



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF  
THE SPECIAL COURT  
V.  
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

TUESDAY, 16 MARCH 2010  
3.00 P.M.  
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

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Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Ms Doreen Kiggundu

For the Registry:

Ms Rachel Irura  
Ms Zainab Fofanah

For the Prosecution:

Ms Brenda J Hollis  
Mr Mohamed A Bangura  
Ms Kathryn Howarth  
Ms Maja Dimitrova

For the accused Charles Ghankay  
Taylor:

Mr Terry Munyard  
Mr Silas Chekera  
Mr Simon Chapman

1 Tuesday, 16 March 2010

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 3.00 p.m.]

15:00:18 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good afternoon. We will take  
6 appearances, please.

7 MR BANGURA: Good afternoon, Madam President, your Honours,  
8 counsel opposite. Appearing for the Prosecution this afternoon  
9 are Brenda J Hollis, myself Mohamed A Bangura, Ms Kathryn Howarth  
10 and Maja Dimitrova. Thank you.

11 MR CHEKERA: Good afternoon, Madam President, your Honours,  
12 counsel opposite. For the Defence, Simon Chapman, Terry Munyard,  
13 and I, Silas Chekera.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Normally it's counsel first, but thank  
15:03:59 15 you. Now, I note that witness DCT-025 continues in chief today.

16 MR CHEKERA: Yes, Madam President. If I may continue.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am going to remind him first of his  
18 oath. Good afternoon, Mr Witness.

19 THE WITNESS: Good afternoon, sir.

15:04:19 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: This is very confusing, hearing three  
21 voices in the interpretation. But anyway, we will see how it  
22 goes.

23 Mr Witness, you took an oath last week to tell the truth;  
24 you remember that?

15:04:37 25 THE WITNESS: Yes.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Now, that oath is still binding on you  
27 today as we proceed with your evidence. Do you understand that?

28 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Mr Chekera, please continue.

1 WITNESS: DCT-025 [On former affirmation]

2 EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR CHEKERA: [Continued]

3 Q. Good afternoon, Mr Witness.

4 A. Good afternoon.

15:05:01 5 Q. When we adjourned on Friday we were discussing the time  
6 that you were based at Koindu and we were talking about radios  
7 that had been captured. You were talking about four specific  
8 radios that were captured and how they were distributed. In your  
9 evidence you also mentioned other radios that are were captured  
10 subsequently, do you remember that?

11 A. Yes, I remember that.

12 Q. Now, can you tell us what happened to the radios that were  
13 captured subsequently, after the four radios that you talked  
14 about initially?

15:05:43 15 A. The four radios that were captured, they were programmed.

16 Q. Sorry, I am just going to interrupt you, sorry. The radios  
17 that were captured, after the four that you were talking about  
18 just now, those are the ones I want you to focus on.

19 A. Yes, the four radios that were captured are the ones I am  
15:06:15 20 going to talk about.

21 Q. I think we have covered that aspect. Let me rephrase the  
22 question. After the initial four radios that you were just about  
23 to talk about, were any other radios captured thereafter?

24 A. Yes, other radios were captured from the soldiers at the  
15:06:38 25 front line.

26 Q. Do you recall where they were captured? If you could  
27 recall some of the places where other radios were captured?

28 A. Yes. Some were captured at Dia Junction and some were also  
29 captured in Buedu, Kailahun, Pendembu and some other areas.

1 Q. And are you able to give us a number of the total of the  
2 radios that were subsequently captured?

3 A. No.

15:07:16

4 INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked to  
5 speak up a little?

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you gave an answer that  
7 nobody heard because you are speaking too quietly. Please speak  
8 into the microphone and raise your voice and repeat your answer.  
9 The question was the total number of radios that were  
10 subsequently captured.

15:07:38

11 THE WITNESS: I cannot tell you the total number of radios  
12 that were captured because I am not a radio man.

13 MR CHEKERA:

14 Q. Are you able to tell us what sort of radios were captured?

15:07:58

15 A. According to them, they were military radios. I saw some.

16 Q. The last time you described the four radios as the kind  
17 that you would carry at the back. Were the radios that were  
18 subsequently captured the same as the one you would carry at the  
19 back?

15:08:19

20 A. Those were the same. The ones you strap on your back and  
21 they had long antennas.

22 Q. And do you know what happened to those radios?

23 A. Those radios were given to the radio signal commander and  
24 he was responsible for them.

15:08:41

25 Q. And do you know what he did with the radios when he got  
26 them?

27 A. No, I don't know.

28 Q. Do you know someone called Zedman?

29 A. Yes, I know Zedman.

1 Q. How do you know Zedman?

2 A. I got to know Zedman when Alfred Brown was controlling the  
3 radio, he alone, and later on he was instructed by Foday Sankoh  
4 to train another man to join him, and that was how Zedman was  
15:09:15 5 trained by Alfred Brown.

6 Q. Where was Zedman trained by Alfred Brown?

7 A. That was in Kailahun.

8 Q. And besides Zedman, did Alfred Brown train any other radio  
9 operators?

15:09:32 10 A. There were many, because the front lines too were many. So  
11 they needed more operators, so he trained many of them.

12 Q. Can you remember some of them by name?

13 A. No. Like I told you, I was a {redacted}. I was not a  
14 communications man to know about those things.

15:09:55 15 Q. Sorry. Just pause there. Madam President --

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Officer, please redact the  
17 reference to that post that the witness has just mentioned. And  
18 please, members of the public, do not repeat the location - the  
19 post that the witness has mentioned outside of court.

15:10:19 20 MR CHEKERA:

21 Q. Now, Mr Witness, may I remind you not to give away your  
22 identity, either by mentioning your name or the position that you  
23 held in the RUF.

24 A. Okay.

15:10:36 25 Q. Do you know someone called Nya?

26 A. No.

27 Q. Okay. We will move on to another topic. You said when you  
28 were with Foday Sankoh in Koindu he made certain appointments and  
29 you were referred specifically to CO Kargbo and CO Mohamed, and

1 in private session we referred to your own appointment. Besides  
2 those three appointments, were there any other appointments that  
3 were made by Foday Sankoh?

15:11:33 4 A. Yes. He used to promote people. But at the time he was  
5 promoting those people I wouldn't be there, but he used to  
6 promote people.

7 Q. When you were at Koindu with Foday Sankoh, are you able to  
8 help us by giving us the hierarchy of the RUF at Koindu at the  
9 time that you were there?

15:11:53 10 A. Yes. Some of the people that I knew --

11 Q. [Microphone not activated] some of the people that you  
12 knew and then we will try to arrange them in some sort of  
13 hierarchy?

14 A. You mean the people I knew?

15:12:15 15 Q. Who were given specific appointments by Foday Sankoh at  
16 Koindu?

17 A. He appointed Issa Sesay as one of the front line  
18 commanders, and then he appointed Morris Kallon too as one of the  
19 commanders. There were a whole lot of people, but I was  
15:12:42 20 particularly assigned to my own area where I was.

21 Q. Now, at that time who was the main leader of the RUF? Who  
22 was right at the top?

23 A. The big man we had was Foday Sankoh.

24 Q. Was there someone else above Foday Sankoh to your  
15:13:13 25 knowledge?

26 A. No, there was nobody who was senior to him.

27 Q. And below Foday Sankoh, who was second in command?

28 A. There was CO Mohamed Tarawali.

29 Q. And below CO Mohamed Tarawali?

1 A. He had one CO Rashid.

2 Q. And below CO Rashid?

3 A. Those were the main people at that time. It was after that  
4 that he appointed other people.

15:14:00 5 Q. Have you heard of a unit that was called Strike Force?

6 A. No. We never had a Strike Force Unit in the RUF.

7 Q. Did you know someone who was called or is called Sam Tuah?

8 A. No.

9 Q. What about Sam Larto?

15:14:27 10 A. No.

11 Q. Isaac Musa?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Oliver Varney?

14 A. No, I don't know Oliver Varney.

15:14:40 15 Q. Someone who went by the name One Man One?

16 A. No, I don't know anybody by the name One Man One.

17 Q. Now, there is evidence before this Court that the time  
18 Foday Sankoh was at Koindu, Charles Taylor was superior to him  
19 and Foday Sankoh was reporting to Charles Taylor. Did you get to  
15:15:12 20 know that at any point?

21 A. No, I don't know about that.

22 Q. The time that you were at Koindu, when I asked you  
23 initially during the initial invasion you said there were no  
24 Liberian elements among you except those who were trained at  
15:15:33 25 Naama. Now, when you were at Koindu, were you joined by any

26 Liberian elements other than those who were trained at Naama?

27 A. No. I told you, I said, no, I don't know about that.

28 Q. Now, during that same time that you were at Koindu, do you  
29 know whether Foday Sankoh was in contact with anyone outside

1 Li beria?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Let me break down the question. Was he in radio contact  
4 with anyone outside Li beria, to your knowl edge?

15:16:16 5 A. No, I did not see that.

6 Q. Did you hear anything about it?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Did you go anywhere outside Li beria during the - sorry,  
9 outside Si erra Leone during that time?

15:16:31 10 A. No. I was in Si erra Leone. I did not go out.

11 Q. Okay. Let's now go back to the group that you described as  
12 the advanced group, the one that was led by CO Mohamed and  
13 Kargbo?

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry, Mr Chekera, before you proceed,  
15:16:51 15 Koi ndu I presume is in Si erra Leone, yes?

16 MR CHEKERA:

17 Q. Mr Wi tness, where is Koi ndu?

18 A. Koi ndu is in Si erra Leone.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Right. Then when you asked the wi tness  
15:17:04 20 when he was in Koi ndu whether Foday Sankoh was in contact wi th  
21 anyone outside Li beria, what kind of a question is that? I don't  
22 understand it.

23 MR CHEKERA: Sorry, Madam Presi dent.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Because you are sayi ng Foday Sankoh is  
15:17:19 25 wi th the wi tness in Koi ndu and you are asking whether he knows  
26 whether Foday Sankoh was in radio contact wi th anyone outside  
27 Li beria. That is the question you asked twice.

28 MR CHEKERA: Part of my statement - my question might not  
29 have been captured because I remember correcti ng mysel f and



1 saying Sierra Leone.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: No. Twice you mentioned Liberia. I  
3 wouldn't intervene if it made sense.

4 MR CHEKERA: Let me ask, if I may. Sorry, I will clean up,  
15:18:12 5 Madam President. Thank you for the correction. My learned  
6 friend has just alerted me to the mistake. Let me rephrase the  
7 question:

8 Q. During the time that you were in Koindu with Foday Sankoh,  
9 do you know whether Foday Sankoh went anywhere outside Sierra  
15:18:31 10 Leone?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Do you know whether he was --

13 JUDGE DOHERTY: Just a moment, Mr Chekera. That answer no,  
14 was it no, I didn't know, or no, he did not go anywhere?

15:18:46 15 MR CHEKERA:

16 Q. Mr Witness, you heard what the learned Justice asked. When  
17 you say no, do you mean Foday Sankoh never went outside Sierra  
18 Leone?

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Or does he mean he doesn't know?

15:18:58 20 MR CHEKERA:

21 Q. Or you do not know?

22 A. I did not see Foday Sankoh going outside Liberia. I mean,  
23 from Sierra Leone. At the time we entered Sierra Leone, I did  
24 not see him go outside Sierra Leone.

15:19:14 25 Q. Did you hear whether he went outside Sierra Leone?

26 A. I did not hear that he went out of Sierra Leone.

27 Q. And do you know whether he was in contact by radio with  
28 anyone outside Sierra Leone, and I still refer to Foday Sankoh?

29 A. No.

1 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, does that clarify the issue?

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, actually the initial issue was  
3 relating to radio communication. Now you are asking him whether  
4 Foday Sankoh went anywhere. How does that clarify the issue?

15:20:09 5 I am referring to page 10 of the transcript. Look at page  
6 10 where you ask at the beginning of page 10, "Now, during the  
7 same time that you were at Koindu, do you know whether Foday  
8 Sankoh was in contact with anyone outside Liberia?" That is the  
9 question that doesn't make sense, because if Foday Sankoh is in  
10 Sierra Leone, you are asking the witness whether he was  
11 communicating with someone outside of Liberia, which would  
12 include Sierra Leone. To me it doesn't make sense.

13 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President. Let me just  
14 quickly clear that up:

15:21:02 15 Q. Mr Witness, the time that you were in Koindu, do you know  
16 whether Foday Sankoh was in radio contact with anyone outside  
17 Sierra Leone?

