actually adjoin your residence?

3 A. When you say adjoin my residence, I would say - in your
4 question I would say yes, but in the legal sense now to say it
16:11:45 5 adjoined my residence - because my property is on one acre and
6 the entire acre is fenced. This is not like a little lot. It's
7 on an entire acre and the acre is fenced. So that building falls
8 on the outside of that fence. So I know how you asked the
9 question. I would say yes, but maybe for other purposes we may
16:12:10 10 have to clarify it more.

11 Q. So it's next door then?

12 A. I would say yes.

13 Q. It's next door. And just describe the structure for us?

14 A. Which structure? The building?

16:12:28 15 Q. No, the warehouse.

16 A. Well, the building is a two-storey building. The top
17 storey contains offices. That's where the SSS and all of the
18 securities that are there for the protection of the President,
19 they are housed in there. All of the material that they use for
16:12:45 20 movement are in there. That is when I'm moving out of town,
21 materials are loaded and carried; when they come, they put it in
22 back in. Also in that warehouse you have food and other things
23 that - in fact, every Saturday in Monrovia I distributed about
24 400 bags of rice to poor people around the city. So it's a
16:13:11 25 warehouse that contains supplies for the presidency, as far as
26 food is concerned, and materials - as far as the Secret Service,
27 the police and the military personnel assigned to protect the
28 President, all of their materials are housed in there.

29 Q. And who has access to that warehouse?

1 A. That warehouse is under the command of the SSS director
2 Benjamin Yeaten.

3 Q. Right. And it's right, is it not, that Yeaten's residence
4 is not far from yours?

16:13:43 5 A. I would say - well, I would say it's a little - it's far.
6 Benjamin Yeaten's residence is some distance from my house.
7 It's, I mean, it's several, several houses away from my house.

8 Q. Okay. Now did yourself directly have access to that
9 warehouse?

16:14:09 10 A. No. I would have no need to be, no.

11 Q. I mean, putting it in very simple terms that we can all
12 understand, did you have a key to the warehouse?

13 A. No, no. I didn't have a key to it.

14 Q. Very well. Let's go back to the witness. The witness goes
16:14:29 15 on to say this, Mr Taylor. He talks about a trip he makes to
16 Buedu to deliver arms and ammunition, okay, and in that context
17 he said this at page 19843, line 3:

18 "Q. When you got to Buedu, was Mosquito there?

19 A. Yes, Mosquito was in Buedu, we saw him and he welcomed
16:15:11 20 us and we turned those things over to him, but the problem
21 that we faced with him then was that he said he wanted a
22 jeep and we told him that the jeep belonged to General
23 Yeaten, your friend, and that indeed if you wanted the jeep
24 you should please make a call to him so that we will not be
16:15:32 25 in problem with him and he said, 'That man is my friend.

26 All you need to do is that you should just go and tell him
27 that your friend says he wants the jeep,' and he was able
28 to give \$2,000 US to Sampson and I, so we left the jeep
29 with him".

1 Do you recall this incident, Mr Taylor - this testimony?

2 A. I recall the testimony, yes.

3 Q. "But before leaving Buedu, when he said he wanted a jeep
4 there was a tank, a war tank, with a chain under it, those big
16:16:09 5 military tanks. It was captured behind the Moa River where they
6 were fighting and he said Mr Taylor said he wanted a tank. He
7 said that he should send it to him in Monrovia. So we used this
8 jeep. We drove from Buedu to the Moa River and when we got to
9 the river, the tank was across the river. You could stand at the
16:16:36 10 other side of the river and see the tank across."

11 And then he goes on to mention how the ferry was broken,
12 and remember the whole episode about the tank. We don't need all
13 the details, just this for now: Do you recall a conversation
14 with Sam Bockarie when you expressed a desire to have a tank?

16:17:02 15 A. No.

16 Q. A battle tank?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Or do you recall a conversation with Mr Bockarie when he
19 said, "Guess what, chief, I've got a tank for you"? Did you have
16:17:16 20 such a conversation with him?

