



Case No. SCSL-2003-01-T

THE PROSECUTOR OF
THE SPECIAL COURT
V.
CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR

THURSDAY, 29 APRIL 2010
9.33 A.M.
TRIAL

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before the Judges:

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

For Chambers:

Mr Simon Meisenberg

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 Morris Anyah
Mr Silas Chekera
Ms Logan Hambrick

1 Thursday, 29 April 2010

2 [Open session]

3 [The accused present]

4 [Upon commencing at 9.33 a.m.]

09:29:24 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning. We will take appearances
6 first, please.

7 MR BANGURA: Good morning, Madam President. Good morning,
8 your Honours, and counsel opposite. For the Prosecution this
9 morning, Brenda J Hollis, myself, Mohamed A Bangura, Kathryn
09:33:46 10 Howarth and Maja Dimitrova. Thank you, your Honours.

11 MR CHEKERA: Good morning, Madam President, your Honours,
12 counsel opposite. For the Defence, Morris Anyah, Logan Hambrick
13 and myself, Silas Chekera.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good morning, Mr Mineh.

09:34:08 15 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated] we continue
17 with your evidence and I remind you of the oath that you took to
18 tell the truth. That oath is still binding on you today. Also,
19 if you need to excuse yourself to use the facilities, just put up
09:34:30 20 your hand and I will see, and then we can let you go and use the
21 facilities if at any stage of the proceedings you need to excuse
22 yourself. Is that clear?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, you were continuing with your
09:34:51 25 examine in chief.

26 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President. Madam President,
27 in view of the difficulties we were having with the language
28 yesterday, I am going to ask the witness a few questions related
29 to any other language that he might be proficient in with the

1 possibility that if we continue to have difficulties, we might
2 have to switch to a different language.

3 WITNESS: DCT-131 [On former oath]

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

09:35:18 5 Q. Mr Mineh, beside Gio, do you speak any other language?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Do you speak Liberian English?

8 A. Yes.

09:35:51 9 Q. If you were asked to testify in Liberian English, would you
10 be comfortable doing so?

11 A. It would be good to be in English, but I do not speak
12 English clear.

13 Q. I said Liberian English.

14 A. I said I will speak in Dan.

09:36:19 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Just progress - proceed in the language
16 that the witness is comfortable with, which is Dan.

17 MR CHEKERA: Yes, Madam President. That was what I was
18 just going to propose.

09:36:34 19 PRESIDING JUDGE: And I will just ask you, Mr Chekera, as I
20 advised you yesterday, to keep your sentences simple and short.

21 MR CHEKERA: I will try to do so, Madam President. To the
22 extent that it helps our case, I will assist in that respect:

09:37:00 23 Q. Mr Mineh, when we adjourned yesterday afternoon, you were
24 explaining to the Court about what you referred to as the Nimba
25 raid. Do you remember that aspect of your evidence?

26 A. Yes, as I repeated that.

27 Q. And you say the Nimba raid was in 1983. Is that correct?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. And that the Nimba raid followed the robbery of the bank in

1 Tappi ta?

2 A. When they decided to rob the bank, they were unable to do
3 so. I said they went to rob the bank, but they didn't do so
4 again.

09:37:52 5 Q. Yes. And where did they go to rob the bank? If you can
6 just tell us the name of the place?

7 A. It was in Yekepa in the Area P Market.

8 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, the question should have been
9 Yekepa.

09:38:12 10 Q. Now, you also mentioned the killing of Charles Julu's son.
11 Was that the same time of the robbery of the bank?

12 A. Yes, it was the very day. When this turned our side, when
13 Charles Julu came from Ghana, then they raged in war. Then they
14 arrested and they began to flog us and they said I was from the

09:38:46 15 Gio tribe.

16 Q. Mr Witness, I am just going to stop you there. Sorry to
17 interrupt. My question - and if you could just restrict your
18 answer to the question directly. The robbery of the bank that
19 did not succeed because there was no money, was that the time
09:39:04 20 that Charles Julu's son was also killed? If you are able to just
21 say yes or no to the question, that would assist.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, who said it did not succeed
23 because there was no money? Did I miss something?

24 MR CHEKERA: It is from his previous evidence yesterday.

09:39:24 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is it?

26 MR CHEKERA: Yes, it is.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: I don't remember him saying that. Where?
28 Where did he say that?

29 MR CHEKERA: Let me just go back to the transcript

1 yesterday. I remember very well that - maybe to expedite issues
2 I could just refer to the question, but I am quite sure that
3 there is reference to robbery which did not succeed because - but
4 I could --

09:39:52 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: I have no doubt he said the robbery did
6 not succeed. He didn't tell us why it did not succeed.

7 MR CHEKERA: Let me --

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: The bit about there being no money, that
9 I don't recall the witness saying.

09:40:04 10 MR CHEKERA: Let me just ask that rather than try to lead
11 evidence myself. That might actually help. Let me rephrase the
12 question:

13 Q. Mr Witness, the time of the robbery, was that the same time
14 that Charles Julu's son was killed?

09:40:26 15 A. Yes. Charles's son, when they went to Charles's residence
16 and they did not see him, so they killed his son, and there was
17 reason for that.

18 Q. Who killed Charles Julu's son?

19 A. Akwa Dolo and others.

09:40:45 20 Q. And those were the same people who went to rob the bank; is
21 that correct?

22 A. Yes. They were the one, but they were not successful.

23 Q. And that was in 1983.

24 A. Yes.

09:41:01 25 Q. And as a result of which you were arrested, among other
26 people. Is that correct?

27 A. Yes, because I was from the Dan tribe. And besides that,
28 it was because of Quiwonkpa's sake.

29 Q. Now, as a result of that, you said yesterday that Quiwonkpa

1 fled. Do you remember that?

2 A. Because Doe had removed Quiwonkpa from the commanding force
3 and so they were vexed. So they said, Quiwonkpa once they have
4 dismissed you, do not agreed. Then the boys, they said,
09:41:53 5 Quiwonkpa, since you have been removed, we will fight Doe. So
6 therefore they went to Yekepa. While they were doing that in
7 Nimba, many of us in the armed forces that we did not know, they
8 arrested us and began to flog us. That's how they arrested us.

9 Q. Mr Mineh, I am just going to ask you again the question I
09:42:16 10 asked, because you have not addressed the question and the
11 question was: Following the robbery and the killing of Charles
12 Julu's son, yesterday you said at that time when the Doe regime
13 started arresting people, Quiwonkpa fled the country. Is that
14 correct?

09:42:49 15 A. Quiwonkpa did not just escape. After they have dismissed
16 him, he went at his village. Then group of his ethnic decided to
17 round him and then because they have dismissed him, so therefore
18 they decided to fight Doe government. This how it happened.

19 Q. Following the Nimba raid - what you called the Nimba raid,
09:43:17 20 where did Quiwonkpa go?

21 A. At that time he went to his village - to his mother's
22 village. There where he was and escaped.

23 Q. Where did he escape to?

24 A. He went to his mother's village. He was there. Then he
09:43:40 25 escaped to America.

26 Q. He escaped to America. Was that in 1983?

27 A. Yes. He crossed Cestos and then he went to America.

28 Q. When he went to America --

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: He crossed what? Mr Interpreter, he

1 crossed what?

2 THE INTERPRETER: He crossed the river, Cestos River.

3 MR CHEKERA: Are you able to assist us, Mr Interpreter,
4 through you, Madam President?

09:44:19 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: What river?

6 THE INTERPRETER: Cestos, C-E-S-T-O-S.

7 THE WITNESS: He crossed the river, the river between Ivory
8 Coast and Liberia, he crossed.

9 MR CHEKERA:

09:44:45 10 Q. And what is the name of the river, just to clarify the
11 record?

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: The river has been spelt. Cestos. Just
13 continue.

14 MR CHEKERA:

09:45:03 15 Q. My question was, was that in 1983 when Quiwonkpa fled and
16 went to America? Was that in 1983?

17 A. Yes. Yes. It was this time that he fled. We didn't see
18 him again after he returned, when he came with war, he was unable
19 to unseat Doe, so therefore Doe revenged and began to arrest us.

09:45:38 20 And so many were killed. Then they took me to Sugar Beach. They
21 killed 12 persons in my presence. Then Sam Burnette whom I was
22 working with, decided to assist me to take me from the line.

23 Then the entire time --

09:45:58 24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Stop, stop, Mr Witness. Mr Witness,
25 whatever you are saying, someone is interpreting for us in
26 English, okay, for us to understand whatever you are speaking.
27 So please go slowly. If you talk quickly, the interpreter cannot
28 keep up with you.

29 Secondly, there are people writing down everything that you

1 are saying for record, so if you talk quickly they cannot write
2 at the same speed. So please speak and then pause a bit, speak
3 in sentences and pause so that we may understand what you are
4 saying.

09:46:33 5 Now, Mr Chekera, please continue.

6 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think you may have to repeat that area.

8 MR CHEKERA: Yes, I will actually:

9 Q. Mr Mineh, I want you to address my question very

09:46:46 10 specifically. If possible if you can just confirm by a yes or
11 no. When Quiwonkpa fled to America following what you call the
12 Nimba raid, was that in 1983?

13 A. Yes, it was in 1983.

14 Q. Yesterday you mentioned that Quiwonkpa came back in 1985

09:47:15 15 and went and broadcast on the radio. Do you remember that part
16 of your evidence?

17 A. Yes, because after he had --

18 Q. [Microphone not activated] remember that part of your
19 evidence. I am just trying to remind you of that part of

09:47:35 20 yourself because we already have it. Do you remember that part?
21 We will carry on from there if you confirm or deny whether you
22 remember?

23 A. Yes, like what? Explained.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: What did you say, Mr Interpreter? We

09:47:55 25 don't understand what you said.

26 THE INTERPRETER: "Like what. Please explain."

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, can you speak English or
28 are you speaking Liberian English?

29 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honour, yes, I speak English.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then please do not mix it. Do not mix
2 your English with Liberian English. Nobody on the Bench
3 understands Liberian English. And English English is the
4 language of the Court. If you are having difficulty
09:48:47 5 understanding and expressing yourself in English, please let us
6 know. Is that clear, Mr Interpreter?

7 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour.

8 MR CHEKERA:

9 Q. Now, when Quiwonkpa came back in 1985 and went and
09:49:23 10 broadcast on the radio, you said you were arrested and carried to
11 Sugar Beach?

12 A. Yes, they carried me to Sugar Beach. I was not the only
13 person. We were many that were carried there.

14 Q. How many of you were carried to Sugar Beach, if you
09:49:46 15 remember?

16 A. Those that were arrested were - they arrested Colonel
17 Nyuan, Alfred Miantonan, Colonel Bingo was killed. They were
18 plenty, even including other tribal grouping people. Sam
19 Burnette whom I was working with, after Quiwonkpa had spoken --

09:50:18 20 Q. [Microphone not activated] just pause there a moment.
21 Let's just clarify the names and possibly get the spellings. If
22 you could go back and tell us the names of those who were
23 arrested and take each in turn and go slowly.