18 A. No, I don't know about that.

19 Q. Now, let's move on and deal with the group that you earlier  
15:21:28 20 on described as the advanced group, the group that I referred to  
21 that was led by CO Kargbo and CO Mohamed. You said they had  
22 advanced as far as Buedu, the last time before we adjourned last  
23 week. Do you remember that?

24 A. Yes, I remember.

15:21:50 25 Q. Did they advance any further beyond Buedu?

26 A. Yes. Apart from Buedu, they advanced as far as Kailahun,  
27 Pendembu and other areas.

28 Q. And do you know what if anything happened in those areas?

29 A. The areas to which they advanced, what I saw were the

1 material, the arms and ammunition that they sent, and they sent  
2 some to me for safekeeping.

3 MR CHEKERA: I am not sure whether that would warrant a  
4 redaction or we could let it pass?

15:22:47 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Continue.

6 MR CHEKERA: Thank you:

7 Q. During those advances, do you know whether they reached as  
8 far as Kono?

9 A. Yes. The men advanced as far as Kono.

15:23:06 10 Q. And do you know what happened in Kono?

11 A. They captured Kono and they captured arms and ammunition  
12 there also.

13 Q. I am going to ask you about arms and ammunition, and be  
14 careful not to mention any names or any information that could  
15:23:23 15 compromise identity. I will not refer to his identity. Do you  
16 know what happened to those arms and ammunition?

17 A. Some of the arms and ammunition were taken back to the  
18 base.

19 Q. And which base are you referring to?

15:23:45 20 A. At that time those were arms and ammunition captured from  
21 Kono that were taken to Pendembu.

22 Q. So when you say base, you are referring to Pendembu?

23 A. Yes, I'm referring to Pendembu because Pendembu was under  
24 our control and those were our safe areas where we had the store  
15:24:13 25 to store them.

26 Q. And again do not mention any names. Which office were they  
27 turned over to in Pendembu?

28 A. They returned the things over to the G4 section.

29 Q. And during that time where were you yourself?

1 A. At that time I was instructed to move to Pendembu  
2 immediately before the things could arrive.

3 Q. And by things, what do you refer to?

4 A. I mean the arms and ammunition that were sent there.

15:25:00 5 Q. Let's just talk quantities. What sort of quantities are we  
6 talking about? Let's start with the arms and ammunition that  
7 were captured from Kono, if you remember?

8 A. There were many. At present I don't have any records to  
9 tell you that there were 2 or 500 or 600. I cannot tell you that  
15:25:26 10 now, but there were many.

11 Q. Okay. Let's just break this down. We are talking arms and  
12 ammunition. Let's talk of arms. What sort of quantities are we  
13 talk in relation to arms?

14 A. A whole lot of arms were captured, but I don't know the  
15:25:50 15 total number at present because at that time we had record of  
16 those things, but now I can't tell you that now. But a lot of  
17 arms were captured, different types of arms.

18 Q. Let's talk about the types of arms that were captured, if  
19 you remember.

15:26:09 20 A. We had BZT, a BZT was captured there. We had 50 calibre.  
21 We have 60 millimetres. We had 81. In fact, at Kono they  
22 captured --

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Slowly, please. Continue. You had said  
24 60 millimetre calibre.

15:26:36 25 THE WITNESS: Yes. 60 millimetres gun and then 50 calibre.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: What did you say about 81? Did you say  
27 anything about 81?

28 THE WITNESS: Yes. I said 81 millimetres gun was also  
29 captured. And an automatic grenade launcher was also captured

1 there.

2 MR CHEKERA:

3 Q. Were any rifles captured?

15:27:20

4 A. Yes. They had AKs captured but the men who were at the  
5 front, most of them did not have arms so they assigned the arms  
6 to them. But they said the rifles were plenty and some other RPG  
7 rockets - I mean mortars too were captured.

15:27:44

8 Q. I know you don't have your records and you couldn't be too  
9 sure, but would you be able to give us an indication of whether  
10 we are talking tens, hundreds or thousands in relation to the  
11 arms, just so that we have an idea?

15:28:18

12 A. That could be over a thousand and plus, boxes of ammunition  
13 that were captured. The arms were plenty. They could be more  
14 than 200 to 500 but I cannot actually tell you the total number  
15 right now, but there were plenty.

16 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, may I interrupt to request of my  
17 learned friend to help with the time frame for this evidence,  
18 especially regarding Kono which I believe is the area where the  
19 witness is talking about right now.

15:28:39

20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, that's a pertinent observation,  
21 Mr Chekera.

22 MR CHEKERA: Indeed I will:

15:28:55

23 Q. Mr Witness, when these arms and ammunition were captured,  
24 do you remember either in terms of time or in terms of location  
25 where you were - this was. Let's start with time. Do you  
26 remember when this was that these arms and ammunition were  
27 captured?

28 A. That was in 1992. The end of 1991 going to 1992, but the  
29 month and the date. I cannot recall them now because it's now a

1 Long time ago.

2 Q. And where were you based at this time? And I refer to you  
3 specifically.

15:29:44

4 A. I was based in Kailahun at that time, and then I was  
5 instructed to move from Kailahun to go to Pendembu.

6 Q. Let's go back a little bit and talk about when you moved  
7 from Koindu to Kailahun. When was it that you moved from Koindu  
8 to Kailahun?

15:30:13

9 A. The time I left Koindu for Kailahun, by then our men had  
10 advanced as far as Pendembu going towards Mobil, and when I left  
11 Kailahun, they instructed me to leave Kailahun to go to Pendembu.  
12 At that time our men had captured Kono, Segbwema, and all those  
13 other areas.

15:30:49

14 Q. I am going to try to spell Segbwema, if it's not already on  
15 the record.

16 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I believe we do have the  
17 spelling for Segbwema on the record already, I think.

18 MR CHEKERA: Just to clear the record, I could just quickly  
19 spell it. S-E-G-B-W-E-M-A:

15:31:15

20 Q. When you moved from Koindu to Kailahun, did Foday Sankoh  
21 remain in Koindu?

22 A. Yes. I left him in Koindu before going to Kailahun, and  
23 later he followed.

24 Q. When you say he followed, where did he go?

15:31:40

25 A. When I left Koindu to go to Kailahun, he followed me there,  
26 because I went there to prepare the place for him so that he will  
27 come.

28 Q. What place did you go to prepare for Foday Sankoh? Sorry,  
29 just clarify that?

1 A. His lodge. Where he was going to lodge, so that --

2 INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked to  
3 put up his voice and then repeat what he just said.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, again please speak up so that  
15:32:17 5 the interpreter can hear what you are saying. Now, repeat your  
6 answer, which he didn't hear, which says - you were explaining  
7 what is this place that you went to prepare for Foday Sankoh.  
8 Now repeat your answer, please.

9 THE WITNESS: That was where we were going to keep our  
15:32:40 10 materials and where he was going to live. So that was the place  
11 I went to fix in the jungle because we always used to keep him in  
12 the jungle.

13 MR CHEKERA:

14 Q. Do you remember the time frame when you made that move?

15:32:57 15 A. I can't recall the date, but I told you that it was between  
16 1991 to '92. That was the time we were advancing.

17 Q. And this place that you prepared for Foday Sankoh, you say  
18 it was in the bush. Can you explain? You moved from Koindu to  
19 Kailahun. Which part of Kailahun - are you talking of Kailahun  
15:33:30 20 the town, or Kailahun the district?

21 A. I am talking about Kailahun Town. Kailahun Town. The area  
22 we found for him was somewhere around - before entering the  
23 Kailahun Town, that is going towards the Boubu [phon] area.  
24 There was a town called Boubu, and there was a house - a lonely  
15:33:56 25 house up the hill and there was bush around that area. So that  
26 was where we fixed for him.

27 Q. Mr Witness, that name Boubu, are you able to help us with  
28 the spelling of Boubu?

29 A. I don't know how to spell that Boubu. I don't know. But

1 there are certain names I don't really know. It's a Sierra  
2 Leonean name. Except someone help me.

3 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I will attempt to get a  
4 spelling. And with your permission, may I proceed? Thank you.

15:34:36 5 Q. And you said you went in advance. How long after you had  
6 gone did Foday Sankoh follow?

7 A. It was just a week.

8 Q. And there are allegations that during that process when you  
9 were moving from Koindu to Kailahun - when I say "you", I mean  
10 the entire RUF which was based in Koindu - there are allegations  
11 that you forced civilians to carry your property that you moved  
12 with. Do you know anything about that?

13 A. No, we did not force any civilian and we did not even use  
14 any civilian to carry our loads, because we were travelling with  
15 military loads, so how could you have used civilians to carry  
16 them? We did not use civilians to carry our loads. We are  
17 travelling with arms and ammunition, so we can't use civilians to  
18 travel with arms and ammunition. They would be able to locate  
19 our locations.

15:35:48 20 Q. Who would be able to locate your locations?

21 A. Maybe the civilians. Because there were people who we were  
22 not worried about and they were moving freely on their own.

23 Q. So who did you use to carry your material?

24 A. We used our own soldiers to carry our loads.

15:36:16 25 Q. Now, when Foday Sankoh got to Kailahun, who were some of  
26 the senior people in the RUF that was with him in Kailahun?

27 A. All the men who were at the front line. I was --

28 INTERPRETER: Your Honours, this is not very clear to the  
29 interpreter. Could the witness be asked to repeat.



1           PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you please repeat your  
2 answer again? The interpreter didn't get you. Repeat the whole  
3 answer you were giving.

4           THE WITNESS: I said those who went along with him, I was  
15:37:05 5 one of those who went along with him, including his own bodyguard  
6 unit.

7           MR CHEKERA:

8 Q. Who was heading his bodyguard unit, if you remember?

9 A. There was a fellow called CO Kennedy.

15:37:30 10 Q. And for how long was Foday Sankoh in Kailahun for?

11 A. Foday Sankoh stayed for a long time in Kailahun because  
12 Kailahun was made the headquarters at that time, and all of us  
13 were based there.

14 Q. Headquarters for who?

15:37:51 15 A. For the RUF.

16 Q. Now, when you got to Kailahun, again, besides the Liberians  
17 who were part of the RUF who trained at Naama, did you meet or  
18 see any Liberian elements at Kailahun?

19 A. No. Except for the soldiers who were with the RUF that  
15:38:19 20 were there. I don't know whether --

21           INTERPRETER: Your Honours, this bit again is not clear to  
22 the interpreter.

23           PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please, repeat your answer.  
24 The interpreter didn't get you. Please repeat your answer.

15:38:32 25           THE WITNESS: I said besides those of us who went with the  
26 RUF and were considered RUF soldiers, we were the ones who were  
27 there.

28           MR CHEKERA:

29 Q. And again, do you know - when Foday Sankoh was in Kailahun,

1 do you know whether he was in contact by radio with anyone  
2 outside Sierra Leone?

3 A. No, I did not see him communicating with anybody outside.  
4 Or whether he was communicating with someone outside, I did not  
15:39:15 5 know about that.

6 Q. Do you know what call sign he was using when he was in  
7 Kailahun - radio call sign, if I may be specific?

8 A. My code or his code?

9 Q. Foday Sankoh's radio call sign?

15:39:41 10 A. The radio people knew his call sign, but the one I knew  
11 about was --

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you didn't finish your  
13 answer.

14 THE WITNESS: I said it was the radio people who knew about  
15:40:11 15 his code.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: You said the one you knew was, and you  
17 didn't finish your answer.

18 THE WITNESS: Yes. The one I knew at the time we were in  
19 Kailahun now was Indian Charlie.

15:40:36 20 MR CHEKERA:

21 Q. And who was his radio operator at the time?

22 A. That was the same Alfred Brown, and the man who he had  
23 trained, Zedman, because that was the reason why he trained  
24 Zedman.

15:40:54 25 Q. Were they operating the same radio, or were there two  
26 different radio sets?

27 A. They only had one radio.

28 Q. And were both of them operating that same radio?

29 A. Yes, they used to change shifts. When one person works,

1 after certain hours the other person will take over.

2 Q. And during this time that Foday Sankoh was in Kailahun, do  
3 you know whether he made any trips outside Sierra Leone?

4 A. No. The only areas I used to see him go to from Kailahun  
15:41:38 5 were either Pendembu, Mobai and come back to Kailahun.

6 Q. What was happening in those places?

7 A. Those areas were under the RUF control.

8 Q. Do you know whether Foday Sankoh ever made a trip to  
9 Gbarnga during that time?

15:42:02 10 A. No, I don't know about that.