21 A. No, I did not.

22 Q. Do you know anything at all about this tank episode?

23 A. None whatsoever. If Sam Bockarie had a tank that I wanted,
24 I would have sent for it. Not some guy who goes there, he goes
16:17:34 25 to deliver ammunition, no. Never discussed any tank matter with
26 Sam Bockarie, never.

27 Q. Now, in the context of these trips made by the witness to
28 Sierra Leone, he continued at page 19848 in this way:

29 "Q. Do you have any idea when the trips that you were

1 aware of - just the ones that you were aware of - began?

2 A. Yes, I have an idea. It was around '98.

3 Q. And, sir, how long did these trips continue, to your
4 knowl edge?

16:18:26 5 A. The trips continued even when Mr Taylor took over as
6 President. The trips still continued until Taylor left
7 Liberia. "

8 So you see the time frame, Mr Taylor. From 1998 up until
9 2003 these trips are being made to Sierra Leone. Do you follow?

16:18:52 10 A. Yes, I do.

11 Q. "Q. Now, Mr Witness, you talked about General Mosquito and
12 seeing him on your three trips to Buedu. Do you know if
13 General Mosquito stayed in Sierra Leone or if anything
14 happened?

16:19:08 15 A. Yeah. When Mosquito was in Sierra Leone, at that time
16 it was after my three trips. I was back to my duty in
17 Monrovia and General Mosquito and his deputy Issa Sesay had
18 a probl em. This probl em used to happen not often. I can
19 remember that there was a dispute between Issa Sesay and

16:19:35 20 General Mosquito. Both of them were sent for from Buedu by
21 Mr Taylor. They came to Monrovia and were taken to General
22 Yeaten's house. From Yeaten's house they were taken to
23 White Flower to Mr Taylor's house. That dispute was
24 settled between them - between the two of them. They

16:20:04 25 settled the dispute. The one that I can remember again was
26 General Issa, along with the late Superman, one general ,
27 there was a dispute between Issa and Superman. Issa and
28 Superman were against Mosquito and they sent for them again
29 to settle this dispute between them, and when they left

1 they went back to Buedu and were still not reconciled."

2 Now, was there an occasion when you acted as mediator,
3 Mr Taylor, between Sam Bockarie and Issa Sesay?

4 A. Never. I know of no conflict, and I don't think he knows
16:20:53 5 of any conflict that occurred between Issa and Sam Bockarie, no.

6 Q. Well, Mr Taylor, the witness is being quite clear about
7 this and he's going on to suggest, it appears, that you
8 intervened to mediate in this way or more than one occasion.

9 Because you note, "Issa and Superman were against Mosquito and
16:21:23 10 they sent for them again to settle this dispute." What about
11 this other instance involving Superman?

12 A. No, there was no dispute that I settled between Issa and
13 Mosquito and Superman. Never.

14 Q. When was the first time you met Issa Sesay, Mr Taylor?

16:21:44 15 A. On my very life, in 2000 was the first time I laid my eyes
16 on Issa Sesay. When Issa Sesay, with this UN situation, I
17 invited Issa Sesay to come to negotiate the release. Besides,
18 before then - and even if you look in Issa Sesay's testimony it
19 will be clarified - I never saw that man before 2000, ever, in my
16:22:09 20 life.

21 Q. And by the time you saw Issa Sesay, where was Sam Bockarie?

22 A. By this time in - Sam Bockarie was in Liberia still by this
23 time in 2000 when Issa Sesay came to Liberia, because that is in
24 around May/June of 2000 that Issa Sesay came to Liberia.

16:22:40 25 Q. Now, Mr Taylor, were you ever involved in resolving any
26 disputes between individuals in Sierra Leone?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. Who?

29 A. Sam Bockarie and Foday Sankoh.

1 Q. What about the suggestion being made by this witness that
2 you were a regular mediator?

3 A. No, never. But I don't think those men had that type of
4 confusion that he's talking about. Never, no.

16:23:13 5 Q. Did you ever meet this Superman?

6 A. No, I never met Superman. I knew that there was a Superman
7 and that he was Liberian, but I never met with him to sit down
8 and talk, no.