24 A. Okay. Those that were arrested were Colonel Nyuan was
09:50:45 25 arrested and killed. Reed T Bouye.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: [Microphone not activated] have a
27 spelling of each name as it happens.

28 MR CHEKERA: Colonel Nyuan, I will spell it phonetically,
29 N-Y-U-A-N:

1 Q. Yes, after Colonel Nyuan, who else?

2 A. Reed T Bouye. Reed T Bouye. Colonel Reed T Bouye.

3 MR CHEKERA: Through you, Madam President, if I may ask the
4 interpreter to assist me with the spelling.

09:51:31 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, do you know how to spell
6 that name?

7 THE INTERPRETER: Yes.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Can you spell it?

9 THE INTERPRETER: R-I-T-I-B-O-Y.

09:52:01 10 MR CHEKERA:

11 Q. Anyone else?

12 A. Wilson Toweh was killed.

13 Q. Wilson?

14 A. Toweh. Toweh was a police officer from the Dan tribe.

09:52:30 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, do you think you can
16 speak clearly instead of eating your words?

17 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then speak clearly, please. We want to
19 hear those names. What was that name, that last name that you
20 mentioned?

09:52:49 21 THE INTERPRETER: Toweh, T-O-W-E-H.

22 MR CHEKERA:

23 Q. And the first name again, just to be sure. What was the
24 first name of Toweh?

09:53:14 25 A. I called Colonel Nyuan and Reed T Bouye.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: This second name of Toweh, the second
27 name - what are his full names?

28 THE WITNESS: Wilson Toweh.

29 MR CHEKERA:

1 Q. Those are some of the people who were arrested. You said
2 many people were arrested. Why were these people being arrested?

3 A. The reason was these people hailed from Nimba and because
4 they hailed from the Dan tribe, so when Qui wonkpa was arrested,
09:53:59 5 they were collectively collected alongside with Qui wonkpa.

6 Q. Why were you arrested?

7 A. It is because I am from the armed forces. At the same time
8 I hailed from the same tribe as Qui wonkpa.

9 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, before I go too far in the
09:54:28 10 evidence, I have been greatly assisted by Mr Taylor with the
11 spelling of the person who has been spelt as "Ritiboy" spelt
12 R-I-T-I-B-O-Y. The name is actually Reed as in R-E-E-D and the
13 initial T and the second name is B-U-O-Y-E.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, thanks to Mr Taylor for that
15 assistance.

16 MR CHEKERA:

17 Q. Do you recall how many people were taken to Sugar Beach
18 with you?

19 A. We were many. I cannot remember the number, but we were
09:55:31 20 many Dan speaking people.

21 Q. And what happened when you were taken to Sugar Beach?

22 A. When they carried us, they tied cloth on our faces and tied
23 our hands and Alfred Zeh gave orders that they should execute us
24 and so they began firing at us. For me, I was able to escape,
09:55:58 25 Sam Burnette, he was the manager for LEC --

26 Q. Before you go, who gave the order to fire? You said Alfred
27 who? You said Alfred something gave the order to execute us?

28 A. Alfred Zeh is from the Krahn tribe. He was the commander.
29 Alfred Zeh.

1 Q. As in the letter Z as in Z-E-A

2 A. Alfred Zeh. He is from the Krahn tribe.

3 MR CHEKERA: Zeh is spelt Z-E-H, Madam President:

4 Q. And what happened when Alfred Zeh gave the order?

09:57:11 5 A. They were killing the people, because they were having the
6 power and they gave them the order. I was there when many were
7 killed.

8 Q. How did you survive the killings?

9 A. The reason why I was not killed was when Quiwonkpa spoken
09:57:35 10 had spoken then the man that I was assigned with was the head of
11 the LEC, so therefore I remained at his residence. And so after
12 I was there, the situation turned upside down and so I decided to
13 go to the barracks. And then when I went to the barracks, then
14 he told them to wait so that he was looking for me and then he
09:57:59 15 came and I went and reported myself to Mehn. Then he came and
16 took the cloth from my face and put me in the car. That is how I
17 got saved.

18 Q. I will go over that issue again and I will go slowly. Were
19 you taken to Sugar Beach along with the others?

09:58:25 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: How many times are you going to ask this
21 same question?

22 MR CHEKERA: I seek to clarify how someone came in and - he
23 gave a very long answer.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, but you have asked this question at
09:58:38 25 least three times before.

26 MR CHEKERA: Indeed, Madam President.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: So move on, please:

28 MR CHEKERA:

29 Q. You talked of someone who you said was the head of the LEC.

1 What was the name again?

2 A. Yes, Sam Burnette.

3 Q. Sam Burnette, is that the name?

4 A. Sam Burnette, yes. Yes, he was IE President in Monrovia.

09:59:19 5 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, that name is spelled S-A-M,
6 B-U-R-N-E-T-T-E. Burnette.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: He said he was the head of the what
8 president? He was the something president.

9 MR CHEKERA:

09:59:43 10 Q. Mr Witness, what was Sam Burnette's position?

11 A. He was LEC manager. He controlled the electricity.

12 Q. So LEC is the electricity company?

13 A. Yes.

14 JUDGE LUSSICK: I just wanted to check that name. You said
10:00:13 15 it's spelt Burnette, but everyone is saying Bernard; which is it?

16 MR CHEKERA: I will clarify.

17 Q. Mr Witness, is the name of the LEC manager Burnette or
18 Bernard?

19 A. Sam Bernard. It's Congo name.

10:00:42 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, if I may inquire, are none of
21 these name - are any of these names in your knowledge as a
22 defence team, or all this is strange?

23 MR CHEKERA: The name I have given is within the knowledge
24 of our team, and I have given it as we know it.

10:00:59 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: And are you sure you did your homework
26 and ensured that these are the right spellings of these names?

27 MR CHEKERA: Indeed.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then we will go with the spellings that
29 you give us.

1 MR CHEKERA: Thank you.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, let us try and limp along as
3 best we can with the difficulties that we have.

4 Madam Court Manager, why are the microphones of half of the
5 Bench not working? And now yours is not working. The gremlins
6 are on our backs today, it seems. I don't know.

7 MS IRURA: Your Honours, I have liaised with the
8 audiovisual booth. They are aware of the problem, and they are
9 actually experiencing technical difficulties with the microphones
10 and would have to look into the situation. I can liaise with
11 them and see whether this can be rectified, or they need some time
12 to look into it.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, let us try and limp on as
14 best we can with the difficulties that we have.

15 MS IRURA: Your Honour, the suggestion for solving the
16 technical difficulty of the microphones would be to adjourn
17 briefly for the technicians to look into it.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, let's try and limp on. If we
19 experience this problem again, then we will have no choice but to
10:03:31 20 adjourn. As long as your microphone is working and the witness's
21 is working, let's try and push on.

22 MR CHEKERA: Now I've got one microphone.

23 Q. Mr Witness, you were going to explain how Sam Burnette
24 rescued you. Please explain how he helped you?

10:04:05 25 A. The reason why he assisted me was because I am from the Dan
26 tribe. So when Quiwonkpa had spoken on the air, so when people
27 went to arrest him to kill him, Tuah told them that he was not
28 there, so therefore they passed on. So another group came at the
29 time when Quiwonkpa had failed, then they arrested me, so

1 therefore when he was there too he decided to help me.

2 Q. The question is how did he help you?

3 A. He came and took me out of the line of execution line, so
4 therefore he told them that you take him from the line. He is
10:04:54 5 not part of the conspiracy.

6 Q. I just want to get this clear. When you were at Sugar
7 Beach, that's when Burnette came and took you out of the line and
8 vouched for you that you were not part of the conspiracy?

9 A. Yes, that was at the Sugar Beach. Yes, when they told him,
10:05:15 10 that's when he came to come and search for me, and he asked for
11 me. Then I showed myself to him. This is how he decided to take
12 me from the line.

13 Q. And when he took you from the line, where did you go?

14 A. After he had taken me from there, he took me to his
10:05:35 15 residence.

16 Q. Did you remain in Liberia after that?

17 A. After the conflict when Doe had spoken on the air when they
18 were beginning to search for the Dan people, then I decided that
19 yes, it is about time now that I escape. So I decided to escape.

10:05:58 20 Q. And where did you go to when you escaped?

21 A. I went to Ivory Coast.

22 Q. Which part of Ivory Coast did you go to?

23 A. I went to Danane.

24 Q. Was this still in 1995?

10:06:14 25 A. Yes, the invasion that failed.

26 JUDGE DOHERTY: Are you sure he said it was '95?

27 MR CHEKERA: 1985.

28 THE WITNESS: I said 1985.

29 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Justice Doherty:

1 Q. And what happened when you were in Danane?

2 A. I was there; I built my house; I began to sell cassava.

3 Q. For how long did you remain in Danane?

4 A. I cannot remember, but I stayed too long there.

10:07:04 5 Q. Did you leave Danane to go anywhere else after that?

6 A. Yes. When I was in Danane, someone came for me and carried
7 me elsewhere.

8 Q. Who came for you?

9 A. Godfather came for me and said, Let's go. There is place
10:07:25 10 that I want to carry you. There is someone that has come to be
11 our saviour, so let's go.

12 Q. Godfather, did he have another name? Did you know him by
13 another name?

14 A. His name is Alfred Mehn.

10:07:50 15 Q. Is his second name the same as yours?

16 A. His name is Alfred Mehn. That's the name I know.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Spelling, please.

18 MR CHEKERA: The spelling I have for Alfred is M-E-H-N. It
19 is being pronounced different than --

20 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is not how you spell Alfred,
21 Mr Chekera.

22 MR CHEKERA: The second name, Mehn. Alfred is the usual
23 Alfred. Alfred Mehn - Madam President, the way the name has been
24 pronounced by the interpreters and the way we spell it is
10:08:51 25 different, and I don't know how best to explore that:

26 Q. Mr Witness, what - Alfred, his surname, could you pronounce
27 the surname slowly for us again?

28 A. His name is Alfred Mehn. Alfred Mehn.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, say the surname again, the

1 second name.

2 THE WITNESS: Alfred Mehn.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, you are the one saying
4 Mehn. The witness is saying Mineh.

10:09:43 5 Mr Chekera, really, I am not happy with the way we are
6 proceeding. You should have prepped this witness and you should
7 have the spellings of these names.

8 MR CHEKERA: I've provided the spellings --

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: We cannot go on a fishing spree in Court
10:09:57 10 for spellings and pronunciation.

11 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, with all due respect, I just
12 provided the spelling.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: So what are we doing? Why are we not
14 moving forward?

10:10:08 15 MR CHEKERA: Because the interpretation and the way we
16 spell the names are different.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: And is that a problem for the Bench?

18 MR CHEKERA: Respectfully, Madam President, neither is it a
19 problem for the Defence.

10:10:18 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then let us move on. Let's not waste
21 time on divergences between pronunciation and spellings. Just
22 give us the spellings.