11 Q. Now, there is evidence before this Court that during the  
12 time that Foday Sankoh was in Kailahun he made a trip to Gbarnga  
13 and met Mr Charles Taylor, and while there he gave Mr Taylor some  
14 diamonds to keep and some in return for arms and ammunition. Did  
15:42:28 15 you hear about that?

16 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, may we have reference to the  
17 evidence that counsel is referring to this witness?

18 MR CHEKERA: I am referring to the evidence of TF1-567 of 2  
19 July 2008, which was in open session subject to partial  
15:42:47 20 protective measures.

21 MR BANGURA: Specifically, your Honours, the portion of  
22 that evidence that counsel is referring to, is what I am asking.

23 MR CHEKERA: Page 12866 going on.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry, 12866?

15:43:09 25 MR CHEKERA: 12866. Starting at 12866:

26 Q. Now, did you hear about this trip that Foday Sankoh made to  
27 Gbarnga where he met Mr Taylor and gave him diamonds to keep and  
28 some in return for arms and ammunition?

29 A. No. I never heard anything about that.

1 Q. Again, I want you to be very careful not to disclose any  
2 identities. But the evidence is that when Foday Sankoh came  
3 back, he brought arms, he brought ammunition and rice, which was  
4 given to the G4. Do you know anything about that?

15:44:03 5 A. I don't know anything about that, but how could a G4  
6 receive rice when he was not in control of rice section? There  
7 was a section that was called the S4, they were responsible for  
8 food. So I don't know about that.

9 Q. Very well. During the time that Foday Sankoh was in  
15:44:33 10 Kailahun, do you know whether he was in possession of any  
11 diamonds?

12 A. No, I did not see him with diamonds.

13 Q. During that time, was the RUF mining diamonds anywhere in  
14 Sierra Leone?

15:44:50 15 A. No, I am not aware of that, whether RUF was digging for  
16 diamonds anywhere, no.

17 Q. Now, besides the arms and ammunition that were captured  
18 from various front lines that you talked about, did the RUF get  
19 arms and ammunition from any other source?

15:45:15 20 A. Yes.

21 Q. What were the other sources that you got ammunition from?

22 A. We used to get arms and ammunition also from Guinea.  
23 Besides the captured arms and ammunition we used to get arms and  
24 ammunition from Guinea through business.

15:45:41 25 Q. Can you explain that in more detail and slowly?

26 A. The way we used to get the arms and ammunition from Guinea  
27 through trade was this way: There were some abandoned villages  
28 where they had cocoa and coffee spread all over.

29 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be

1 stopped for a correction.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes.

3 THE INTERPRETER: The correction is there were some  
4 abandoned villages where they had cocoa and coffee spoiled,  
15:46:27 5 instead of spread.

6 MR CHEKERA:

7 Q. Sorry, Mr Witness, let's just get this clear. There was  
8 coffee and cocoa that was what?

9 A. We used to harvest cocoa and coffee.

15:46:46 10 Q. Was any of that cocoa or coffee spoiled, as in bad?

11 A. Yes, we used to put them in bags. We used to put them in  
12 bags and then we would go across to sell.

13 Q. Let me try again. My question is that coffee and cocoa  
14 that you used to put in bags and sell, was it spoiled or was it  
15:47:11 15 good for selling?

16 A. Well, I was not at the crossing point, but they just used  
17 to put them in the bags and then they will take them over and  
18 then they do trade.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Now, Mr Interpreter, I think you misled  
15:47:32 20 us. This witness has not spoken of spoiled anything. You were  
21 saying you were correcting yourself but he didn't say anything  
22 about any coffee or cocoa being spoiled. So in any event,  
23 Mr Chekera, the question was for the witness to explain to us  
24 when he says they used to get arms and ammunition from Guinea  
15:48:04 25 through business, he is trying to explain to us how that would  
26 happen. Now I think you should focus on that aspect.

27 MR CHEKERA: Thank you. Maybe I could just start all over  
28 again just to be clear:

29 Q. Mr Witness, you said you used to get arms and ammunition

1 from Guinea through business. Would you like to explain how that  
2 business went about? You have talked about coffee and cocoa.  
3 What would happen?

15:48:39 4 A. I said we used to go and harvest the cocoa and coffee in  
5 the abandoned villages and then we would process them and then we  
6 sent them to the crossing points and we do some transaction to  
7 get some arms and ammunition out of it. And we had someone who  
8 was responsible for that there who used to do the negotiation  
9 with the Guinean soldiers.

15:49:03 10 Q. And who was that person?

11 A. There was a boy by the name of --

12 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, the name is not clear to  
13 the interpreter.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please repeat the name of this person.

15:49:18 15 THE WITNESS: The person's name is Bi shyet. That was how  
16 we used to call him. And then they had another person by the  
17 name of Jabba.

18 MR CHEKERA: I might ask the witness to clarify:

19 Q. The name you mentioned first, what was the name again?

15:49:49 20 A. I said Bi shyet, Bi shyet.

21 Q. Does it have a T at the end?

22 A. Yes, Bi shyet.

23 Q. Are you able to help us with the spelling of that name?

24 A. Those were names that people used to claim, but not that  
15:50:13 25 actually I have a spelling for it.

26 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I had not anticipated this  
27 name as it did not arise in prior consultation with the witness.  
28 I will attempt a spelling. For now I would be happy to go with  
29 the phonetic spelling and I could attempt that just so that we

1 would all remember.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: You had better attempt a phonetic  
3 spelling because I don't think anybody has understood how the  
4 witness is pronouncing this word. Some of the letters he doesn't  
15:50:46 5 say, in Liberian English that is.

6 MR CHEKERA:

7 Q. Mr Witness, the name again before I attempt to spell it.

8 A. I said Bi shyet.

9 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I will probably try

15:51:10 10 B-I-S-H-Y-E-T and seek to verify the name later. The other name  
11 was Jabba. I would probably spell it J-A-B-B-A. Again I will  
12 verify the spelling:

13 Q. You say that these two - were they male or female?

14 A. On our side they were men, but on the Guinean side the  
15:51:53 15 person who was doing the negotiation was a lady.

16 Q. So these two gentlemen, you said they would take the  
17 produce, that is coffee and cocoa, to the crossing point. What  
18 do you mean by the crossing point?

19 A. There is a water that is on the border of Sierra Leone and  
15:52:21 20 Guinea and then you use canoe to cross over to Guinea, so we  
21 normally used that border area crossing point.

22 Q. Do you know the name of that crossing point?

23 A. No. We only called it crossing point

24 Q. Mr Witness, you referred to water. Can you explain or can  
15:53:03 25 you describe the water border, as in what sort of water do you  
26 refer to as water that was crossed over by a canoe or crossed by  
27 a canoe?

28 A. Yes, it was a big river called Moa River.

29 Q. And the river borders which countries?

1 A. It's between Sierra Leone and Guinea.

2 Q. And what would happen when your gentlemen - the two  
3 gentlemen you referred to, when they crossed over to Guinea with  
4 the produce?

15:53:44 5 A. They transacted trade with the people on that side and they  
6 will get the thing that they had from them, that is the arms and  
7 ammunition.

8 Q. Are you able to tell us who the people on the other side  
9 are or were?

15:54:03 10 A. According to them, they used to do this transaction with  
11 the Guinean soldiers, but they did not give me their names. They  
12 only told us that they were doing this trade with the Guinean  
13 soldiers.

14 Q. And do you know who arranged for this trading to go on?

15:54:30 15 A. Oh, those people were people who had families across the  
16 Guinean side and they also had families across the Sierra Leonean  
17 side. So that was how it looked like. So they themselves were  
18 making the arrangements, but there were a big person behind who  
19 was one Fayia Musa.

15:54:48 20 Q. Before we get to Fayia Musa, you say those people were  
21 people who had families across the Guinean side. Which people  
22 are you referring to when you say those people were people who  
23 had families across the Guinean side?

24 A. I am talking about the boys who used to go and do the  
15:55:14 25 transaction, like Jabba and his other friend.

26 Q. And before we go to Fayia Musa, where were you getting this  
27 produce from that you were trading with the Guineans?

28 A. We used to get them from Sierra Leone.

29 Q. Where exactly in Sierra Leone? Where would you get this?



1 You said you were harvesting. Whose farms or lands were you  
2 harvesting this from?

3 A. I don't really know whose farm or whose land we were  
4 getting the things from, but we used to get them from the  
15:55:55 5 villages.

6 Q. Was this produce from villages belonging to civilians or  
7 villages belonging to the RUF?

8 A. The villages were not for the RUF, but I don't know the  
9 people who owned the farms.

15:56:18 10 Q. Mr Witness, I will be very blunt. Was RUF looting produce  
11 from farms belonging to the civilians?

12 A. Well, they used to go and harvest it. Yes, of course, yes,  
13 that's looting, but that was constructive looting because we used  
14 to go and do that to get arms to also defend ourselves.

15:56:45 15 Q. Constructive looting, what does that mean?

16 A. That is, we did not harass people to get the things for us.  
17 We went there ourselves, we see them and then we get it for  
18 ourselves. We did not grab people to say go and do this or go  
19 and do that. No, we ourselves went there and then we harvested  
15:57:13 20 them. We would get some for ourselves and give some to them.

21 Because had we taken all from the people, what would they have  
22 used? So we only went, we get some for ourselves and then we  
23 give them some.

24 Q. Were you taking the produce by force?

15:57:34 25 A. No.

26 Q. Explain how you were taking the produce then?

27 A. Sometimes when we take patrols - when the soldiers take  
28 patrols they will go to some areas, normally they would not meet  
29 anybody in the town or people in those areas and the people - the

1 things would be just there wasting. So we will use that  
2 opportunity to harvest some and then we get what we get out of  
3 it.

15:58:10 4 Q. Are you suggesting, Mr Witness, that this was abandoned  
5 produce when you say "wasting"?

6 A. I don't know the people who owned the farms, but people  
7 actually owned the farms but these were areas where there were no  
8 people living there. When the boys go there they don't see  
9 anybody there, so when they see the things they will just harvest  
10 them and if they see that the farm is empty and the things are  
11 wasting they will have to harvest some.

12 Q. Now in terms of time, when was the trading going on? Can  
13 you estimate the time frame or around what time or where were you  
14 when this was happening, if you can't remember the date?

15:58:53 15 A. I can't recall the date but at that time we had been pushed  
16 back by the government troops and we were also in the bush at  
17 that time. I was - that was in between '93, '94, around that  
18 time.

19 Q. You were pushed back, from which location are you saying  
15:59:13 20 you were pushed back from?

21 A. They pushed us back from all the areas that we had captured  
22 before, like Pendembu, Kono. All those areas where we were  
23 before, they pushed us out of there.

24 Q. And when you say you were in the bush, which part of Sierra  
15:59:32 25 Leone were you - or where were you, rather, when you say you were  
26 in the bush, if you could give a location?

27 A. Yes, we were right around Kangama, Koindu areas, the bushes  
28 around the borderline area.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, when you are speaking, please

1 slow down. You are speaking too quickly.

2 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

3 MR CHEKERA: Kangapa, I would spell it K-A-N-G-A-P-A.

4 Q. Did you say Kangapa, Mr Witness?

16:00:14 5 A. Kangama.

6 Q. Sorry, Kangama. Kangama is already on the record. And for  
7 how long did this trading go on for, if you remember?

8 A. They were on that transaction up to the end of '92 going  
9 into the end of '93 whilst we were in the jungle, because the  
16:00:47 10 jungle started at the end of '92. '92 up to '93.

11 Q. And what sort of quantities of arms or ammunition, or both,  
12 were you getting from this trading?

13 A. The main thing we used to get from those areas was  
14 ammunition; AK rounds, GMG rounds, RPG rockets. Those were the  
16:01:17 15 things we used to get from them. And sometimes then they went -  
16 then they did the transaction, when coming back they would bring  
17 about ten boxes of AK rounds sometimes, sometimes five boxes of  
18 RPG rockets, sometimes three boxes of GMG rounds, just like that.  
19 But we never had a fixed number that they used to bring.

16:01:39 20 Q. And again, don't mention any names. What would happen to  
21 the ammunition?

22 A. When they brought the ammunition, they would bring it to  
23 the G4 section, and then the G4 would supply it to the various  
24 front lines.

16:02:02 25 Q. You mentioned someone called Fayia Musa in relation to the  
26 transaction at the Guinean border. What was Fayia Musa's  
27 function?