9 Q. Now he goes on, and this is the real thrust of this
16:23:59 10 testimony that I want us to deal with now that we've set the
11 scene. So we know what the scene is now, Mr Taylor. He's been
12 involved in transporting arms and ammunition backwards and
13 forwards to Buedu and to Mosquito for a while, yes?

14 A. Yes.

16:24:06 15 Q. We've got that clear now.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. We now come to the meat of the suggestion. He talks about
18 Bockarie coming to Liberia in December 1999, yes?

19 A. Yes.

16:24:25 20 Q. Page 19850, line 1:

21 "A. He came along with a huge manpower, bodyguards.

22 Q. When you say huge, can you give us any kind of rough
23 estimate of the number of people that came with him?

24 A. Close to 2,000 men."

16:24:55 25 Just to clarify that detail, Mr Taylor, because it might be
26 of importance subsequently, was it 2,000 men?

27 A. I doubt it. I don't know the exact number, but when he
28 talks about men here, I don't know what he's referring to. But
29 if you look at the military man whose testimony we went through

1 yesterday or the day before, Jabaty Jaward, he deals with those
2 numbers. And I don't have a fight with Jabaty's numbers, so it's
3 closer to me to about 1,000 people in total.

4 Q. Very well. Let's not quibble over that.

16:25:31 5 "Q. Do you recall yourself the names of the people that
6 came with Bockarie that you knew?

7 A. Yeah, I can remember the late Salami, one Martin, a
8 computer man for Mosquito, Toasty, General Sheriff. Not
9 Varmuyan Sheriff, but there was another Sheriff from
10 Freetown."

11 Then he goes on, line 24:

12 "A. All those people whom I have named were Sierra
13 Leoneans.

14 Q. What happened to these fighters - excuse me, these men
16:26:17 15 who with were with Sam Bockarie that came into Liberia?

16 A. When they came they took them - they were received
17 at Voinjama and taken to Monrovia and all his men whom he
18 had brought, the manpower, they were put into the ATU.
19 Mr Taylor gave an order that they should go to the ATU, so
16:26:34 20 they were sent for ATU training at Gbatala. After the ATU
21 training they brought them to town and deployed them."

22 He explains what ATU means and how they used to dress, and
23 we're not quibbling with that, are we, Mr Taylor?

24 A. No, we are not.

16:26:55 25 Q. And then he goes on to deal with a particular assignment
26 that he was given, page 19859, line 1:

27 "Benjamin Yeaten called me to take up assignment with him
28 and I was with him. I was with Benjamin Yeaten when Sam Bockarie
29 crossed. Then for the safety of he himself and Sam Bockarie,

1 because they wanted a Liberian security to be assigned to Sam
2 Bockarie just in case there is an information which could be
3 passed over to Benjamin Yeaten, it was then that he gave us that
4 assignment, that was what I said."

16:27:39 5 So he has now been assigned to Sam Bockarie by Benjamin
6 Yeaten. Now, just pause there, Mr Taylor. Is it the case that
7 Liberian security personnel were assigned to Bockarie when he
8 arrived in Monrovia?

9 A. Yes. Some intelligence people, yes.

16:27:57 10 Q. Very well.

11 A. I don't know who, but yes.

12 Q. "Q. Where did you stay when you were on this assignment?

13 A. I had my house right opposite the White Flower,
14 Mr Taylor's house."

16:28:10 15 Was there such a resident opposite your house for this use?

16 A. I'm not sure. I'm not sure. It's likely, but I'm not sure
17 because most of the buildings within the general area, securities
18 would try to settle in them. But it's possible. It's possible.

19 Q. Now, he comes on to deal with this relationship with Sam
16:28:44 20 Bockarie.

21 MR GRIFFITHS: I don't know if that might be a convenient
22 time, Mr President.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think it would be.

24 We'll adjourn for the day.

16:28:51 25 Mr Taylor, there's an order not to discuss your evidence.

26 We'll adjourn until 9.30 tomorrow.

27 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.28 p.m.
28 to be reconvened on Thursday, 29 October 2009
29 at 9.30 a.m.]

I N D E X

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