23 MR CHEKERA:

24 Q. Mr Witness, when Alfred Mehn approached you, what did he
10:10:42 25 say to you?

26 A. What he told me, then I agreed. He came for me and told me
27 that because they are killing the Dan, so wherever you go, there
28 I will go.

29 Q. Did he say he was going to take you to any particular

1 place?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Where was he going to take you?

4 A. He took me and carried me to Abidjan. From Abidjan we went
10:11:23 5 to Burkina Faso. Then we advanced to Libya.

6 Q. Did he tell you why he was taking you to Libya?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Why was he taking you to Libya?

9 A. He carried me to Libya for those who - from the Dan tribe
10:11:56 10 to regroup and take training to fight Doe, so I agreed.

11 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, may I ask what time frame for
12 this event that the witness is explaining?

13 MR CHEKERA: Indeed:

14 Q. Do you remember the year that you arrived in Libya?

10:12:23 15 A. I cannot remember.

16 Q. Do you remember for how long you were in Danane for before
17 Alfred Mehn came to take you to Libya?

18 A. I cannot remember. I cannot remember. I was from the Dan
19 tribe. I cannot remember the time I stayed there.

10:12:55 20 Q. When you left Ivory Coast to going to Burkina Faso, did you
21 stay in Burkina Faso for any period of time?

22 A. Yes. We spent a couple of days, but I cannot remember the
23 number.

24 Q. And from Burkina Faso you then proceeded directly to Libya?

10:13:25 25 A. Yes.

26 Q. And what happened when you got to Libya?

27 A. When we arrived, they carried us where the others were. So
28 there were others who were there before we arrived.

29 Q. Just pause there. When you went to Libya, who went with

1 you to Li bya?

2 A. I said Godfather carried me there.

3 Q. Were there other people with you?

4 A. Yes, there were others, we went together.

10:14:15 5 Q. Would you recall the total number of the people who went
6 with you or approximate?

7 A. I can't remember the number, but I can remember some names.

8 Q. Which names do you remember?

9 A. Those I can remember. Mentor Di akpo, Robert Wonsel ea.

10:14:45 10 Q. Just pause there. The first name again?

11 A. Mentor Di akpo.

12 MR CHEKERA: Mr Interpreter, are you able to help us with
13 that spelling?

14 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, M-E-N-T-O-R D-I -A-K-P-O.

10:15:10 15 MR CHEKERA:

16 Q. And the second person you named, what was the name again?

17 A. Robert Wonsel ea.

18 MR CHEKERA: Mr Interpreter, are you able to help us with
19 the second name?

10:15:32 20 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, Robert is spelt R-O-B-E-R-T.

21 Wonsel ea is W-O-N-S-E-L-E-A.

22 MR CHEKERA:

23 Q. And any person, Mr Witness, whose names you can remember?

24 A. No. Those I can remember are the ones I have named. But
10:16:04 25 there were many.

26 Q. And you are unable to approximate how many you were?

27 A. I cannot remember the total number.

28 Q. You said when you got to Li bya there were others who were
29 already there. Who were those people who were already there?

1 A. They were Liberians who were many from the AFL. I can
2 remember Isaac Musa, general Varney.

3 Q. Are you able to approximate the number of persons you met
4 in Libya?

10:16:53 5 A. Our total number?

6 Q. The number of people you met when you went to Libya.

7 A. Yes. I cannot remember the number, but they made exceed
8 50.

9 Q. And were those people more than the people in your group or
10:17:20 10 less?

11 A. Those I met there were more than we that just arrived
12 there.

13 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, the record is not picking up. I
14 heard the name amongst persons that the witness found at the
10:17:42 15 place they went to in Libya - I heard the name Isaac Musa. I
16 believe that may have been heard by others. I'm not sure that
17 the record has picked that up.

18 THE WITNESS: You said the called name - the Isaac Musa
19 name is not included?

10:18:09 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Did you say the name Isaac Musa?

21 THE WITNESS: Yes.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you. Mr Chekera, you keep asking
23 this witness how many of this and how many of that. Have you
24 established that he can count?

10:18:36 25 MR CHEKERA: We have estimates from my prepping sessions.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Proceed.

27 MR CHEKERA: Thank you.

28 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Chekera, I don't understand the
29 expression "made a seat of 50". It's on page 23, line 1 of my

1 font.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: You asked the witness the number of
3 people that he met when he when to Libya and the answer is, "Yes,
4 I cannot remember the number, but they made a seat of 50." What
10:19:35 5 is that? What does that mean?

6 MR CHEKERA: I heard differently. I am going to ask again:

7 Q. Mr Witness, the number of people you found at - sorry, you
8 found in Libya, you gave a number of 50.

9 A. I said they may exceed 50.

10:20:06 10 MR CHEKERA: I thought I heard, Madam President, "may
11 exceed 50."

12 JUDGE DOHERTY: Thank you.

13 MR CHEKERA:

14 Q. After your group, did any other people come to join you?

10:20:25 15 A. Yes. There were others who came, arrived later.

16 Q. Were they more or less than the group you found in Libya?

17 A. Those who were there, we outnumbered them. They were not
18 many. I was not able to count them.

19 Q. And do you know how the group that you found in Libya got
10:21:05 20 to Libya?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. How did they come to Libya?

23 A. They passed through Ivory Coast to Burkina Faso and arrived
24 in Libya.

10:21:29 25 Q. Do you know who took them to Libya?

26 A. Godfather, Alfred Mehn and others brought them.

27 Q. And in Libya, where were you? What part of Libya were you
28 or where in Libya were you?

29 A. The area? It was a big compound.

1 Q. Do you know the name of the big compound?

2 A. I cannot remember. I am thinking about it. The name could
3 be Tajura.

4 Q. Did you say Tajura?

10:22:21 5 A. The area name, I cannot pronounce it well. But I can think
6 it could be pronounced Tajura.

7 Q. And what was your purpose for going to Tajura?

8 A. The reason we went there was the Krahn tribal people were
9 killing our people and some they did some evils and so we decided
10:23:00 10 to group ourselves to learn military tactics to fight Doe's
11 regime.

12 Q. Was Tajura a military training camp?

13 A. No. I cannot - I just, I was just in a fence.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: The witness said something that's not on
10:23:24 15 the record. He said, "We decided to group ourselves to learn
16 military tactics to fight the regime." Is that what you said,
17 sir?

18 THE WITNESS: So we can fight Doe.

19 MR CHEKERA:

10:23:47 20 Q. Mr Mineh, did you say when you were explaining why you went
21 to Tajura you went there to learn military tactics in order to
22 fight Doe? Is that what you said?

23 A. Yes, that's what I said. I went to learn military and so
24 that we fight Doe.

10:24:14 25 Q. And where in Libya were you learning those military
26 tactics?

27 A. I called the area name. The only one I can remember is
28 Tajura.

29 Q. Now, in Tajura, besides the Liberians who you joined,

1 including those who came after you, were there other people who
2 were also learning military tactics?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can you remember where those people came from?

10:25:06 5 A. Those I can remember seeing were from Gambia, Sierra Leone.

6 Q. Were there other people other than those who were from
7 Gambia and Sierra Leone? From other countries?

8 A. No, I did not see any.

9 Q. Now, the Gambians, do you know why they were training at
10:25:45 10 Tajura?

11 A. I cannot remember. What happened there, I cannot remember.
12 I saw them.

13 Q. The Sierra Leoneans, do you know why they were training at
14 Tajura?

10:26:06 15 A. I don't know, but I saw them there. They didn't explain to
16 me.

17 Q. When you were at Tajura, were you able to mix with people
18 from other countries, that is the Sierra Leoneans and the
19 Gambians?

10:26:30 20 A. I said yes. I saw them.

21 Q. And were you mixing together? Could you talk to the Sierra
22 Leoneans or the Gambians? Were you able or allowed to talk to
23 them?

24 A. Yes. Yeah, we were in our group and they were in their
10:26:56 25 group.

26 Q. The Sierra Leoneans were in their own group and the
27 Gambians in their own group and the Liberians in their own group?

28 A. Yes.

29 Q. Those three groups, were they able or allowed to mix

1 together, as in interact?

2 A. No. The reason was our group was different from theirs.

3 Q. Now, when you were at Tajura, do you know who the leader of
4 the Sierra Leonean group was?

10:27:53 5 A. Yes, I remember. I saw him.

6 Q. Who did you see?

7 A. Foday Sankoh was there.

8 Q. Do you remember any other Sierra Leonean you saw at Tajura?

9 A. There were many, but I cannot remember all of them. But I
10:28:17 10 still remembered Foday Sankoh.

11 Q. And do you know who was leading the Gambian group?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Who was leading the Gambian group?

14 A. His name is Manneh.

10:28:41 15 Q. Did you see Dr Manneh at Tajura?

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Did the witness say Dr Manneh?

17 MR CHEKERA: My apologies.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, what did you say?

19 THE WITNESS: I said Dr Manneh. His name is a Gambian
10:29:00 20 name.

21 MR CHEKERA:

22 Q. Did you see Dr Manneh at Tajura?

23 A. I did not see him, but there were others who said they saw
24 him and he was their leader. Those I see - there were others I
10:29:29 25 see, but not himself.

26 Q. When you saw Foday Sankoh at Tajura, was he staying at
27 Tajura?

28 A. Yes, he was there with his group.

29 Q. Was he staying with his group at Tajura?

1 A. Yes, they were in one house.

2 Q. And Dr Manneh, do you know whether he was staying at
3 Tajura?

4 A. No, I didn't see him in the camp, but I saw his people.

10:30:11 5 Q. Now, when you were at Tajura, who was your leader?

6 A. Our leader? Mr Taylor was our leader.

7 Q. When you arrived at Tajura, was Mr Taylor at Tajura?

8 A. He was not there. After a while he came back to speak to
9 us.

10:30:45 10 Q. Do you know where Mr Taylor was when you got to Tajura?

11 A. He has a house that he was resident, but we were not close
12 there.

13 Q. Was the house in the same place where you were staying at
14 in Tajura?

10:31:15 15 A. No. It was a distance away from us.

16 Q. And you said Mr Taylor came back to speak to you. What did
17 Mr Taylor come to speak to you about?

18 A. He was the leader. He just advised us and counseled us so
19 that we cannot be distressed, so we should not think of evil.

10:31:52 20 That's all he was telling us.

21 Q. And do you remember approximately how many times Mr Taylor
22 would come to speak to you, if he ever did come again after your
23 first meeting?

24 A. I cannot remember. I can't remember.

10:32:19 25 Q. After he came the first time, did he come again at any
26 point?

27 A. Yes. After long time, he returned.

28 Q. And do you remember why he came back?

29 A. Yes. He always come to greet us, to see our conditions and

1 see our welfare and after the advices - a piece of advices, he
2 goes back.

3 Q. Now, the times that Mr Taylor was coming to --

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, after the what?

10:33:02 5 MR CHEKERA: I heard "advise". It's written in the
6 LiveNote "verses".