28 A. Fayia Musa was the first spokesman for the RUF.

29 Q. Yes. Explain further? When you say first spokesperson for

1 the RUF, where was Fayia Musa based?

2 A. He was the spokesman for the RUF who used to talk over the  
3 BBC on behalf of the RUF, and he used to give information about  
4 the RUF.

16:02:44 5 Q. When you were in Koindu, where was Fayia Musa?

6 A. At that time Fayia Musa was out of the country. He was  
7 out.

8 Q. Do you know which country he was in?

9 A. No.

16:03:02 10 Q. And do you know what he was doing outside the country?

11 A. No. I only knew him to be the spokesman.

12 Q. And the time that you were in Kailahun - or when Foday  
13 Sankoh was in Kailahun, where was Fayia Musa?

14 A. At the time we were in Kailahun, Foday Sankoh was in

16:03:30 15 Kailahun.

16 Q. And where was Fayia Musa?

17 A. Fayia Musa? Fayia Musa too was in Kailahun, but later he  
18 went out.

19 Q. Now, let's just get this clear. You moved from Koindu to  
16:03:55 20 Kailahun. Is that correct?

21 A. Yes. At the time we were advancing.

22 Q. Let's talk about that time when you were advancing. When  
23 you were in Koindu before you got to Kailahun, where was Fayia  
24 Musa?

16:04:16 25 A. I did not know Fayia Musa at that time. It was in Kailahun  
26 that I got to know Fayia Musa as the spokesman.

27 Q. And at that time was he still within the country, or he had  
28 gone abroad or outside the country?

29 A. At that time I saw him in Kailahun.

1 Q. At what point did he then go abroad?

2 A. Fayia Musa went out, that was - it was during the peace  
3 talks in '96.

4 Q. And before the peace talks, was he always based in Sierra  
16:05:09 5 Leone?

6 A. Yes. Fayia Musa was always in Sierra Leone.

7 Q. And where was he based besides the time that you saw him at  
8 Kailahun?

9 A. I did not know the main place where he was based. I only  
16:05:27 10 saw him in Kailahun, because I did not have the chance to be  
11 going around to see. I had a special area where I was assigned,  
12 and that was where I was.

13 Q. Was Fayia Musa the only RUF spokesman who was based outside  
14 the country?

16:05:53 15 A. Huh? They had other people who were out of the country -  
16 RUF members who were out of the country, but I don't know their  
17 names. But they had big, big people also, according to them, who  
18 were out of the country.

19 Q. According to who?

16:06:10 20 A. According to Foday Sankoh, he had some people out of the  
21 country.

22 Q. Now, let's just go back to Fayia Musa before we move on.  
23 You said he was involved in this trading at the border - at the  
24 Guinean border. How exactly was he involved in this particular  
16:06:30 25 trading?

26 A. According to the information I got, he negotiated the trade  
27 between the RUF and the Guinean soldiers for the trade to go on.  
28 He did the negotiation.

29 Q. And where did you get that information?

1 A. It was something that was said to soldiers all over. They  
2 themselves used to say it.

3 Q. Now, apart from harvesting abandoned fields, did the RUF  
4 conduct any other - rather, did the RUF conduct any farming?

16:07:27 5 A. Yes, the RUF used to farm. They had farms. They used to  
6 farm.

7 Q. During what time was the RUF farming?

8 A. At that time the RUF was farming - I think it was in '93.  
9 '92, '93, between that time. It was after we had left the  
16:07:55 10 jungle, then we will go and do farming. I think it was '92, '93.

11 Q. Where was Foday Sankoh at that time?

12 A. The time we were doing the farming?

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. He was in Sierra Leone.

16:08:12 15 Q. Sorry, which particular location in Sierra Leone was Foday  
16 Sankoh when you were doing farming? And when I say "you", I mean  
17 the RUF.

18 A. The names of the villages are too difficult. In fact, some  
19 of - the names of some of the village, I don't know. I don't  
16:08:33 20 know them, but they are too difficult. I think some of these  
21 villages - there was a village after Dia Junction going towards  
22 there. There is a village there, but the names of those places  
23 are very difficult.

24 Q. And where were these farms? The RUF farms, where were  
16:08:51 25 they?

26 A. The RUF farm was - were all along the areas where the front  
27 line was coming towards the safety area. Every target had their  
28 own safety area, so that was where the farms were. All the  
29 fronts had safety areas where no fighting went on. Nobody would

1 shoot a gun there. People moved around freely and peacefully.

2 Q. Let's just be clear. You have mentioned the front line -  
3 wherever there was a front line - and then you go on to mention  
4 safety areas. Was farming going on at the front line, or behind  
16:09:38 5 the front line?

6 A. It was behind the front line. I said the safe areas. All  
7 targets had their own front lines and their safety areas. So all  
8 the farming was going on at the safe areas because we had various  
9 targets.

16:09:58 10 Q. And was there a particular individual in the RUF who was  
11 responsible for farming?

12 A. Yes. They had the S4 section that used to go and --

13 INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked to  
14 repeat that bit.

16:10:18 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter didn't get  
16 you. You said they had the S4 section that used to go, and then  
17 continue from there. Go where?

18 THE WITNESS: They had the S4 section that used to go to  
19 the various target areas to ensure that the people continued  
16:10:39 20 their farming.

21 MR CHEKERA:

22 Q. Can you maybe describe for us what the S4 do? The office  
23 of the S4, what are their responsibilities?

24 A. The S4 was responsible for food. They were responsible for  
16:11:00 25 food for the soldiers.

26 Q. And do you remember who was holding the office of S4? Or  
27 at least, who was commanding that office?

28 A. There was an old man called Pa Kallon, and then he had his  
29 deputy by the name of Pa Balla.

1 MR CHEKERA: I would spell Balla B-A-L-L-A.

2 Q. And who was doing the farming on these farms?

3 A. It was the RUF soldiers.

4 Q. Were civilians doing the farming for the RUF?

16:12:09 5 A. No. The soldiers themselves.

6 Q. There are allegations before this Court that civilians were  
7 being forced to farm on RUF farms. Do you want to comment on  
8 that?

9 A. No. The soldiers who used to go and do the farming were  
16:12:33 10 soldiers who were not on assignment. We called them AWOL  
11 soldiers. So if they were grabbed from their assignment areas,  
12 they will take them to the farm. And when they take them to the  
13 farm, they will either give them one or two months to stay on the  
14 farm before they send them back to their assignments. That was  
16:12:55 15 how they used to bring them to the farms.

16 Q. I am not sure on the - I might be the only one who didn't  
17 quite understand that. You said the soldiers who were being  
18 grabbed to do the farming were called what?

19 A. They were AWOL soldiers. AWOL soldiers. Soldiers who  
16:13:28 20 don't keep at their assignment place. Soldiers who don't keep on  
21 their assignment areas. They leave their assignment area and go  
22 to another assignment area just to go and work about. So if they  
23 caught such a soldier, they would send them on punishment.

24 Q. Just so that we are clear, do you refer to soldiers who  
16:13:53 25 would absent themselves from their post without official leave?  
26 Are those the soldiers you are referring to?

27 A. Yes. Soldiers who travelled without official pass from  
28 their commanders that they were going to so and so areas, if such  
29 soldiers were caught, they would send them to the farm.



1 Q. And what happened to the produce from these farms. Was it  
2 also part of the consignment that was being traded with the  
3 Guineas?

4 A. No. The food that we used to get, they would send them to  
16:14:31 5 the S4 section and the S4 will store it and they would supply the  
6 various front lines with food. And also the civilians who used  
7 to live with us, Foday Sankoh always instructed the S4 section to  
8 supply some of them with food.

9 Q. Now, I am just going to move on to another topic. You said  
16:15:02 10 that civilians were not being forced to farm on RUF farms.  
11 Women, was the RUF abducting women for sexual purposes?

12 A. If any soldier tried that, the law was if any soldier raped  
13 the soldier was to be executed. That was the instruction that  
14 was given by Foday Sankoh.

16:15:35 15 Q. Did you yourself have a woman that you were intimate with  
16 during the time you were with the RUF?

17 A. If I myself had a woman? Yes, I had a woman at that time  
18 and she was also an RUF soldier.

19 Q. Were some of the RUF members involved with women who were  
16:16:04 20 not RUF soldiers?

21 A. Some of those people who joined the RUF, they had their  
22 women before even they could join the RUF. Some of the soldiers,  
23 they joined the RUF, by then they had their women. But no  
24 soldier was forcing a woman. If you forced any woman and they  
16:16:30 25 got to know about it, it was going to be a problem for you. But  
26 they were soldiers.

27 Q. Do you know of any soldier who was punished for forcing  
28 himself on a woman in any way?

29 A. The place I was based, I did not see any soldier be

1 punished for that or any soldier who carried out that kind of  
2 act.

3 Q. Did you hear of any such cases?

16:17:08

4 A. No, I did not hear about any case of the such, because it  
5 was a strict order and they used to say that every day at the  
6 front line to all the soldiers. So soldiers were afraid of that.  
7 But I did not hear that any soldier was punished for raping. I  
8 did not hear that.

16:17:27

9 Q. Now, we will move on to another topic. From the time that  
10 you entered into Sierra Leone --

11 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Chekera, before you do, the witness has  
12 said that the RUF had farms. How did they acquire the farms?

13 MR CHEKERA:

16:17:44

14 Q. Mr Witness, the farms that you referred to that the RUF was  
15 utilising. How were those farms acquired?

16 A. The farms that the RUF had? We were doing swamp farming.  
17 We were doing swamp farming. We used to plant rice. Rice had  
18 many ways to plant.

16:18:11

19 Q. Sorry, I am just going to cut you short. The question was  
20 how did you acquire those farms and by "you" I refer to the RUF?

21 A. We used to do the brushing ourselves. We used to brush the  
22 swamp.

23 Q. Were the swamps that you used to brush freeholding, as in  
24 anyone can just brush a swamp and farm?

16:18:42

25 A. There was a free - let me say there was a big swamp with a  
26 lot of bush. There was nobody working on it. We wouldn't let  
27 that place have that kind of bush, so we would instruct the  
28 soldiers to cultivate the area and have a farm there rather than  
29 it remaining bushy. To say that the land was an RUF land, to say

1 that the RUF had a farm, no, it was not like that.

2 MR CHEKERA: I am not sure whether that answers your  
3 question?

16:19:25

4 JUDGE DOHERTY: There are certain implications, but let's  
5 see what transpires in the rest of the evidence.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, is the assumption that these  
7 bushes or these swamps did not belong to anybody; this was  
8 nobody's land, no man's land?

16:19:49

9 THE WITNESS: If it was for somebody, they did not tell us  
10 that it was, it belonged to somebody. We only used to see those  
11 areas bushy and we will go there and cultivate our farm. And the  
12 civilians who were living with us around the area, they too used  
13 to see these areas, they never told us that the lands were  
14 theirs. So we just carried on with our farming.

16:20:11

15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

16 MR CHEKERA:

17 Q. Just one last question on that, Mr Witness. Do you know  
18 whether these farms were taken over forcibly from civilians?

16:20:32

19 A. No. RUF, we ourselves used to go and brush our farms. We  
20 did not take farms from people.

21 Q. Now let's talk about training. From the time that the RUF  
22 entered into Sierra Leone to the time that you moved to Kailahun  
23 when Foday Sankoh was based in Kailahun, was any training going  
24 on?

16:20:54

25 A. Yes. RUF were training.

26 Q. When did the training start?

27 A. When we first entered Koindu, the first training camp was  
28 at Baidu. The first area that I have called when I was giving my  
29 testimony, Baidu. Baidu was the training ground for the RUF.

1 Q. After Baidu was there another training ground?

2 A. Yes, after Baidu, the training ground was taken from Baidu  
3 to Koindu. Then we had another training base at Dia Junction.

16:22:01

4 Q. Mr Witness, the first place you mentioned where there was  
5 the original training camp, what is the name again?

6 A. I said Baidu. Baidu was the first area where we started  
7 the training.

8 Q. Is that a different location to Buedu?

16:22:24

9 A. Yes. It is different from Buedu. Buedu is different from  
10 Baidu. There is Baidu and there is Buedu.

11 Q. So the first base, was it Baidu and after Baidu where were  
12 the other bases again?

16:23:25

13 A. The base that was in Baidu, we moved it to Koindu, then  
14 apart from Koindu we had another base at Dia Junction. Then from  
15 Dia Junction, when we went to Kailahun, we had another training  
16 base at Kailahun.

17 Q. The trainees who were training on these bases, where were  
18 they coming from?

16:24:16

19 A. They were the RUF soldiers, the vanguard who had gone  
20 there.

21 Q. Sorry, I mean the people who were being trained, where were  
22 they coming from?

16:24:37

23 A. Oh, there were people who were coming - they were coming to  
24 us voluntarily that they wanted to join. They came voluntarily  
25 that they wanted to join. Some people came and said that they  
26 wanted to join the base.

27 Q. And was there an age limit to the people who were eligible  
28 for training?

29 A. Yes. I heard from Foday Sankoh that before anybody can go

1 to the base, they should be from 17 years old upwards. That was  
2 the instruction he gave.

3 Q. Who did he give the instruction to?

4 A. The man who was the training commander at the time in  
16:25:14 5 Koindu.

6 Q. And that was? Do you remember the name?

7 A. Yes. I can remember his name. John.

8 THE INTERPRETER: The last name is not very clear,  
9 your Honours. Can he repeat.

16:25:29 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat the name.

11 THE WITNESS: I said John Vincent.

12 MR CHEKERA:

13 Q. And in the other places that you mentioned, maybe we could  
14 go through each one of them and you could tell us who the  
16:25:49 15 training commanders or commandants were. In Buedu who was the  
16 training commander in Buedu, or who were the trainers in?

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is that Buedu or Baidu?

18 MR CHEKERA: Baidu. Sorry, Madam President.

19 THE WITNESS: Baidu, Baidu, Baidu. The training base that  
16:26:16 20 we had in Baidu was the training base that was transferred to  
21 Koindu and then the instructor who was there, the commander who  
22 was there was called John Vincent. And the other training base  
23 which we had at Dia Junction, the commandant who was there who  
24 was a lady was called Memunatu Sesay.

16:26:42 25 MR CHEKERA:

26 Q. And in Kailahun?

27 A. In Kailahun, the other training commandant who was there  
28 was called Richie Honourable.

29 Q. And in all these locations, in all these training camps,

1 was a unit called SB Unit established in all these training  
2 camps?

3 A. I don't really know what they meant by SBU. I don't know  
4 about that.

16:27:38 5 Q. Have you heard of the term Small Boys Unit?

6 A. No, not to my knowledge.

7 Q. Now, from the time that you moved into Sierra Leone and  
8 Foday Sankoh was based at Kailahun, do you know what was  
9 happening to the other group you mentioned earlier on in your  
10 evidence that you left behind at Naama?

16:28:06

11 A. It was one evening when we were listening to the BBC that  
12 we heard that some RUF members had already crossed and attacked  
13 Pujehun. So my mind just ran on it straight that it was our men  
14 who we had left at the base.

16:28:36

15 Q. After that initial attack, did you hear any further from  
16 them or of them?

17 A. No. I only heard it over the BBC.

18 Q. What did you hear besides the initial attack?

19 A. I heard that the RUF soldiers had entered Pujehun, so I  
20 concluded that we had left some men at the base. It could be  
21 them.

16:29:07

22 Q. Did they at any point after that establish contact with the  
23 group that included yourself that was in Kailahun?

24 A. Yes. It was later when the enemy pushed them and some of  
25 them jumped into the forest and came towards Kailahun District,  
26 we saw some of them and they joined us.

16:29:31

27 Q. Which enemy pushed them and where did they go, if you know,  
28 when you say bush - or, rather, forest?

29 A. They were the government soldiers, they pushed them. And

1 when they pushed them back, they were fighting. When they pushed  
2 them back, they jumped into the bush and they were able to  
3 manoeuvre and come to Kailahun - come towards Kailahun District,  
4 some of them.

16:30:09 5 Q. You said the government soldiers. Were there any other  
6 forces that the RUF was fighting against at this point?

7 A. The government had - they had the Kamajors with them. They  
8 also had the ULIMO soldiers with them.

9 Q. And when they were pushed into the forest, you said some of  
16:30:33 10 them eventually made their way to Kailahun. Do you remember how  
11 big or the number of the group that came over to Kailahun?

12 A. I just saw a few in Kailahun, but there were plenty. And  
13 CO Mohamed was instructed by Foday Sankoh to send the men to the  
14 front line. I did not see them, but I saw some of them.

16:31:01 15 Q. Who did you see in Kailahun, if you remember?

16 A. At that time I saw - I saw - I saw Sam Bockarie. Rasheed  
17 was also there. Sam Kolleh was also there. Those were the  
18 people whose names I can remember, but there were plenty.

19 Q. And when they came to Kailahun, were they assigned  
16:31:43 20 elsewhere, or they remained with you in Kailahun, the three  
21 people you have mentioned?

22 A. The field commander assigned them to the front lines. They  
23 were not in Kailahun. The field commanders assigned them to the  
24 front line. They were assigned to the front line. Only - the  
16:32:07 25 only person whom I saw that remained in Pendembu was Sam Kolleh -  
26 Sam Kolleh and Rasheed; those were the two people.

27 Q. And until the time that this group, including - rather, Sam  
28 Kolleh and Sam Bockarie, until the time they crossed over from  
29 the Pujehun and to join you in Kailahun, was there any contact

1 between the two groups at any point, to your knowledge?

2 A. The group that stayed behind, is that what you are talking  
3 about?

4 Q. Let me call it the Pujehun group --

16:32:55 5 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, again I rise to request my  
6 learned friend to - if he can provide us with a time frame. We  
7 are dealing with another area of the evidence where we are  
8 talking of troops entering Pujehun and the witness talks about  
9 later some of those troops coming back over to where they were  
16:33:21 10 and we don't have anytime frame.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, just straighten that part of  
12 the evidence out, please.

13 MR CHEKERA: I will:

14 Q. Now, Mr Witness, when you heard that the - over the BBC  
16:33:35 15 that a group had attacked Sierra Leone from Pujehun, do you  
16 remember when that was?

17 A. I can remember the year, but the time - the dates and the  
18 month that it happened, I can't tell you exactly because I don't  
19 have any paper that I can read from and to tell you about it.  
16:33:57 20 But it was in the same 2000 - I mean 1992 to '93, in between  
21 those years. The ending part of -- almost '93. Almost the  
22 ending part of '93.

23 Q. Are you talking about the time they came over - a group  
24 came over to Kailahun, or are you talking about the time that you  
16:34:21 25 heard on the BBC --

26 A. Yes. I am talking about the time the group came to  
27 Kailahun, that's the time I am talking about, that it was in  
28 between '92 going to '93, in between them. But the time that I  
29 heard it over the BBC, it was in the same 1991. The ending part



1 of 1991, that was when I heard it over the BBC.

2 Q. Now, in relation to the time that your group entered Sierra  
3 Leone, can you estimate how long that was that you heard that  
4 another group had entered and attacked Sierra Leone from Pujehun?

16:35:11 5 A. I think it took a month. It took a month before I could  
6 hear that over the BBC.

7 Q. Just so that we are clear on the time frame, again, when  
8 did your group attack - enter into Sierra Leone?

9 A. We entered Sierra Leone in March 1991. March 23, 1991,  
16:35:39 10 that was when we attacked Koindu. March 23, 1991.

11 Q. And you are saying that a month after that, that's when you  
12 heard on the BBC about the other attack from Pujehun. Is that  
13 correct?

14 A. Exactly so. That was what I said.

16:35:59 15 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, somebody's microphone is on  
16 in the courtroom that is typing.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is taken care of hopefully.

18 MR CHEKERA: Just a minute:

19 Q. Now, Foday Sankoh was based at Kailahun and you say that  
16:36:39 20 you went there - you went to Kailahun a week ahead of him and he  
21 joined you a week later and you say that you were then sent to  
22 Pendembu. Do you remember that?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. At that time, which of the two places were you based at?

16:37:05 25 A. At that time I was not based in a particular area, but I  
26 was in Kailahun before going to Pendembu. But I was somebody who  
27 was going to Pendembu back to Kailahun in between those places,  
28 that is where I had my things stored. All my belongings - my  
29 things were not stored in one place.

1 Q. Again, just be careful not to disclose your identity in the  
2 process, but when you refer to your things that were in both  
3 places, what are you talking about?

16:37:51

4 A. I am talking about the arms and ammunition that I was in  
5 control of.

6 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I will just let it pass:

7 Q. At this point, do you know where the G4 was storing the  
8 arms and ammunition of these two places?

16:38:39

9 A. {Redacted} - these things were kept in a  
10 zoebush like I said from the beginning from my first testimony.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Madam Court Officer, will you please  
12 redact the first part of the witness's answer up to where he says  
13 "these things were kept in the zoebush", you can keep that part,  
14 but the part before should be redacted, please.

16:39:08

15 MR CHEKERA:

16 Q. Mr Witness, once again, be careful not to disclose  
17 information that should remain in this courtroom. Did you have  
18 zoebushes in both locations in Kailahun or in Pendembu?

19 A. In Pendembu and in Kailahun.

16:39:40

20 Q. And where was the bulk of the RUF arms and ammunition  
21 stored of these two places?

22 A. It was in Pendembu.

23 Q. Did Foday Sankoh remain in Kailahun throughout, or did he  
24 move to go somewhere else?

16:40:09

25 A. He used to go to Pendembu and back to Kailahun. Those were  
26 the areas that he used to move to. Pendembu, Kailahun, those  
27 were the only areas where he used to stop when he leaves Kailahun  
28 go to Pendembu.

29 Q. Earlier on when you were talking about arms trading with

1 the Guineans, you talked of a time when you were pushed into the  
2 bush. Now, let's talk about that movement. Where were you based  
3 and where did you retreat to?

4 A. When the enemy dislodged us in the bush, we were based  
16:40:57 5 at --

6 Q. If you can, rather than tell us of the enemy as an enemy,  
7 would you mind telling us who the forces were as you go on with  
8 your explanation. So, let's start again. By enemy you refer to  
9 which forces?

16:41:14 10 A. When the ULIMO soldiers, the Sierra Leonean soldiers and  
11 the Kamajors, when they attacked us and sent us back to the bush,  
12 we were based in a little village called Taydu and its  
13 surroundings.

14 Q. Taydu, I think it's spelt T-A-Y-D-U. Where is Taydu  
16:41:53 15 geographically?

16 A. Taydu is somewhere behind Koindu, somewhere behind Koindu  
17 area. But it is a village. It's a mile, the distance from  
18 Koindu in the bush.

19 Q. And when you say "we were in a little village called  
16:42:28 20 Taydu", when you say "we", do you refer only to the RUF who were  
21 stationed in Kailahun or you refer to the entire RUF force?

22 A. Not the entire RUF. The village was too small for the  
23 entire RUF force. But the leadership was based right in Taydu  
24 and the rest of the men were deployed to various villages  
16:43:04 25 like - they had some other villages like Tongoma. They had  
26 villages along the road before getting to Taydu, so that some of  
27 them were based from one place to another.

28 Q. And for how long did you remain in these places?

29 A. We were there from '92, '93, almost going to '94.

1 Q. And just to make the record clear, this was the time that  
2 the arms trading at the Guinean border was going on, is it so?

3 A. Yes. It was at that time that the arms trading at the  
4 Guinean border was going on.

16:43:56 5 Q. And besides the trading at the Guinean border, did the RUF  
6 acquire arms or ammunition or both from any other source at this  
7 time?

8 A. No, we didn't get arms and ammunition from any other place,  
9 apart from the little ambushes that we used to set around.

16:44:22 10 Sometimes we will go on an ambush and ambush a military truck and  
11 capture some few materials from them too.

12 Q. Would you be able to recall how many times you engaged in  
13 these little ambushes?

14 A. From that time, all the time that we were in the bush we  
16:44:50 15 used to do it throughout. It was not at all times that we were  
16 lucky to get it.

17 Q. And what sort of quantities were you getting from the  
18 ambushes?

19 A. Sometimes when we set the ambush, sometimes we would be  
16:45:11 20 lucky to get something like 15 boxes of AK rounds, sometimes we  
21 would be lucky to get ten boxes of RPG rockets. Sometimes we  
22 would be lucky to get some BZT rounds. Just like that. That's  
23 how it used to happen.

24 Q. And were these ammunition given to the G4 as with the other  
16:45:39 25 ammunition that was captured?

26 A. Yes, but it was later assigned to the various targets  
27 because at that time we were not storing ammunition, because at  
28 that time we were out of ammunition when the enemy pushed us out.  
29 So when we had the ammunition we had no place to keep them. We

1 were in the jungle. So as they brought them, we assigned them to  
2 the various targets, the commanders to distribute them to their  
3 men.