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, what did the witness say.
8 After the what?

9 THE INTERPRETER: Pieces of advice.

10:33:43 10 MR CHEKERA:

11 Q. When Mr Taylor was coming to speak to you at Tajura, did
12 you see him at any point speak to Foday Sankoh?

13 A. No. I didn't see him.

14 Q. Did you hear that he ever spoke to Foday Sankoh at Tajura?

10:34:09 15 A. No, no. I never heard that.

16 Q. Did you ever see him speak to any of the Sierra Leoneans
17 that were training at Tajura?

18 A. No, I never heard and I did not even did see that.

19 Q. Now, when you were at Tajura, do you remember anything
10:34:42 20 happening at Tajura?

21 A. What happened was we were just learning and taking
22 training. I cannot remember any other thing besides training.

23 Q. What sort of training were you taking at Tajura?

24 A. We were learning to become - military training. Military
10:35:09 25 training.

26 Q. And are you able to remember for how long you stayed at
27 Tajura taking military training?

28 A. I cannot remember the days, but we stayed too long.

29 Q. Now, you say that when you went to train at Tajura, you

1 wanted to go and fight against Doe. When you were at Tajura, did
2 that goal ever change?

3 A. It changed like how?

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: He is asking you it changed like how.

10:36:10 5 MR CHEKERA: I was just about to explain:

6 Q. Did you decide to fight for any other reason, should you go
7 back to Liberia, other than to remove Doe?

8 A. No. We were not having any other thing besides Doe.

9 Q. Would you recall what year you eventually left Tajura?

10:36:49 10 A. I cannot remember to say the fact is truth. I am not
11 educated, so I cannot remember.

12 Q. You did eventually leave Tajura. Where did you go when you
13 left Tajura?

14 A. After we left Tajura, we came to Burkina Faso.

10:37:15 15 Q. Did all of you move to Burkina Faso at the same time?

16 A. No. We were divided in groups.

17 Q. And what - you were divided into groups. And did all the
18 groups move to Burkina Faso?

19 A. The group, we were not - we did not come together in group.

10:38:05 20 As they called the name, we embark in car and came to Burkina
21 Faso.

22 Q. How did you travel to Burkina Faso from Libya? What mode
23 of transport did you use?

24 A. That's plane brought me.

10:38:26 25 Q. And in your group, can you estimate how many you were?

26 A. We were 20.

27 Q. And when you came to Burkina Faso, where did you go in
28 Burkina Faso?

29 A. Where? I cannot remember the place. We just went to

1 Guinea.

2 Q. How long did you stay in Burkina Faso for?

3 A. We were there for two days.

4 Q. And you said from Burkina Faso you went to Guinea.

10:39:10 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. How long did you stay in Guinea for?

7 A. We were there for long. I cannot remember the number of
8 days, but we were there for long.

9 Q. And what were you doing in Guinea?

10:39:29 10 A. We were there to find ways to come to Liberia. After we
11 stay for awhile, then Doe came and arrested us and put us in
12 prison. While we were in prison --

13 Q. Just pause there. We will come to the time you were
14 arrested. The group that you were in, the 20, did you have

10:40:02 15 someone who was leading that particular group?

16 A. Yes. Our leader was there.

17 Q. Who was the leader?

18 A. George Mansour, he was our commander.

19 Q. Now, where were you staying when you were in Guinea?

10:41:02 20 A. One house - the house containing about five rooms. The
21 area name I cannot remember.

22 Q. And who provided the house?

23 A. The leader, this one who located the area for us.

24 Q. And while you were in Guinea, did any of the other groups
10:41:37 25 that you mentioned from Libya come and join you in Guinea?

26 A. No. Their time was different - I mean, their route was
27 also different. But for mine, it's what I am speaking of.

28 Q. Yes. You mentioned about the arrest while you were in
29 Guinea. Why were you arrested?

1 A. The people say - they said that we have stayed too long in
2 Guinea, so therefore they do not know our mission. That's why
3 they arrested us. After they put us in prison, they said they
4 would send us to Liberia. So we have come and they would send us
10:42:24 5 to Doe. That's how they arrested us. After they put us out,
6 they wanted to send us to Liberia. Then the Guinea commander
7 came and said, No, these are not from Liberia. So what I will do
8 is I will send them to Ivory Coast. This is how --

9 Q. If you could just slow down when you are explaining like
10:42:45 10 the Madam President explained. What you are saying has to be
11 interpreted and recorded, so please just slow down. That will
12 also help us follow the evidence.

13 The people who arrested you, who were they?

14 A. Many. We were 20. That 20, but many of us were arrested.

10:43:13 15 Q. And who arrested you?

16 A. The Guinea immigration arrested us.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, a few lines before that, the
18 witness said, "Doe came and arrested us and put us in prison."
19 Now he is saying the Guinea immigration arrested them. Can you
10:43:40 20 please clarify which it was?

21 MR CHEKERA: Indeed, Madam President. Actually that was my
22 attempt:

23 Q. Now, when you were in Guinea, did Doe come and arrest you?

24 A. Doe himself did not come, but he sent agent. He sent
10:44:03 25 agent. He sent car. So after they would put us out, then they
26 would put us in a car to carry us to Liberia. This is how the
27 Guinean commander said no. This is why we didn't go to Liberia.

28 Q. Let me just try to clear that up. When you were initially
29 arrested you were arrested by the immigration officers of Guinea.

1 Is that correct?

2 A. Yes, that the immigration came and put us in prison. Then
3 they informed Doe that, "We have arrested some group of people."
4 So Doe spent money and gave them car and they brought a car to
10:44:46 5 take us to carry us to Liberia. Then the Guinean - one of the
6 commanders said, "No, they came from Ivory Coast, so let's carry
7 them back to Ivory Coast", and they took us to the border of
8 Ivory Coast.

9 Q. And what happened when you were taken to the border, to the
10 Ivory Coast border?

11 A. Every material we carry, all documents we carried, they
12 burnt them. Then they told us just to cross just like that.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Did you say they burnt them?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes, they burnt our clothes, our bags. The
10:45:32 15 Guinea soldiers at the border line. The only clothes that we were
16 on us were the ones that we crossed along with.

17 MR CHEKERA:

18 Q. Who burnt your belongings?

19 A. The Guinea soldiers who were at - the Guinea that were at
10:45:49 20 the boundary. They were the ones that burnt them.

21 Q. And where did you go when you crossed over into Ivory
22 Coast?

23 A. We went to Danane because I had a house in Danane.

24 Q. Did all of you go to Danane?

10:46:13 25 A. Yes. All of us that crossed that way, we all returned to
26 Danane.

27 Q. And you went to your house in Danane. How long did you
28 stay in Danane, if you remember?

29 A. Yes, we were there for a couple of days, but we didn't stay

1 too long. But I cannot remember.

2 Q. Where did you go to when you left Danane?

3 A. After we left Danane, we came to Liberia.

10:47:02

4 Q. Do you recall the time that you came to Liberia, or the
5 year at least?

6 A. No, I cannot remember the day.

7 Q. Do you remember the year it was that you crossed to
8 Liberia?

10:47:25

9 A. The year that the war came to Liberia, you yourself, you
10 know it.

11 Q. I am not allowed to tell the Court what I know. I have to
12 ask you questions and you tell the Court. So if you could assist
13 us. Do you recall when exactly it was that you crossed over into
14 Liberia from Ivory Coast?

10:47:41

15 A. I cannot remember the date because it was just quick
16 situation, so I could not remember.

17 Q. Who did you cross with into Liberia from Ivory Coast?

18 A. The Special Forces that came. Those that came are those
19 that crossed, because we were many.

10:48:11

20 Q. Are you talking about the people who were in your group of
21 20?

22 A. Yes, these are the people I talk about. Yes, we were
23 divided into groups.

24 Q. When were you divided into groups?

10:48:43

25 A. We were divided. There was a town they called Zongwe.
26 Then other people went to Gbutuo. Then other people went to
27 Monrovia. Other people went to Bomi Hills. Then those of us
28 that went to Loguato, we were there. And this is how we were
29 divided into groups.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, please check the record.

2 MR CHEKERA: Yes, I notice that the names have not been put
3 on the record:

4 Q. Let's start again, Mr Witness. You mentioned the town
10:49:15 5 where you were divided into groups. What's the name of the town?

6 A. They called it Zongwe. It's an Ivorian town.

7 Q. The spelling I have is Z-O-N-G-W-E. In Zongwe --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- did you eventually meet up with the other groups that
10:50:00 10 came from Libya?

11 A. Those of us that came from Libya and crossed together
12 were - repeat that.

13 Q. Yes. All the Liberians who trained in Libya, did you meet
14 up in Zongwe?

10:50:31 15 A. Yes, we all met here in Zongwe.

16 Q. Was Mr Taylor in Zongwe at the time?

17 A. No, he was never there from the beginning. It was Enoch
18 Dogolea and Alfred --

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, the witness said something
20 about Enoch.

21 MR CHEKERA: That's what I'm trying to clarify:

22 Q. Did you say Enoch Dogolea and Alfred?

23 A. I said Enoch Dogolea. Isaac Musa.

24 MR CHEKERA: We have had the spelling of Enoch Dogolea
10:51:37 25 before. I could attempt again. D-O-G-O-L-E-A. And Isaac Musa.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: And what did the witness say about these
27 two people?

28 MR CHEKERA:

29 Q. Mr Mineh, when I asked you the question was Mr Taylor

1 there, your answer was, "Mr Taylor was not there." Was Enoch
2 Dogolea and Alfred Musa the ones who - sorry, Isaac Musa, were
3 they the ones who were present?

4 A. They were the leaders. They were strategising our plan.

10:52:23 5 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I just want to remind the
6 witness that if he needs to use the restroom, maybe he could ask
7 the Court to?

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Why do you need to remind him?

9 MR CHEKERA: For reasons I can't say in open court.

10:52:38 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, but why do you need to remind him?
11 I already asked him if he needs to he just needs to put up his
12 hands.

13 MR CHEKERA: That's exactly what I am reminding him, your
14 advice earlier on.

10:52:54 15 THE WITNESS: Yes.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you may be escorted out.

17 THE WITNESS: To go urinate.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes.

19 [In the absence of the witness]

10:53:42 20 MR CHEKERA: While the witness is away, I have been
21 instructed to assist the court by just explaining the
22 circumstances relating to the witness and why it was prudent for
23 me to remind him.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: It is not necessary. Certainly not on
10:53:57 25 record.

26 MR CHEKERA: As you wish, Madam President.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: The Chamber is aware. We were informed
28 of his circumstances, but I thought that he is capable of timing
29 himself. Are you saying he is not capable of timing himself?

1 MR CHEKERA: From previous experience, that was my point.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Then in that case you may address us as
3 and when the time comes that you think he should leave the room,
4 you should say so. But I don't think it's necessary to put on
10:54:29 5 the record the reasons.

6 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President. If you will just
7 then allow me as and when I - thank you.