16:46:14 4 Q. At this time do you know whether any members of the RUF  
5 attempted to cross over into Liberia?

6 A. At that time the ULIMO soldiers were in Liberia. How could  
7 RUF soldiers have gone to Liberia?

8 Q. When you say ULIMO soldiers were in Liberia, what exactly  
9 do you mean? Where were ULIMO soldiers based in Liberia?

16:46:43 10 A. The ULIMO soldiers were in control of the entire Lofa  
11 County. The entire Lofa County was under ULIMO control.

12 Q. And where is Lofa County in relation to where you were in  
13 Sierra Leone?

14 A. It's a far distance. It's the border area.

16:47:15 15 Q. Bordering which countries?

16 A. It's a border between Liberia and Sierra Leone.

17 Q. At this time do you know whether Foday Sankoh attempted to  
18 cross over into Liberia?

19 A. How could Foday Sankoh have crossed into Liberia when there  
16:47:40 20 were other troops on the other side? No.

21 Q. Do you know when ULIMO took over control of the entire Lofa  
22 County, as you say?

23 A. ULIMO were in Lofa in '92, '93. ULIMO were in Lofa County,  
24 '93, '94, throughout. That was ULIMO's headquarters, ULIMO-K, in  
16:48:13 25 the Lofa County, because they had two different ULIMOs. We used  
26 to hear about them. One was in Lofa and another was in Bomi.

27 Q. You said there were two different ULIMOs and you mentioned  
28 ULIMO-K. Do you know of the other ULIMO, what it was called?

29 A. Yes. They said they had the other ULIMO in Bomi called

1 ULIMO-J.

2 Q. And at this point was ULIMO still in Sierra Leone?

3 A. ULIMO used to be trading - I mean they used to move from  
4 Liberia and go to Sierra Leone. When they were ready, when they  
16:49:02 5 were going to push us back, they joined the government forces.  
6 That is where they used to get their supplies. In between them,  
7 we used to set ambushes. Sometimes we would get some ammunition  
8 from them.

9 Q. Let's just go back and clarify that statement. Are you  
16:49:23 10 saying ULIMO was now based in Liberia but they used to cross over  
11 and go back to Sierra Leone to get supplies?

12 A. Yes. ULIMO was based in Liberia and they used to cross  
13 into Sierra Leone.

14 Q. Were there elements of ULIMO that were based in Sierra  
16:49:53 15 Leone?

16 A. That was where ULIMO came from to attack us. They joined  
17 the government troops to attack us.

18 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat his  
19 answer.

16:50:04 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter is having  
21 difficulty hearing you again, so please repeat your answer where  
22 you said that was where ULIMO came from to attack us. Continue  
23 from there.

24 THE WITNESS: That was the area where ULIMO soldiers along  
16:50:28 25 with the government soldiers and the Kamajors came from to attack  
26 us into the bush. They used to cross from Liberia to come into  
27 Sierra Leone and that was where we used to set ambushes for them  
28 and sometimes we will get some materials from them.

29 MR CHEKERA:

1 Q. You said they were getting supplies from the government.  
2 Which government are you talking of?

3 A. It was the Sierra Leone government at that time.

4 Q. And by supplies you refer to what?

16:51:02 5 A. Their basic --

6 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he kindly repeat  
7 slowly.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, the interpreter is having  
9 difficulty getting you. Speak a little slower and repeat your  
16:51:22 10 answer or explanation that you were giving, because the question  
11 by counsel was, "Their base where" and then you started to give  
12 an answer, but we didn't get it. Repeat your answer, please.  
13 Mr Chekera, assist by asking the question.

14 MR CHEKERA:

16:51:49 15 Q. You said that ULIMO was going into Sierra Leone to get  
16 supplies from the government and the question was: Which  
17 government are you referring to?

18 A. I said the Sierra Leone government.

19 Q. And what material are you talking about?

16:52:08 20 A. Like arms and food supplies. We used to see them. When we  
21 set ambushes for them and they fell into those ambushes, we used  
22 to see rice with them. They were in Liberia. Where are they  
23 getting rice from Sierra Leone to go to Liberia? That meant they  
24 were getting their supplies from Sierra Leone to go to Liberia.

16:52:41 25 Q. Now, from Taydu, where did Foday Sankoh go to?

26 A. From Taydu there was a jungle trip that was taken from  
27 Taydu to go to an area called Nomo Faiama. From Taydu they  
28 jumped into the bush and they used a bush path to go as far as  
29 Nomo Faiama to weaken the enemy pressure on us on the Taydu side.

1 Q. Just pause there, Mr Witness. Nomo Faiama, the spelling I  
2 have N-O-R-M-O-H F-A-A-M-A. Now, Mr Witness, let's just go back  
3 and clean up that part. Who used to jump into the bush to go to  
4 an area called Nomo Faiama? Let's start again very slowly and if  
16:54:01 5 you could explain to us very carefully what happened before  
6 getting to Nomo Faiama?

7 A. Before we could use the jungle to go to Nomo Faiama, when  
8 the enemy pressure was too much on us, Foday Sankoh gave an  
9 instruction that we should open up so that the soldiers would  
16:54:31 10 come in and we would use a bypass to weaken their strengths by  
11 attacking them from the rear. That was how he instructed  
12 Mosquito and other officers who used the bypass to go to Nomo  
13 Faiama. And that was where they captured a huge quantity of arms  
14 and ammunition. Through those arms and ammunition that were  
16:55:00 15 captured, they were able to come and pick Foday Sankoh from Taydu  
16 to go to Nomo Faiama and locate a jungle there called Zogoda. It  
17 was in Zogoda that Foday Sankoh was based and the forces started  
18 advancing to different locations.

19 Q. We will come back to Zogoda in a bit. Let's just clarify  
16:55:40 20 and get a clear idea of what happened resulting in your forces  
21 attacking Nomo Faiama. To start with, which group attacked Nomo  
22 Faiama because you made reference to a group and then Foday  
23 Sankoh coming in later. So if you can again go back slowly and  
24 tell us from the time you opened up - if you can tell us exactly  
16:56:15 25 what happened. Were you divided up, what happened, and what  
26 attacked what position and who stayed behind where?

27 A. It was in '94 when Sam Bockarie and his troops advanced on  
28 Nomo Faiama by using the bush paths to attack Nomo Faiama. After  
29 they had captured Nomo Faiama, it was at that time that they sent



1 troops to receive Foday Sankoh from Taydu and proceed to him.  
2 That was where he found a place that he called Zogoda. That was  
3 where he based him. It was then that they started going ahead.  
4 The other group that stayed behind, that is CO Mohamed's group,  
16:57:06 5 they passed the other way to go to Peyima and they were based  
6 there to protect Zogoda. It was from Peyima that they used to go  
7 to the northern side of Sierra Leone and the areas through the  
8 materials that they had captured from Nomo Faiama.

9 MR CHEKERA: Peyima is P-E-Y-A-M-A. Madam President, I am  
10 just trying to follow the long explanation and see if there is  
11 need for clarification. Maybe I could just check:

12 Q. Let's talk about the quantities of arms and ammunition or  
13 both, or rather arms or ammunition or both that were captured at  
14 Nomo Faiama. Are you able to give us an indication of the  
16:58:17 15 quantities?

16 A. No, I can't give you the quantity, but they said it was a  
17 huge quantity. It was even over the BBC that RUF forces had  
18 captured huge ammunition from Nomo Faiama from the government  
19 troops.

16:58:39 20 Q. And was any of that ammunition sent back to the G4, and be  
21 careful with your answer there?

22 A. No.

23 Q. What did you say happened to the ammunition that was  
24 captured?

16:59:00 25 A. It was the ammunition - it was that ammunition that was  
26 distributed to the various areas for the fighting forces to  
27 extend to other areas like the north and the southern part of  
28 Sierra Leone. All the other areas. It was through that  
29 ammunition that RUF was able to spread all over Sierra Leone.

1 Q. Now, let's just move on to Zogoda. You said from Zogoda,  
2 that was when the RUF moved to other locations. Which other  
3 locations did the RUF move to from Zogoda?

4 A. The RUF went to Tongo. They went to Makeni, Masingbi,  
17:00:03 5 Matotoka. They went all over. They were able to spread all over  
6 in Sierra Leone.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think that's an appropriate place to  
8 break. The tape has run out. We will reconvene at half past  
9 5.00.

17:00:23 10 [Break taken at 5.00 p.m.]

11 [Upon resuming at 5.30 p.m.]

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, please continue.

13 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, did you allow me to continue?

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I did.

17:33:12 15 MR CHEKERA: Thank you:

16 Q. Mr Witness, when we went off for the break you were telling  
17 us about the time you were at Zogoda and at the bases or other  
18 locations were established by the RUF. You had just given us a  
19 number of names which do not appear quite correctly on the  
17:33:38 20 record. Would you like to give us those names again and very  
21 slowly?

22 A. You mean the names that I was calling, the areas where the  
23 RUF people were controlling?

24 Q. Yes, from the time you were established at Zogoda.

17:34:17 25 A. We went to Masingbi. We went to Magburaka, Matotoka,  
26 Lunsar.

27 JUDGE DOHERTY: I didn't hear it properly.

28 THE WITNESS: Lunsar. We were spread all over. Some of  
29 the names are very difficult, but we were spread all over.

1 MR CHEKERA: I think all those names have been on the  
2 record. I see there's a bit of a problem with the spellings, but  
3 I'm sure that will be clarified later:

17:35:27 4 Q. And do you remember who the respective leaders were who  
5 were leading the groups that went to these places?

6 A. I did not know all the commanders, but the person who was  
7 in control of all the soldiers at the various areas to whom all  
8 of them were reporting, before he reported to Foday Sankoh, was  
9 CO Mohamed. He was in control of all of the men who were at the  
17:35:57 10 various points.

11 Q. Now, maybe this is as good a time as any other to discuss  
12 the RUF hierarchy when you were at Zogoda. But before I do that,  
13 just one question: At the time that Foday Sankoh was at Zogoda,  
14 do you know what happened to the remnants of the group that was  
17:36:19 15 in Pujehun or that attacked through Pujehun?

16 A. Yes. Some of them came to - their commander came to  
17 Zogoda.

18 Q. How big was the group that came to Zogoda from Pujehun, to  
19 be more precise?

17:36:48 20 A. It was a big group, a large group. Their commander --

21 THE INTERPRETER: Can the witness kindly repeat the last  
22 part of his answer?

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat. You're saying  
24 it was a large group. Repeat from there what you said.

17:37:09 25 THE WITNESS: It was a large group, but I can only remember  
26 the commander's name.

27 MR CHEKERA:

28 Q. And who was the commander?

29 A. The commander's name was Gibriil Massaquoi and there was

1 another man called CO Manawa.

2 Q. Manawa, I will spell it - did you say Manawa or Monowa?

3 A. Manawa.

17:37:59

4 Q. I will spell it, M-A-N-O-W-A. Any other senior members in  
5 that group?

6 A. They had some other senior members, but I can't remember  
7 their names.

17:38:19

8 Q. And I'm not going to commit you to any number, but would  
9 you be able to give us a rough estimate? When you say a large  
10 group, are you talking hundreds, thousands, tens? Just give us  
11 that indication at least, if you can.

12 A. They never came to the base where we were. Only their  
13 commander came there, so I can't tell you whether they were in  
14 their thousands or 2,000 or 3,000 or 4,000.

17:38:44

15 Q. If they did not come to the base where you were, where did  
16 they go to?

17 A. The commander came to Zogoda. It was at Zogoda that the  
18 commander came. They were behind. They stayed at the area, but  
19 their commander came to Zogoda.

17:39:14

20 Q. And when you say they stayed at their area, are you saying  
21 that they stayed behind at Pujehun and only their commander came  
22 to Zogoda?

23 A. Yes. They stayed in Pujehun. Only the commander. And the  
24 other officers came to Zogoda.

17:39:30

25 Q. When these senior commanders came to Zogoda and pretty much  
26 the entire RUF leadership was at or around Zogoda, who at that  
27 time was at the apex of the RUF hierarchy? Who was at the top?

28 A. It was Foday Sankoh. Next to him was CO Mohamed.

29 Q. What was CO Mohamed's position at this time?

1 A. CO Mohamed was the field commander for the RUF.

2 Q. And below CO Mohamed, who occupied the position below him?

3 A. At that time it was Mosquito, that is, Sam Bockarie.

4 Q. At this time what had happened, if anything, to CO Rashid?

17:40:45 5 MR BANGURA: Before my learned friend goes into a much  
6 wider area, it's about time frames again. Whenever the witness  
7 talks about the RUF occupying areas like Makeni, Matotoka,  
8 Lunsar, Masingbi, we do not have any time frame for this  
9 occupation.

17:41:04 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Quite right, Mr Chekera.

11 MR CHEKERA:

12 Q. Mr Witness, at the time that Foday Sankoh was based at  
13 Zogoda and you and the RUF spread out in different locations,  
14 Matotoka, Masingbi, going as far as Lunsar, do you remember the

17:41:21 15 time when this happened when the RUF was in all these positions -  
16 or, rather, places?

17 A. It was from '94, '95.

18 Q. Are you able to recall exactly when it was that  
19 Foday Sankoh got to Zogoda?

17:41:49 20 A. Foday Sankoh was in Zogoda in '94. In '94.

21 Q. Now, I had asked you about Rashid. When - at the time that  
22 Foday Sankoh was at Zogoda. CO Rashid.

23 A. At that time CO Rashid had been missing in action.

24 Q. And who appointed Sam Bockarie to the position that was  
17:42:33 25 just below CO Mohamed?

26 A. It was Foday Sankoh himself.

27 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I'm going to refer to exhibit  
28 P-56 for purposes of the record and for purposes of counsel  
29 opposite following closely:

1 Q. At that time - and I do not wish for the exhibit to be  
2 shown to the witness at this stage. I just want him to comment  
3 on it. At that time did Foday Sankoh have advisers with him or  
4 within the RUF?

17:43:29 5 A. We used to know one - the same man who was the S4 by the  
6 name of Pa Kallon. He was the one we used to call adviser.

7 Q. And do you know what SYB Rogers' position was at that time?

8 A. Momoh Rogers at that time, they appointed him as the PRO.

9 Q. Sorry, I said SYB Rogers. Is that the same person as Momoh  
10 Rogers?

11 A. Yes, he was the one we used to call Momoh Rogers, SYB  
12 Rogers.

13 Q. And you said his position was PRO. You explained last week  
14 that that was the liaison between the civilians and the RUF. Was  
17:44:23 15 that still his position at Zogoda?

16 A. Yes, he was still holding the same position.

17 Q. And what was Mike Lamin's position at this time?

18 A. Mike Lamin was one of the senior officers, but his exact  
19 position - to say he was so and so person, but he was a senior  
17:44:53 20 man at that time.

21 Q. In relation to Sam Bockarie, who was more senior?

22 A. For Sam Bockarie?

23 Q. Mike Lamin in relation to Sam Bockarie, who was more  
24 senior?

17:45:19 25 A. Mike Lamin was senior to Sam Bockarie, but Sam Bockarie was  
26 the battle group commander.

27 Q. Now, at that time when you were at Zogoda, did you have a  
28 branch within the RUF that was called the War Council?

29 A. Mmm, yes, I can say yes. We had a War Council in Zogoda

1 also.

2 Q. And who were members of the War Council?

3 A. That's a different branch in the RUF. I did not know those  
4 people. I don't know their names. I don't know the people.

17:46:13 5 Q. And did you have a unit called the Black Guard when you  
6 were at Zogoda?

7 A. Yes. That was Foday Sankoh's bodyguard unit that was  
8 called the Black Guard.

9 Q. Who was commanding that unit?

17:46:35 10 A. It was a fellow called Rambo. That was how we used to call  
11 him. John Rambo.

12 Q. Do you know what his nationality was?

13 A. I think he was Mende, something like that.

14 Q. I want you to be very careful with your answer. The person  
17:47:08 15 who was in the position of G4 when you were in Kailahun, did that  
16 person remain in that position when you were at Zogoda?

17 A. Yes, that person remained in that position until Zogoda.

18 Q. And who did the G4 report to?

19 A. The G4 was under Foday Sankoh.

17:47:42 20 Q. Yes. But in reporting terms, did he report directly to  
21 Foday Sankoh or through someone else?

22 A. Directly to Foday Sankoh.

23 Q. You earlier indicated that someone by the name Joseph Brown  
24 was in your term's Foday Sankoh's radio man.

17:48:09 25 A. No, I said Alfred Brown. Alfred Brown was the radio man  
26 for Foday Sankoh, not --

27 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, can he state the last name?

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: We understand what you mean, Mr Witness.

29 MR CHEKERA:

1 Q. Sorry, Mr Witness, that was a mistake on my part. Sorry  
2 for that.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: You are absolutely right.

17:48:38

4 MR CHEKERA: The names have confused me, your Honour. I'm  
5 really sorry:

6 Q. Did that person remain in that position when you were at  
7 Zogoda, Alfred Brown?

8 A. Yes, Alfred Brown remained in that position.

17:49:00

9 Q. Just so that we are clear, who was the overall signal  
10 commander for the RUF when you were at Zogoda?

11 A. The senior commander for the RUF, is that what you mean?

12 Q. Overall signal commander. The person who was in charge of  
13 all the radio men in the RUF.

17:49:32

14 A. It was the man who was assigned to Foday Sankoh,  
15 Alfred Brown.

16 Q. And who did he report to within the hierarchy?

17 A. He reported directly to Foday Sankoh and he got his  
18 instruction directly from him.

17:49:56

19 Q. When you were in Zogoda, did you get to know of a person  
20 called CO Nya?

21 A. No, I did not see or know anybody by the name of CO Nya.

22 Q. And Augustine Gbao, do you know what his position was in  
23 Zogoda?

17:50:27

24 A. Augustine Gbao had no position at Zogoda, but he was one of  
25 the senior officers for the RUF.

26 Q. Who was the overall security commander?

27 A. For - for the RUF, or for the bodyguard unit for Sankoh?  
28 Which one?

29 Q. The entire RUF as an organisation.



1 A. The most senior officer that we had in the entire RUF was  
2 CO Mohamed Tarawalli. He was the most senior officer whom the  
3 Papay used to deal with directly.

4 Q. The question was security commander. Overall security  
17:51:15 5 commander, not overall senior officer. Can you tell the  
6 distinction.

7 A. Well, I don't know what you mean by overall security  
8 commander. I do not understand that, except you make it clear to  
9 me. Because everybody was security in the RUF, but we had our  
17:51:41 10 overall commander who was CO Mohamed.

11 Q. There is evidence before this Court that the overall  
12 security commander for the RUF at the time around February to  
13 October 1996 was Augustine Gbao. Do you remember that to be  
14 Augustine Gbao's position in the time indicated, February to  
17:52:06 15 October 1996?

16 A. No, I did not know Augustine Gbao as the overall security  
17 commander. And we never had an overall security commander. The  
18 only person we had as commander was the field commander. Second  
19 to him was the battle group commander. But to have an overall  
17:52:29 20 security commander, I don't know about that.

21 Q. Now, when you were based at Zogoda, were you - and I refer  
22 to you personally - were you aware of what was happening in the  
23 other locations that you indicated earlier where the RUF was?

24 A. No, I never knew what was happening there, because I was  
17:52:53 25 not there.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, this is not to direct you how  
27 you should lead your witness. You've asked us to refer to  
28 exhibit P-56. I'm looking at a copy of exhibit P-56 from my  
29 computer. The witness has testified that he was in Zogoda

1 between '94, '95. Now, the questions you are asking him arising  
2 out of P-56 relate to a completely different time frame and  
3 possibly a different geographical time frame. The witness was,  
4 in my understanding, attesting to events that happened in Zogoda  
17:53:54 5 when he was there. That's what he has been speaking to. Now,  
6 the exhibit you've pulled out deals with the RUF command  
7 structure generally around the period, I think to be exact,  
8 February to October 1996. So I think you should, in all  
9 fairness, make the distinction. Because you are asking him as if  
17:54:21 10 you've already established that he was - he was - he's aware of  
11 what was happening in '96. You haven't led that evidence yet.

12 MR CHEKERA: I was coming to that in two questions. I was  
13 almost two questions away from that issue. Maybe I could just  
14 get to that question right away:

17:54:45 15 Q. Mr Witness, how long did you remain in Zogoda for?

16 A. We stayed in Zogoda --

17 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, something is wrong with this  
18 microphone. I can't hear myself.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please, Mr Witness, make an effort to  
17:55:10 20 speak clearly into the microphone. The interpreters are finding  
21 it very difficult to get what you are saying.

22 Now, Mr Chekera, please ask the question again and let's  
23 try the answer.

24 MR CHEKERA:

17:55:24 25 Q. How long did you remain in Zogoda for?

26 A. I said I stayed in Zogoda from '95 up to '96 because it was  
27 in '96 that I left Zogoda.

28 Q. And do you remember exactly when you left Zogoda in '96?

29 A. Yes, I left Zogoda in 1996.

1 Q. Do you remember the month in 1996?

2 A. No, I don't recall the month, but I left Zogoda in 1996.

3 That was the time we went for the peace talks in Yamoussoukro.

4 Q. Okay. We'll come to the peace talks in Yamoussoukro in a  
17:56:18 5 bit. From the time that you were in Zogoda to the time that you  
6 left Zogoda, did the hierarchy in the RUF that you just referred  
7 to at Zogoda change at any point?

8 A. No, their positions remained unchanged. They were still in  
9 those positions until the time we left Zogoda.

17:56:52 10 Q. Now, you said you were not abreast with what was happening  
11 in other places outside Zogoda at the time that you were at  
12 Zogoda?

13 A. Yes, I said I did not know what was happening in other  
14 places at the time I was in Zogoda.

17:57:20 15 Q. Now, let's talk about the time that you left Zogoda for the  
16 peace talks. Can you explain exactly what happened resulting in  
17 you and possibly other people going for the peace talks?

18 A. It was a forum called by Foday Sankoh for all the  
19 commanders to come to Zogoda for the forum. And when they came  
17:57:56 20 to Zogoda, he had to put across the matter that there was a peace  
21 talk that was supposed to take place in Ivory Coast, and he said  
22 it was the Ivorian government that was going to facilitate the  
23 peace talks between the RUF and the Sierra Leone government at  
24 that time.

17:58:17 25 Q. What happened after that forum?

26 A. After he had briefed all the men, that was the time he  
27 appointed people who were going to travel.

28 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked  
29 to repeat that last bit.

1           PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you said, "That was the time  
2 he appointed people who were going to travel", and then continue  
3 from there.

4           THE WITNESS: That was the time he appointed people to  
17:58:55 5 travel along with him and my name was on that list for people who  
6 were to travel with him. And then at that time we had an  
7 adjutant general who was writing down the names and he had the  
8 names in his possession at that time.

9           MR CHEKERA:

17:59:17 10 Q. Who else made the trip to the peace talks?

11 A. The adjutant himself. He too made the trip. And I think  
12 if I'm not mistaken we were about 20. I cannot recall  
13 everybody's name.

14 Q. Just give us the names that you still recall?

17:59:49 15 A. The adjutant himself, Jonathan Kposowa was amongst the  
16 group. And there was also one Dr Barrie who was among the group.  
17 Faya Musa also was among the group. And another man by the name  
18 of Deen-Jalloh and his wife, they were among the group. Mrs  
19 Jalloh and Mr Jalloh were among the group. And there was one  
18:00:26 20 Philip Palmer who was also among the group. We were about 20,  
21 but I do not recall everybody.

22 Q. And how did you travel?

23 A. We travelled on board a helicopter and at that time the  
24 Ivorian Foreign Minister who came to collect us from Zogoda, he  
18:00:52 25 was to take us to Ivory Coast, but when we took off from Zogoda  
26 we landed at first in Kissidougou in Guinea and from there  
27 another aeroplane came and collected us from there, from  
28 Kissidougou to Yamoussoukro in Ivory Coast and we were led by the  
29 Ivorian Foreign Minister at that time.

1 Q. Do you remember the name of Ivorian minister who led you?

2 A. I recall the name. By the name of Amara Sesay.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, is that Sesay or Cisse?

4 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, could the witness be asked

18:01:43 5 to repeat it?

6 THE WITNESS: Sesay. Sesay. That was the man's name.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm afraid you are still not clear if

8 it's Sesay or Cisse. I'm don't know what you are saying,

9 Mr Interpreter. Which are you saying?

18:02:00 10 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness again be

11 asked to repeat it.

12 THE WITNESS: The name of the Foreign Minister at that time

13 was Amara Sesay.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think this name is on the records. It

18:02:16 15 should be.

16 MR CHEKERA: The name is although it appears to be

17 pronounced differently:

18 Q. And do you know who provided the helicopter that airlifted

19 you from Zogoda?