8 [In the presence of the witness]

9 MR CHEKERA: May I proceed, Madam President.

10:56:49 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, do proceed.

11 MR CHEKERA: Thank you:

12 Q. When you met in Zongwe, do you know where Mr Taylor was?

13 A. No, I can't remember.

14 Q. And you said when you met in Zongwe, you were divided into
10:57:08 15 different groups and you went to different places. Could you
16 please give us the names of the places you were deployed to?

17 A. I said there were those who went to Gbutuo. There were
18 those who went to Monrovia. Others went to Bomi Hills and some
19 went to Loguato.

10:57:37 20 Q. Where did you go to? Your group, where did you go to?

21 A. We went to Loguato Port.

22 Q. Did you say Loguato Port?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. What happened when you got to Loguato Port?

10:58:08 25 A. We arrived there, we were not having arms and ammunition.
26 We only took one single barrel.

27 Q. Yes. Please continue.

28 A. When we arrived there, we were not having weapon, but we
29 took single barrel from one man and we used it against them, and

1 we fired at the army and then they began to escape. So we were
2 just there with one single barrel, and they escaped and we took
3 their weapons.

10:59:05

4 Q. Was there any particular institution you attacked when you
5 fired at the army?

6 A. Yes. They were the Krahn ethnic tribal grouping that were
7 in the army. They were stationed at the port, so we fired at
8 them.

10:59:33

9 Q. And do you recall the quantities - the quantity of weapons
10 that you captured?

11 A. Yes. The weapon we arrested - or captured were ten.

12 Q. That is ten what? Ten --

13 A. There was M1, EM16. They left it down and escaped, so we
14 took it from them, so we used it against them.

11:00:34

15 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I just wish to clarify the
16 record.

17 Q. Did you say Loguato Port, did you say "port" or "post"?

18 A. Yeah, the entry. The entry. The entry, the boundary, is
19 the one I'm talking about.

11:00:49

20 Q. Did you say "post" or "port"?

21 A. Loguato Port. You don't know that?

22 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, through you, may I ask from
23 the interpreters whether it's port as in P-O-R-T or post as in
24 P-O-S-T?

11:01:15

25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, did the witness say
26 "port" or "post"?

27 THE INTERPRETER: Post.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry?

29 THE INTERPRETER: Post.

1 MR CHEKERA:

2 Q. Do you know what happened to the other groups, the group
3 that went to --

11:01:55

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, before you go running to the
5 next question, you asked the witness, "That is ten what?" You
6 asked him the weapons you arrested were ten. You asked him, "Ten
7 what?" Then he said there was something like, "There was M1,
8 EM16, they left it down and escaped, so we took it from them."
9 Please excuse the rest of us who don't know these things. What
10 is an M1? What is an EM16?

11:02:19

11 MR CHEKERA:

12 Q. Mr Mineh, you mentioned the weapons and you described the
13 M1s and the M16s. What are those?

11:02:45

14 A. They are army gun. The M1 is long. M16, it got magazine
15 beneath that you can just insert the magazine in.

16 Q. Are those military assault rifles?

17 A. Yes. It's a weapon we use for war. It's a weapon that
18 soldiers can use.

11:03:08

19 Q. Okay. Now, I was going to ask you about the other groups.
20 Do you know what happened to the group that went to Monrovia?

21 A. Those who went to Monrovia? One of our friends left among
22 them and told Doe that we have come to fight this government.
23 Therefore, those who were not from the army before - in fact, the
24 one that confessed to the government was arrested and they
25 carried him and put him into prison in Post Stockade and they
26 explained. And the way we took the training, they explained.
27 This is how it happened. So those that went to Monrovia were
28 killed.

11:03:43

29 Q. I will just try to clarify that before we move on. You

1 said the group that went to Monrovia, did you say one of them
2 went to Doe and confessed?

3 A. Yes. He explained that we have come to fight this
4 government, so that's how he let us down. This is how they
11:04:31 5 arrested him. The very first person that said this is Bahn, Sam
6 Tozay, and they arrested him and killed him.

7 Q. You said he is from Bahn, he is Sam Tozay?

8 A. Yes, he is from Nimba County. He is in Bahn Zoger
9 District. His name is San Tozay.

11:05:14 10 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, the name of the person, the
11 spelling I have is Sam Tozay, T-O-Z-A-Y:

12 Q. So Sam Tozay went and told the Doe government and he was
13 arrested and you said the other members of the group were also
14 arrested, yes?

11:05:50 15 A. Yes, yes. After he have explained to Doe, so they arrested
16 all of them and put them into prison. And Sam Tozay was our
17 friend who learnt - and he left from us and went and reported us.
18 That's why they arrested him.

19 Q. Were all of the members of that group arrested and killed?

11:06:24 20 A. Yes. All of them they killed. They killed them.

21 Q. And what happened to the group that went to Bomi?

22 A. Those who were in Bomi Hills, they were not able to come.
23 They were not killed because they didn't have weapons. After we
24 entered Monrovia, for them, nothing happened to them.

11:06:49 25 Q. And the group that went to Loguato --

26 A. No.

27 Q. Sorry. What happened to the group that went to Loguato?
28 Did they succeed in coming into the country?

29 A. Yes. We didn't reach Monrovia. At that time we just fight

1 across the border.

2 Q. Let's talk about your group. Sorry. Now, let's talk about
3 your advances as a group. From Loguato, when you captured the
4 arms, where did you go next?

11:07:46 5 A. Well, after we left Loguato, we entered Karnplay. Those
6 who - our colleagues from Gbutuo came and joined us. After we
7 captured Karnplay, we captured Sanni quellie. Then we went to
8 Yekepa.

9 Q. From Karnplay, what happened? Where did you go next from
11:08:39 10 Karnplay?

11 A. Sanni quellie.

12 Q. You went to Sanni quellie?

13 A. Yes.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Didn't he mention Gbutuo? Did I mishear?

11:08:58 15 MR CHEKERA: I am coming to that. There is a group that
16 came to Gbutuo.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: No. He himself just now. If you look at
18 the transcript at page 43, line 7, when he is answering, "After
19 we left Loguato, we entered Karnplay. Those who our colleagues
11:09:14 20 from" - and the word "something". I thought I heard Gbutuo.

21 MR CHEKERA: That's Gbutuo.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is what I am referring to.

23 MR CHEKERA: I agree with you.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: You said Gbutuo, Mr Witness?

11:09:27 25 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes, those who came from Gbutuo joined
26 us and we all joined together to fight.

27 MR CHEKERA:

28 Q. And from Sanni quellie where did you go?

29 A. From Sanni quellie? I left other people. Then Mr Taylor

1 called me in Monrovia. Then he said, "I want to send you to
2 Bassa." Then I left my colleagues behind.

3 Q. At what point did Mr Taylor come into Liberia, if you
4 remember?

11:10:32 5 A. We crossed the river, 1990. He came to Gborplay. We left
6 him behind and we entered Liberia. So it was in Gborplay.

7 Q. When you entered Liberia from Ivory Coast, Mr Taylor was
8 not with you. You are saying he joined you later at Gborplay and
9 that was in 1990. Is that correct?

11:11:14 10 A. Yes. After he crossed, he was stationed in Gborplay. We
11 and him did not come together. We entered before he could
12 followed.

13 Q. And when Mr Taylor followed and went to Gborplay, how far
14 had you gone, your group?

11:11:37 15 A. We were in Yekepa before he called me.

16 Q. When you were advancing as far as Yekepa, were you fighting
17 in any - under any battalion?

18 A. No. We were going to Sanniquellie. Yes, I was fighting
19 the force commanded by someone.

11:12:17 20 Q. Who was commanding the first battalion?

21 A. That one of our friends, his name is George Karsuo. He was
22 the leader.

23 Q. Could I have the name of the leader?

24 A. I said George Karsuo.

11:12:43 25 MR BANGURA: [Microphone not activated] evidence about the
26 1st Battalion. Counsel is asking who was commanding the 1st
27 Battalion. We don't have that evidence --

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, I know the record says 1st, "We were
29 commanding in the 1st" by someone, but I thought I heard the

1 witness say, "We were fighting in the force commanded by"
2 someone.

3 MR CHEKERA: It is easier for me just to clarify:

11:13:18

4 Q. Mr Witness, did you say you were fighting in the 1st
5 Battalion?

6 MR BANGURA: That is again compounding the problem.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Can I say something. I notice that the
8 clarification I made before of what I heard doesn't appear in the
9 transcript. Can I urge the transcribers please to record
10 accurately everything that goes on on the Bench and not to be
11 selective as to whatever you think should be on the transcript or
12 not. And we don't appreciate these messages that you keep
13 posting on the transcript, because this is not a correction. We
14 don't waste our time - when we point out something we are trying
15 to get the record right and we expect to see everything recorded
16 in the transcript.

17 Madam Court Manager, I think you need to address this.
18 We're having problems with the transcribers.

19 I cannot imagine for the life of me how a Presiding Judge
20 can say something on the record and the transcriber decides not
21 to put it there. How is that possible? In which court have you
22 ever heard of that taking place?

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, please continue with your
24 questions.

11:14:58

25 MR CHEKERA: Thank you. Maybe I will just go back to the
26 original question:

27 Q. When you were advancing, Mr Mineh - when you were advancing
28 and you went as far as Yekepa, were you fighting under any
29 battalion?

1 A. I was in a battalion. I was in the 3rd Battalion. The
2 commander was George Karsuo and there I was until I was called.

3 Q. Could we have the name of the commander again, the
4 commander of the 3rd Battalion?

11:15:52 5 A. That's what I said, his name is George Karsuo.

6 MR CHEKERA: Karsuo is spelt K-A-R-S-U-O.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is George. George Karsuo. The
8 first name is George?

9 MR CHEKERA: George, yes:

11:15:58 10 Q. And you were called there by Mr Taylor. Where were you
11 called back to? Where did you go when Mr Taylor called you? Or
12 where was Mr Taylor when he called you back?

13 A. I went to Gborplay where I met him. Then he told me that,
14 "I want to send you to Bassa." I say okay.

11:16:43 15 Q. And when you were sent to Bassa, were you fighting in any
16 battalion?

17 A. Yes. After I was sent to Bassa, the man called Titus was
18 removed and I replaced him.

19 Q. What's the name again? The name of the person you
20 replaced?

11:17:13 21 A. Titus Menlee.

22 Q. Sorry, the name again? Titus who?

23 A. Titus Menlee. It's a Dan tribal word.

24 MR CHEKERA: The spelling I have for Menlee is M-E-N-L-E-E.

11:17:50 25 Titus is the regular spelling of Titus:

26 Q. And you replaced Titus Menlee as what?

27 A. 1st Battalion commander.

28 Q. And was this still in 1990?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Now, I am just going to ask you a few questions about the
2 time that you went to Gborplay. When you went to Gborplay to see
3 Mr Taylor, when you were summoned at Gborplay, for how long were
4 you in Gborplay?

11:18:29 5 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, counsel --

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please wait. Wait.
7 Mr Bangura?

8 MR BANGURA: We have had trouble with the witness giving us
9 a time frame here right through up to I believe this point in his
11:18:43 10 testimony. Counsel is putting to the witness whether this was
11 still in 1990. I did not hear the witness at all giving us a
12 time frame for all of these events.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: I recall the witness did mention a year,
14 at least I think when they went back into Liberia. Yes. If you
11:19:09 15 look at page 44, line 11, "At what point did Mr Taylor come back
16 into Liberia, if you remember?" He said, "We crossed the river
17 in 1990. He came to Gborplay." And again subsequently, "You are
18 saying he joined you later at Gborplay and that was in 1990. Is
19 that correct?" The witness says yes, et cetera. So that is the
11:19:40 20 time frame that Mr Chekera is following up.

21 MR BANGURA: Thank you, your Honour.

22 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President:

23 Q. Now, Mr Mineh, when you initially left Ivory Coast to cross
24 into Liberia, you said you had a meeting that was - where the
11:20:14 25 leaders were Dogolea and Isaac Musa. When you crossed into
26 Liberia, besides the Special Forces who were at the meeting, did
27 you have any other people who joined you as fighters?

28 A. Crossed - there was no other people that joined us. Nobody
29 joined us from the beginning.

1 Q. And when you got to Gborplay, did any other people start
2 joining you to fight?

3 A. Yes, there were some different group of people. Some group
4 of boys, they were just rejoicing. Willingly, they joined us.

11:21:19 5 Nobody forced them and so we trained them to fight.

6 Q. Do you know where the training camp was where you were
7 training them to fight?

8 A. Gborplay was our base.

9 Q. And was that where the training was going on?

11:21:49 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Who was doing the training?

12 A. The Special Forces, those who were assigned. John Vancan,
13 John Teah, they were training people. Wesley Yealou and others,
14 they were doing this task.

11:22:19 15 Q. You mentioned John Vancan?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Did you say John Vancan?

18 A. Yes. I said Wesley Yealou. They were plenty. John Teah.
19 I was not closer to them, so I cannot remember all of them.

11:22:46 20 Q. The other person, is the name Wilson Yealou?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Or is it Wesley?

23 A. Wesley Yealou.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, did the witness say

11:23:12 25 Wilson or Wesley?

26 THE INTERPRETER: Wesley. Wesley Yealou.

27 MR CHEKERA: The spelling I have for Yealou is Y-E-A-L-O-U.

28 MR BANGURA: While we are on spellings, the witness
29 mentioned names of persons who were training - doing the training

1 at Gborplay. One of them was John Vancan?

2 THE WITNESS: Yes.

3 MR CHEKERA: The spelling is in accordance with my
4 instructions:

11:24:18 5 Q. Now, did you have any trainers at Gborplay who were
6 not - or, rather, let me put it this way: The persons you have
7 named, were they Liberians?

8 A. They were all Liberians.

9 Q. Did you have any trainers at Gborplay who were not
11:24:40 10 Liberians?

11 A. No, I can't remember. If it was any, I did not remember.

12 Q. Did you have any trainers at Gborplay who were Gambian?

13 A. I said I could not - I did not see them. I did not see
14 them. I was not closer to them.

11:25:10 15 Q. Did you see any trainers who were from Ivory Coast at
16 Gborplay?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Did you see any --

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, Mr Bangura.

11:25:25 20 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, counsel could better put it to
21 the witness in a way that the witness tells the Court those that
22 were there, rather than counsel actually suggesting to the
23 witness and asking whether certain nationalities were there.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Certainly. Mr Chekera, why are you
11:25:50 25 leading the witness?

26 MR CHEKERA: I am putting to the witness evidence that had
27 been led by the Prosecution.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, if you are going to put evidence
29 led by the Prosecution, give us the reference.

1 MR CHEKERA: I was going to do that.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Otherwise you are leading the witness.

3 MR CHEKERA: Okay. Madam President, I will give the
4 references.

11:26:19 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Incidentally, when you are asking this
6 witness to tell his story, if he is telling his story, why don't
7 you ask him for his story first? Do you have to put to him what
8 other witnesses have said before we have heard his side of the
9 story?

11:26:42 10 MR CHEKERA: He had indicated about the absence of
11 foreigners and now I am actually putting to him that there are
12 suggestions that there were foreigners and indeed I believe and I
13 submit that we are entitled to confront that aspect of the
14 evidence through our own witnesses.

11:26:58 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please produce the evidence first. Refer
16 to it.

17 MR CHEKERA: Indeed.

18 THE WITNESS: I didn't see it.

19 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I will just quickly look at
11:27:50 20 the references over the break and come back to that aspect. I
21 will just move on and deal with another issue related to training
22 and then I will give you the references immediately after the
23 break:

24 Q. The training at Gborplay, how were the persons who were
11:28:16 25 training recruited?

26 A. I said the training, I was not nearer to the training base.
27 How they recruited and what did they do, I can't tell.

28 Q. Do you know whether the people were forcibly recruited?

29 A. I didn't see anyone with my eyes. I was not there. I was

1 all the way to the front line.

2 Q. When you got to Gborplay, were there children at Gborplay
3 who were taking part in the training?

4 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, again --

11:29:10 5 THE WITNESS: I can't remember. Before I can say anything,
6 when I came to Gborplay, I was not stationed there. No, if
7 anything happened at that, I did not remember.

8 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, again, same basis of my previous
9 objection. And I see that in the previous question that was
11:29:30 10 asked before this, counsel asked, were they forcibly recruited -
11 did you know whether - okay, I am not stating exactly, but the
12 word "forcibly" was used.

13 THE WITNESS: [Overlapping speakers].

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please, when the lawyer is
11:29:49 15 talking, you don't talk. Okay? One person speaks at a time,
16 please.

17 MR BANGURA: And then the present question which the
18 witness was about to answer was whether children were there.
19 Your Honours, I mean, they may sound like very small issues, but
11:30:06 20 counsel can put these questions in a better way than suggesting
21 more directly to the witness what sort of answers the witness
22 should give.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, I couldn't agree with you
24 more.

11:30:19 25 And, Mr Chekera, after the break, please sort yourself out
26 and refrain from leading the witness.

27 MR CHEKERA: I was actually about to refer to the relevant
28 portions of the Prosecution's case where these issues arise from.
29 I will do that after the break, of course.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: We are going to take our midmorning break
2 and reconvene at 12 o'clock.

3 [Break taken at 11.30 a.m.]

4 [Upon resuming at 12.07 p.m.]

12:07:28 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good afternoon. Mr Chekera, could you
6 continue, please.

7 MR CHEKERA: May I proceed?

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: I thought that's what I said.

9 MR CHEKERA: Just to clarify the issue that I raised just
12:08:28 10 before the break, I will probably take the cue from Madam
11 President and proceed with his evidence and deal with the
12 transcripts at the end of the evidence when all the evidence has
13 been put into perspective. So I will, for the time being,
14 abandon the line of questioning that I had adopted before the
12:08:48 15 break and come back to it when we've established sufficient
16 foundation to comment on the transcript, because the transcript
17 will implicate other issues that are not yet in evidence:

18 Q. Mr Mineh, when you were called back to Gborplay you said
19 you were assigned to which place again?

12:09:21 20 A. They sent me to Bassa.

21 Q. Is Bassa a county?

22 A. Buchanan, yes.

23 Q. And you said you were commanding the 1st Battalion?

24 A. Yes. After Titus Menlee left, I replaced him.

12:09:56 25 Q. After who left? You gave the name again, but it doesn't
26 look like --

27 A. I said Titus Menlee is the one that I replaced.

28 Q. And when you went to Bassa, which places did you go to?

29 A. When I went to Bassa, I was assigned in the number 1

1 compound.

2 Q. Did you say number 1 compound as in number one?

3 A. Yes, in Bassa. That's the area they called number 1
4 compound.

12:10:55 5 Q. And from number 1 compound, where did you go?

6 A. When I left number 1, I went to LAC. Then I captured LAC.

7 Q. Do you know what LAC is or what LAC stands for?

8 A. LAC, yes. It's a company area where they planted rubbers.
9 Yes, that's the area.

12:11:29 10 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, the spelling for LAC is

11 L-A-C:

12 Q. And from LAC, did you go anywhere else --

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: And the acronym is what?

14 MR CHEKERA:

12:11:43 15 Q. Do you know what the acronym LAC stands for?

16 A. I don't know. I don't know. All I know is it's a rubber
17 company area. There I was employed before.

18 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, in terms of help clarify the name
19 of the commander who the witness went to replace, I've got two
12:12:10 20 different sounds of names here and there is no clear spelling for
21 any of the two that I've got.

22 THE WITNESS: There were no commanders in the area. I only
23 saw white people. White people.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, they are not talking to you.

12:12:30 25 MR BANGURA: At one point --

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, you said that the witness
27 replaced a commander.

28 MR CHEKERA: Yes. And that name has already been mentioned
29 before. I could ask for the third time or we could --

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, no, no. But, you see, what's
2 important is not to talk about the name in the abstract. What is
3 the name that's been mentioned before, what is that name?

4 MR CHEKERA: Titus Menlee and it's been mentioned before.

12:13:07 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

6 MR CHEKERA: T-I-T-U-S M-E-N-L-E-E. We've spelled it
7 before:

8 Q. From LAC where did you go?

9 A. I went to River Cess County.

12:13:41 10 Q. And from River Cess?

11 A. Then I came to Buchanan city itself.

12 Q. Would you remember the year that you were moving in these
13 different places?

14 A. 1990. 1990. But that one I can remember.

12:14:08 15 Q. And when you were moving from these places one after the
16 other, were you engaged in battle?

17 A. Yes. Whenever you reach a town when we have been attacked,
18 then we fight. Thereafter we leave.

19 Q. Which forces were you fighting against?

12:14:32 20 A. At that time it was AFL. It was Doe's soldiers.

21 Q. And from Buchanan, did you go anywhere else?

22 A. Yes, I went other places.

23 Q. Yes. What other places did you go to?

24 A. After I left Buchanan, I went to Cotton Tree.

12:15:10 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, did you put your hand up?
26 Was that "cutting tree" or "Cotton Tree"?

27 THE WITNESS: Cotton Tree. Cotton Tree. Cotton Tree.

28 MR CHEKERA:

29 Q. Sorry could you pronounce the name again slowly?

1 A. Cotton Tree. Cotton Tree. It's the way they called it in
2 English.

3 MR CHEKERA: I think the name is properly spelt, Madam
4 President:

12:15:52 5 Q. And did you go anywhere else from Cotton Tree?

6 A. I went to Firestone.

7 Q. And are all these places still in Bassa?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And all the while you were still in command of the
12:16:15 10 1st Battalion?

11 A. Yes.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, I may have lost something,
13 but this is the 1st Battalion of which forces? Has the witness
14 told us?

12:16:36 15 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President:

16 Q. Mr Mineh, when you were fighting when you entered Liberia
17 to start the war, what forces were you fighting - what force were
18 you fighting under?