18:02:34 20 A. He was the one who brought the helicopter. The Foreign

21 Minister was the one who brought the helicopter, but I did not

22 know the person who gave it to him.

23 Q. And where in Ivory Coast did you go to?

24 A. Yamoussoukro was the first place we landed.

18:02:56 25 Q. How long were you in Yamoussoukro for?

26 A. I think we were in Yamoussoukro for two weeks.

27 Q. And within that two weeks, what was happening?

28 A. At that time we had the peace talks. We were now in the

29 meeting of the peace talks at that time.

1 Q. Did you attend those meetings?

2 A. No, we did not enter into the hall. We were outside as  
3 securities alongside the Ivorian securities because we were  
4 assigned alongside the Ivorian securities.

18:03:42 5 Q. Do you remember who attended the meeting on behalf of the  
6 RUF?

7 A. It was Foday Sankoh himself along with his spokesman Faya  
8 Musa and the other big people who went along with him because we  
9 were not inside there, we were outside as securities, and one  
10 Dr Barrie who was with RUF at that time.

11 Q. And do you know who attended or who represented the  
12 Government of Sierra Leone in the meeting?

13 A. At that time it was Maada Bio. It was Maada Bio at that  
14 time. It was his administration at that time. So they were the  
15 ones who represented the Sierra Leone government at that time.

16 Q. And besides the RUF delegates and the Sierra Leonean  
17 delegates, were there other people attending the meeting?

18 A. They had many diplomatic members there, but I did not know  
19 where they came from.

18:04:58 20 Q. And during your stay - and I refer to the collective of the  
21 RUF - where were you lodging when you were in Yamoussoukro?

22 A. We were lodged in a hotel by the name of --

23 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked  
24 to repeat the name of the hotel, please.

18:05:21 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat the name of the  
26 hotel.

27 THE WITNESS: Hotel President in Yamoussoukro.

28 MR CHEKERA:

29 Q. Were all of you, including Foday Sankoh, in that same

1 hotel?

2 A. Yes, we were all in that same hotel.

3 Q. Did you have access to Foday Sankoh's room while you were  
4 in that hotel?

18:05:52 5 A. Yes, I was assigned to him at that time as bodyguard. All  
6 of us who went along with him, apart from the spokesman and the  
7 other people who went, but those of us as securities who left  
8 Zogoda to go along with him, we were all assigned to him as  
9 bodyguards.

18:06:18 10 Q. The question was were you allowed to go into Foday Sankoh's  
11 room, or did you go into Foday Sankoh's room at any point while  
12 you were in the hotel?

13 A. Yes, sometimes when he is in the room he will call on me  
14 and I will go there.

18:06:40 15 Q. And when you were at the peace talks in Yamoussoukro, what  
16 sort of communication means were available to Foday Sankoh?

17 A. I did not see them giving him communications to communicate  
18 with - everything was in the hands of the Ivorian government. If  
19 we wanted to do anything, the Ivorian government will do it for  
20 us.

18:07:09 21 Q. Did Foday Sankoh have access to a telephone, a landline?

22 A. Yes, all the hotel rooms had telephones.

23 Q. Did he have a satellite phone?

24 A. No, I don't know about satellite phone at that time. I did  
18:07:32 25 not see satellite phone.

26 Q. A radio communication set?

27 A. No, we never had radio communication sets.

28 Q. Part of your delegation of 20, did you have radio operators  
29 among you?

1 A. We never had a radio operator amongst us, but someone got  
2 sick amongst us and when that person was sent back, he then  
3 requested for one Zedman to come along and replace the person and  
4 at that time it was only Zedman who was the radio operator who  
18:08:17 5 was with us.

6 Q. When Zedman came along did he bring a radio set with him?

7 A. No, Zedman did not bring a radio set with him. Zedman was  
8 escorted to us by the Ivorian security. It was the Ivorian  
9 security who brought him. They received him from Kissidougou and  
18:08:36 10 they brought him to us, but I did not see him with a radio set.

11 Q. And do you know whether Foday Sankoh was in communication  
12 with the rest of the RUF that was in Sierra Leone at this time?

13 A. No, I don't know about that.

14 Q. And you said you were in Yamoussoukro for two weeks. What  
18:09:04 15 happened within the two weeks in relation to the peace talks?

16 A. At that time the peace talks got to a stage that a  
17 ceasefire was signed.

18 Q. And what happened to the RUF members who were in  
19 Yamoussoukro after the two weeks?

18:09:32 20 A. After the two weeks we were all taken to Abidjan.

21 Q. Who took you to Abidjan?

22 A. It was the same Foreign Minister of the Ivorian government  
23 that took us there.

24 Q. Now, within - rather let me put it this way. Among the  
18:10:01 25 delegates - you said there were so many diplomats at Yamoussoukro  
26 beside the Sierra Leonean and RUF delegates. Among the diplomats  
27 who were at Yamoussoukro, do you know whether Liberia was  
28 represented?

29 A. I can't tell, because there were so many at that time, so I



1 can't tell whether they had Liberians there or Guineans. I can't  
2 tell you because there were so many diplomats there at that time.

3 Q. And when you were taken to Abidjan, what was the purpose of  
4 you going to Abidjan?

18:10:43 5 A. According to them, they wanted us to go and see the  
6 developments that was going - that was in their country so that  
7 we will know that war is not good. They took us to certain areas  
8 in their country so that we will be able to see the areas and for  
9 them to be able to talk to the RUF to stop war, to forget about  
18:11:04 10 war so that we will have peace. That was the reason why we were  
11 taken to Abidjan.

12 Q. When you say "them", who are you referring to?

13 A. It was the Ivorian government.

14 Q. How long were you in Abidjan for?

18:11:19 15 A. I stayed in Abidjan from '96 up to '97. I stayed in there.  
16 I was still there, especially for me at that time, because by  
17 then I was sick and I was admitted in hospital.

18 Q. We'll come back to your personal circumstances in a bit.

19 Let's just talk about the RUF group that was in Abidjan. How

18:11:46 20 long did they stay in Abidjan for?

21 A. The RUF stayed for a long time in Abidjan. We were there  
22 from '96 up to '97. We were still there up to '97.

23 Q. All the 20 of you who came from Zogoda?

24 A. Yes, we were still there.

18:12:13 25 Q. And Foday Sankoh, was he still there all this time?

26 A. Foday Sankoh was there, but later he left for Nigeria and  
27 that was where he was arrested.

28 Q. Do you remember when exactly he left for Nigeria?

29 A. I don't know the reason why he went to Nigeria.

1 Q. Sorry, the question was: Do you remember when he left for  
2 Nigeria from Abidjan?

3 A. I think it was in the same '96, but by then I was in the  
4 hospital. But -- so I cannot tell you the actual time that he  
18:13:00 5 left to go.

6 Q. Did you know why he was arrested in Nigeria?

7 A. No. I was in the hospital at that time, so I wouldn't  
8 know.

9 Q. And when - when you went to Abidjan and you were taken  
18:13:20 10 sightseeing, did the Ivorian government provide the same  
11 facilities they afforded you when you were in Yamoussoukro?

12 A. Yes. We were guarded by the Ivorian security, and we were  
13 escorted by the same Ivorian securities in Ivorian cars that the  
14 car that took us around - around the city.

18:13:46 15 Q. And were you lodged in a hotel as well?

16 A. Yes. They lodged us in a hotel by the name of  
17 Hotel Ivoire.

18 Q. And how long did you remain in that hotel?

19 A. We were in that hotel until I got sick when I was taken to  
18:14:12 20 hospital, so I don't know whether the others stayed there because  
21 we were in that same hotel. When I left I went to the hospital,  
22 and it was from there that Foday Sankoh travelled when he was  
23 arrested. So I don't know whether the other people were still  
24 there, because at that time everything had gone into shambles.

18:14:31 25 Q. And at the time that Foday Sankoh and yourself were still  
26 in Abidjan and you were lodged in a hotel, did Foday Sankoh now  
27 have access to radio communication?

28 A. No, I did not see him with radio communication apart from  
29 the telephone that was in the hotel. I did not see him with any

1 other communication until the time I was taken to the hospital.

2 Q. Again, did you have access to Foday Sankoh's hotel room?

3 A. Yes. Sometimes he would call me into his hotel room.

18:15:20

4 Q. Now, you got sick when you were in Abidjan. How long after  
5 you got to Abidjan did you fall sick?

6 A. After we had spent two weeks in Yamoussoukro and then we  
7 left for Abidjan, it took another three weeks when I started  
8 experiencing the disease for which I was taken to hospital.

18:15:50

9 Q. Would you like to share with us details on that ailment or  
10 you would rather it remains private?

11 A. Well, according to the doctor --

12 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked  
13 to repeat the name of the ailment?

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, is this necessary?

18:16:11

15 MR CHEKERA: It will be in a few minutes when we get into  
16 private.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please repeat the name of the  
18 ailment.

18:16:29

19 THE WITNESS: They told me I had liver problem. They said  
20 I had problem with my liver at that time.

21 MR CHEKERA:

22 Q. And for how long did you remain in hospital?

23 A. I stayed in the hospital for almost six months in the  
24 hospital.

18:16:45

25 Q. And after you were discharged, what happened to you?

26 A. After I was discharged from the hospital, I left for an  
27 area by the name of Danane in Ivory Coast.

28 Q. Why did you go to Danane?

29 A. It was because I felt that that was the only area I will go

1 and continue taking my treatment other than the one the people  
2 give to me, because by then I never had any other person in  
3 Abidjan to take care of me.

18:17:39 4 Q. And why Danane in particular? Why didn't you go back to  
5 Sierra Leone or go back home?

6 A. Because I never had any access to go to Sierra Leone, and I  
7 did not want to go to Sierra Leone at that time. Because I had  
8 come out and I was out of the place when I got sick and I was  
9 taken to hospital. I was taking my treatment. After that I went  
18:18:07 10 and decided to rest. I just decided to forget about everything  
11 from that moment and take my treatment, because the sickness that  
12 they said I had --

13 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be asked  
14 to reduce his pace.

18:18:22 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, I've asked you before to  
16 speak slowly because everything you are saying is being  
17 interpreted and written down. Now, if you speak normally fast as  
18 normal people do, that will not be possible. Please slow down  
19 and now repeat your answer. You were saying that from the moment  
18:18:48 20 you took your treatment, continue from there.

21 THE WITNESS: I said the moment I started taking my  
22 treatment and they gave me drugs, they discharged me from the  
23 hospital, I went to Danane and that was where I was residing,  
24 taking my drugs, and I was there until I went back to Liberia.  
18:19:19 25 So I had no reason to go back to Sierra Leone, because the  
26 ailment they had named for me was not any type of ailment which I  
27 could have used to go back and do any hard job, so that was the  
28 reason why I left them and I was now there.

29 MR CHEKERA:

1 Q. How long were you in Danane for before you went back to  
2 Liberia?

3 A. I stayed in Danane for almost two years. Almost two to  
4 three years I was in Danane.

18:20:01 5 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, at this stage I would apply  
6 that we go into private session. I would like to put to the  
7 witness transcripts of evidence that was given in closed session  
8 - or, rather, in private session and I fear also that some of the  
9 information that will come from the witness might identify him to  
18:20:22 10 the members of the public.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, do you object?

12 MR BANGURA: No, your Honour, I do not.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then we will go in private session. For  
14 the members of the public listening in, you are not going to be  
18:20:42 15 able to hear, but you'll be able to look into the court. This is  
16 for the security of this witness and other witnesses who enjoy  
17 protective measures. Madam Court Officer please.

18 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, and just for the benefit of  
19 members of the public and others following, I suspect that I will  
18:21:00 20 close my examination-in-chief in closed session. So we might  
21 actually be closing off in closed session.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Private session? You mean you are going  
23 to take - we have - we're rising at 7.30. It is now 6.20.

24 MR CHEKERA: In that case we might have a bit more time,  
18:21:31 25 but it will take possibly 30 minutes or so.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Your private session?

27 MR CHEKERA: Yes. And if I could just get a minute to  
28 switch over to the private mode.

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1 [At this point in the proceedings, a portion of  
2 the transcript, pages 37350 to 37377, was  
3 extracted and sealed under separate cover, as  
4 the proceeding was heard in private session.]

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6 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 7.30 p.m.  
7 to be reconvened on Wednesday, 17 March 2010 at  
8 3.00 p.m.]

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**I N D E X**

**WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENCE:**

DCT-025	37283
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR CHEKERA	37283