19 A. NPFL.

12:16:57 20 Q. And who was the leader of the NPFL?

21 A. Mr Taylor.

22 Q. And when you were fighting under the 1st Battalion, that
23 was under the NPFL?

24 A. Yes, NPFL.

12:17:18 25 Q. Now, from Firestone, did you go anywhere else?

26 A. [Microphone not activated] I went to RIA.

27 Q. Do you know what RIA stands for?

28 A. It's an airport. This is the airport in - they called RIA.

29 Q. Where is the airport in Liberia?

1 A. It is in Margibi County. That is the area they call RIA.

2 Q. And from RIA, did you go anywhere else?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Where did you go from RIA?

12:18:15 5 A. I left RIA and entered Camp Schefflein. That is a military
6 barracks.

7 Q. Did you engage in any battle at Camp Schefflein?

8 A. Yes, I captured Schefflein.

9 Q. And did you stay there or did you move on?

12:18:46 10 A. Yes, I advanced. I left the area.

11 Q. From Camp Schefflein, where did you go?

12 A. I went all the way to ELWA.

13 Q. Do you know what ELWA stands for?

14 A. It's a hospital area. That is the area sick people are
12:19:18 15 carried. That is the hospital.

16 Q. Where in Liberia is ELWA?

17 A. Near Monrovia. After that, before you can enter Monrovia
18 city itself.

19 Q. And from ELWA, did you go anywhere else?

12:19:40 20 A. Yes, you get into Monrovia itself.

21 Q. Did you leave ELWA to go anywhere else?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Where did you go from there?

24 A. After I left ELWA, I entered university campus, the
12:20:04 25 university near Monrovia. There I was based.

26 Q. And all this time, was this still in 1990?

27 A. Yes.

28 Q. Did you go beyond the university campus?

29 A. No, that's the only area. I was there when ECOMOG arrived

1 and said they have come to make peace. I didn't know that they
2 have come to fight us and they attack us. Then I left the area.

12:21:02 3 Q. You said you were based at the university campus when
4 ECOMOG came to make peace. Do you recall for how long you were
5 based before ECOMOG attacked?

6 A. One week we spent. Then they said they have come to judge
7 the case between us and Doe's soldiers, but we didn't know they
8 begin to combat us.

9 Q. Who said they had come to judge the case between Doe and
12:21:30 10 yourselves?

11 A. That's ECOMOG, that the leader, the field commander, I did
12 not know his name, he did want to us to lay down arms, that he
13 has come to settle the dispute. But, no, they were deceiving us
14 to fight. Then they put the jet plane up, begin to bombard our
12:21:53 15 positions. That's how I left.

16 Q. When they sued for peace, when they came to make peace, did
17 you lay down your arms?

18 A. No, no. They just said they have come to make peace, so at
19 that time they attacked us.

12:22:13 20 Q. When they said they had come to make peace, did you
21 continue fighting them or did you fight them?

22 A. We didn't fight them. Our leaders - the weapons they have,
23 they were superior weapons and we do not have sophisticated
24 weapon.

12:22:33 25 Q. And how was --

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, is the witness saying their
27 leaders had superior weapons? What is he saying? He said, "Our
28 leaders - the weapons they have, they were superior weapons ..."

29 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President:

1 Q. Who had superior weapons, Mr Witness?

2 A. It was ECOMOG who had the sophisticated weapons. They had
3 ships. They came to our border front and they have come and told
4 us that they have come to make peace, but behold they have come
12:23:18 5 to deceive us to attack us. So they attacked us.

6 Q. Are you saying that ECOMOG were the ones who broke the
7 peace?

8 A. Yes. They said we should not fight. They said we should
9 lay down arms and they attacked us --

12:23:44 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Pause. Mr Bangura?

11 MR BANGURA: Counsel is asking whether the witness says
12 it's ECOMOG who broke the peace. I'm not sure whether we had
13 such evidence about peace.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, I actually don't know what
12:24:01 15 you mean by broke the peace. What do you mean by "broke the" --

16 THE WITNESS: [No interpretation].

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am not talking to you, Mr Witness.

18 THE WITNESS: They said to me --

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, please.

12:24:08 20 Mr Chekera, what do you mean by they broke the peace?

21 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, if you look at page 59, I
22 asked the witness the question, "When they said they had come to
23 make peace, did you continue fighting them?"

24 THE WITNESS: I said, no, we didn't fight them.

12:24:34 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, I am talking to the lawyer,
26 okay? Please pause.

27 MR CHEKERA: And the answer that followed, Madam President,
28 was, "We did not fight them."

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: My question is very simple. Which

1 "peace" are you referring to which you say they broke?

2 MR CHEKERA: Let me rephrase. Maybe that would assist:

3 Q. Mr Witness, when ECOMOG said that you should lay down arms,
4 you've said that you laid down arms --

12:25:15 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: He said absolutely not. He said they did
6 not lay down arms.

7 MR CHEKERA: Yes, that's my mistake. I meant the NPFL:

8 Q. Mr Witness, let me rephrase the question once again. When
9 you were - when ECOMOG came, who attacked the - who attacked the
10 other first, yourselves or ECOMOG?

11 A. Yes, it was ECOMOG that attacked us. After they told us to
12 wait and lay down arms, whereas we stopped and waited for them.
13 Then they put the jet plane up and begin to bomb our positions.
14 So, therefore, we got no other means.

12:26:16 15 Q. You had no other means but to do what?

16 A. After they attacked us, then we were not able to withstand
17 their force, because they have attacked us, so we decided to
18 retreat.

19 Q. Did you fight back when ECOMOG attacked you?

12:26:41 20 A. We didn't fight them. They just attacked us by surprise
21 attack. So they had sophisticated weapons. We could not stand
22 their force.

23 Q. What weapons did ECOMOG use to attack you?

24 A. The big, big guns. 106 and the bomb they use. That sort
12:27:13 25 of big, big guns.

26 Q. Sorry, you said they had big, big guns, 106, and what else
27 did you say?

28 A. Bombs. Bombs that they used from the jet plane. Bomb they
29 used from jet planes.

1 Q. And when you retreated, where did you go?

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: What is a 106?

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, after --

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, I'm asking you, what is a

12:27:50 5 106?

6 MR CHEKERA: From the answer there, I would say a big, big

7 gun:

8 Q. Mr Witness, what is a 106?

9 A. That's a big gun. They got four legs just like tyres on a

12:28:08 10 car.

11 Q. Can you describe that gun again? Where is it?

12 A. I said it got a long muscle. Then it has tyres beneath

13 just like car tyres.

14 Q. Do you know what a tanker is, Mr Witness?

12:28:41 15 A. Why is that?

16 Q. Okay. Don't worry about the question. And when you

17 retreated, where did you go to?

18 A. After we had been pushed from our position, I went to

19 Harbel, Firestone.

12:29:06 20 Q. And in terms of time frame, was this still within the same

21 year or this was a different year, if you remember?

22 A. Please repeat.

23 Q. When you retreated to Harbel, was this still in the same

24 year 1990, or this was a different year?

12:29:40 25 A. It was in the year - in a different year.

26 Q. If you remember, what year was it now?

27 A. When I left Harbel I went to Gbarnga. I was there in 1991

28 in Gbarnga.

29 Q. What year were you in when you went to Harbel before you

1 went to Gbarnga?

2 A. I was in Harbel in 1990, at the end of 1990. Then 1991 I
3 went to Gbarnga.

4 Q. Did you stay long in Gbarnga?

12:30:40 5 A. Yes, I was there for a while, yes.

6 Q. And from Gbarnga did you go anywhere else?

7 A. After I left Gbarnga Mr Taylor sent me to Cape Mount
8 county.

9 Q. And if you recall, when were you sent to Cape Mount county?

12:30:59 10 A. It was in '91 in the middle. I can't remember the day
11 because there was no rating document. It was in '91 ending. In
12 fact, in the middle.

13 Q. What were you sent to do in Cape Mount?

14 A. I went for war.

12:31:28 15 Q. Which enemy were you fighting in Cape Mount?

16 A. That time those - our fighting was ULIMO.

17 Q. Was ULIMO in Cape Mount when you went to Cape Mount to
18 fight them?

12:31:54 19 A. Yes. Yes, ULIMO had captured Cape Mount. They have
20 captured many areas, so the old man told me to go there.

21 Q. Do you know where ULIMO came from when they came and
22 captured Cape Mount?

23 A. Yes, ULIMO came from Sierra Leone.

24 Q. And were you fighting under any battalion when you went to
12:32:21 25 Cape Mount?

26 A. The battalion I was was 6th Battalion.

27 Q. And who was leading the 6th Battalion?

28 A. The head was Degbon. He was the over commander, but my
29 control area is Cape Mount.

1 Q. Was Degbon leading the 6th Battalion?

2 A. He was the head. He was the head of the Special Forces.

3 Q. And was he in command of the 6th Battalion in Bomi?

4 A. Yes, he was the head of all of us.

12:33:28 5 MR BANGURA: We haven't heard evidence that 6th Battalion
6 was in Bomi. We haven't heard that evidence. That's leading.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, did we have that evidence?
8 If it exists, just show us the page and line.

9 MR CHEKERA: Page 64, line 10.

12:33:55 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: My page 64, line 10 says, "He was the
11 overall commander but my control area was Cape Mount."

12 MR CHEKERA: Maybe the lines are different. I could just
13 read you from my transcript. The question at my line 10 is,
14 "Where were you fighting and were you fighting under any

12:34:19 15 battalion when you went to Cape Mount?" My mistake when I made
16 reference to - sorry, actually I did not make any reference to
17 Bomi. I think I made reference to Cape Mount. The answer to the
18 question, "Were you fighting under any battalion when you went to
19 Cape Mount", the answer was, "The battalion I was was the 6th
12:34:42 20 Battalion."

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: The objection is to the use of the word
22 Bomi as being where the 6th Battalion was based. That is the
23 objection.

24 MR CHEKERA: Yes. If that is the reference that was a slip
12:34:58 25 of the tongue. My mistake. I take back the observation. I
26 would rephrase the question and correct myself:

27 Q. When you were fighting under the 6th Battalion in Cape
28 Mount, what was your position?

29 A. I was company commander. I got other people under me. All

1 of us, our leader, the head, was Degbon.

2 Q. And who else was above you beside Degbon?

3 A. Anthony Mekunagbe.

4 Q. Anyone else?

12:35:41 5 A. Oliver Varney.

6 Q. What was Anthony Mekunagbe's position?

7 A. He was the leader. He and Degbon were the leaders. Yes,
8 Degbon's rank surpasses his.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: What? Mr Interpreter, what did you say
12:36:12 10 about the ranks?

11 THE INTERPRETER: I said his rank surpasses the rank of -

12 THE WITNESS: He was the head. He was the head of --

13 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honours, could the witness be
14 instructed to answer slowly.

12:36:38 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, I did ask you before to speak
16 slowly. And sometimes I'm not even speaking to you, I'm speaking
17 to the interpreter and you keep interrupting. Please pay
18 attention to the way everything works. We speak one person at a
19 time.

12:37:03 20 Mr Chekera, I think you better just continue.

21 MR CHEKERA:

22 Q. The question that I asked you and I want you to answer
23 directly if you can: What was Anthony Mekunagbe's position?

24 A. He was dividing food and ammunition. That's what he
12:37:27 25 controls.

26 Q. And was he superior to you?

27 A. Yes. Yes, he was superior to me.

28 Q. And what was Oliver Varney's position?

29 A. Oliver Varney, he was one of the leaders, yes, there.

1 Q. And you said you had people who were subordinate to you.
2 Who was subordinate to you?

3 A. Those who were under me, junior commandos that - there they
4 were different. One of those who were under me was Allyosious
12:38:18 5 Mendin. He was working directly under me.

6 Q. Could we have the name again, the name of the person who
7 was working under you, Mendin. What is the full name?

8 A. Allyosious Mendin.

9 Q. The spelling I have, it appears it's - did you say Mendin?

12:38:56 10 A. Allyosious. Allyosious Mendin.

11 MR CHEKERA: The spelling I have is A-L-L-Y-O-S-I-O-U-S and
12 the second name I have appears to have been pronounced
13 differently. I have M-E-N-D-I-N, but it would appear it's being
14 pronounced differently.

12:39:35 15 If I may just clarify the spelling with Mr Taylor. He
16 might be able to assist me. Mr Taylor has helpfully assisted me
17 and the spelling is the same Menlee we have, which is
18 M-E-N-L-E-E.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, you do realise what you are
12:40:17 20 actually doing. You are having Mr Taylor give evidence instead
21 of the witness simply because you haven't sorted out your
22 spellings before.

23 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I wish it to be placed on
24 record that I endeavoured to check the spellings with the
12:40:31 25 translators and indeed those were the spellings.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, your endeavours failed if you are
27 now going to change the spellings and have Mr Taylor substitute
28 his spellings. This is what you are in fact doing and I need to
29 draw this to your attention. It doesn't look neat at all.

1 MR CHEKERA: It doesn't, Madam President, to the extent
2 that I'm able to assist and --

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Do you think it's right that when a
4 witness comes Mr Taylor keeps supplying the spellings?

12:41:00 5 MR CHEKERA: To the extent that there is no dispute, I
6 would submit it is.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm surprised at you. I'm really
8 surprised at you, Mr Chekera, that a lawyer like you can talk
9 that way.

12:41:17 10 MR BANGURA: The Prosecution certainly objects to this
11 practice of Mr Taylor supplying information which counsel then
12 puts to the witness.

13 MR CHEKERA: Now that the spellings are in dispute, Madam
14 President, I'll abandon the spelling that has been provided by
12:41:36 15 Mr Taylor and go by the original spelling. And we will not in
16 future seek the assistance of Mr Taylor with the spellings, as
17 obviously there is now a dispute.

18 I would like to place on record that I have endeavoured to
19 check the spellings to the best of my ability and if I do fail, I
12:42:00 20 will seek the assistance of the interpreters and that is what we
21 are going to go by.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is noted. Proceed.

23 MR CHEKERA: Thank you:

24 Q. Which part of Cape Mount were you in when you were in Cape
12:42:32 25 Mount?

26 A. I was in Tiene.

27 Q. And where was Oliver Varney based?

28 A. Oliver was in one of the towns they called Wangakor.
29 Degbon and all were there.

1 Q. What is the name of the town?

2 A. Wangakor.

3 MR CHEKERA: The spelling I have for Wangakor is
4 W-A-N-G-A-K-O-R:

12:43:21 5 Q. And you said who else was at Wangakor with Oliver Varney?

6 A. I said Oliver, Degbon and others were together there.

7 Q. Now did anything happen while you were in Cape Mount during
8 this time?

9 A. Yes.

12:43:50 10 Q. What happened?

11 A. What happened was I joined them so that we all can fight.
12 When I entered there they were not seeking my welfare. I didn't
13 know that they have different thing in mind. Every supplies that
14 were sent to us by Mr Taylor --

12:44:15 15 Q. I want you to go very slowly. We're trying to catch up
16 with the record, so just explain slowly. If you explain small -
17 in small bits and pieces. Explain and then pause and explain.
18 Would you like to start again? What happened when you were in
19 Cape Mount?

12:44:35 20 A. Yes, I remember.

21 Q. Please explain and go slowly.

22 A. What happened was our friends, we and us went to fight.
23 They turned against me.

24 Q. Who turned against you? Be specific?

12:45:02 25 A. Those who conspired against me, Anthony Mekunagbe, Degbon,
26 Oliver Varney, One Man One. They are the ones who conspired
27 against me. So all supplies that were sent to me, they sent it
28 to the enemy.

29 Q. Just wait a minute. You mentioned Oliver Varney. You

1 mentioned Degbon. Who else did you mention?

2 A. One Man One.

3 Q. And what were they --

4 A. Timothy Mulibah.

12:45:53 5 Q. And you said they - what were they doing with your
6 supplies?

7 A. All materials were sent - Degbon would send it to any enemy
8 in ULIMO. Then ULIMO begin to attack us. In fact, they opened
9 the corridor.

12:46:15 10 Q. Okay. Just pause there. What material was Degbon sending
11 to the enemy, ULIMO?

12 A. Ammunitions. Foodstuffs. He took it from us and gave it
13 to ULIMO to fight against us.

14 Q. And where was that - where were those supplies, ammunition
12:46:36 15 and foodstuff, coming from?

16 A. Yes, it came from Gbarnga to us.

17 Q. And did you know why they were sending those materials to
18 ULIMO?

19 A. They joined ULIMO and they formed unit to fight against us
12:47:07 20 because we all took training together, so they decided to
21 conspire against me.

22 Q. Just pause there. You said they joined ULIMO and formed a
23 unit to fight against us.

24 A. Yes.

12:47:27 25 Q. Who were they fighting against?

26 A. They were fighting we that were in NPFL, because we were
27 divided into groups. Those of us that were strong fighters, they
28 didn't want to see us.

29 Q. And what unit did they form?

1 A. They called the unit Black Kadaffa.

2 Q. And just so that we are clear, who formed Black Kadaffa?

3 A. Oliver Varney and Degbon, Anthony Mekunagbe and others, One
4 Man One.

12:48:18 5 Q. Was ULIMO part of Black Kadaffa?

6 A. They were united.

7 Q. And Black Kadaffa, do you know what Black Kadaffa sought to
8 achieve?

9 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Chekera, I'm not entirely clear what
12:48:48 10 that answer means. You asked was ULIMO part of Black Kadaffa.

11 And the answer was, "They were united." Who were united and what
12 were they united into?

13 MR CHEKERA: Let me clarify that:

14 Q. Mr Witness, who were united in constituting Black Kadaffa?

12:49:11 15 A. These people: Oliver Varney, Degbon, Timothy Mulibah, One
16 Man One. They united and formed their group and joined the ULIMO
17 and said let's fight us. They begin to fight us. And I - when I
18 went there, we went there to fight with pure heart.

19 Q. Let me just stop there. Let me stop you there. Was ULIMO
12:49:48 20 part of Black Kadaffa?

21 A. They were never member ordinarily. It was Degbon group
22 organised them and told them, "We have opened the corridor for
23 you to pass." So they united to fight us.

24 Q. Let me just try again. You've mentioned that Oliver Varney
12:50:16 25 and the others constituted Black Kadaffa, and you said they were
26 working with ULIMO. Was ULIMO part of Black Kadaffa?

27 A. Yes. I said they were united. After they have collected
28 our materials, they supply it to them.

29 MR CHEKERA: Justice Doherty, does that assist your

1 inquiry?

2 JUDGE DOHERTY: To some extent. I'm not entirely clear.

3 And we've got "they collected and they gave to them".

4 MR CHEKERA: I was going to move to the next part where

12:51:01 5 what was the purpose of Black Kadaffa:

6 Q. Now, when Black Kadaffa was formed and united with ULIMO,

7 do you know what their purpose was?

8 A. It was - they wanted to - our organisation so that they

9 would destroy it. They don't want to become member of NPFL

12:51:28 10 again. So I didn't know.

11 Q. Just repeat the question because - sorry, just repeat the

12 answer because there is a word that has been missed there. Just

13 repeat the answer you gave. Why did they unite Black Kadaffa and

14 ULIMO?

12:51:48 15 A. They united to fight. To fight NPFL. And for me, they

16 left me - they left me at the battlefield and set ambush for me.

17 When I came, I fell in the ambush. Secondly, they took my arms

18 and ammunition. Thirdly --

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

12:52:22 20 to speak slowly and answer slowly so that I can get.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you are going to repeat your

22 answer slowly so that the interpreter can interpret what you are

23 saying. You had told us two things and you said "thirdly".

24 Start from there. "Thirdly" what happened?

12:52:51 25 THE WITNESS: Third, they fired at my back and they fired

26 at my secret parts. That's what they did to me.

27 MR CHEKERA:

28 Q. We will come back and discuss all those issues each one in

29 turn.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: They fired what?

2 THE WITNESS: They fired at my back and it penetrated
3 through my front and took my testes.

4 MR CHEKERA: I'm hoping to come back to that issue and to
12:53:33 5 clarify the issue so maybe it will become clearer.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: I have a duty when I see the word
7 "indiscernible" to ask for clarification so that the record
8 tomorrow doesn't show "indiscernible" and that is all I'm doing.

9 MR CHEKERA: Indeed, Madam President. May I proceed or you
12:54:08 10 seek to clarify the "indiscernible"?

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: I didn't ask. I've got the
12 clarification. The interpreter clarified very well.

13 MR CHEKERA: Thank you:

14 Q. Mr Mineh, can you describe for us how Oliver Varney and
12:54:28 15 others that you have mentioned were relating with ULIMO? How
16 were they working together? Can you describe what they were
17 doing?

18 A. What they were doing was, everything that concerned NPFL,
19 they informed the enemy, and everything we do, they informed the
12:54:55 20 enemy. Then they collected our arms and ammunition and gave it
21 to the enemy.

22 Q. How do you know that this was what they were doing?

23 A. Mmm, my G2 - the G2 I was using, that's the G2 that
24 informed me. Yes, myself, I saw it.

12:55:28 25 Q. Firstly, let's talk about what you saw. What did you see?

26 A. What I saw was, these people, they conspired against NPFL
27 and begin to attack us and they wanted to overthrow Taylor, so
28 therefore they turned against us. This is how they fired at me.
29 After that they were arrested. When they investigated them, they

1 confessed.

2 Q. Did you ever see any member of the Black Kadaffa, the
3 persons that you have mentioned, did you ever see any of them
4 either talking to a ULIMO member or sending arms to ULIMO, any
12:56:44 5 one or more of the ULIMO members?

6 A. Yes. The one - the one I saw was Timothy Mulibah. He is
7 the one that I can remember.

8 Q. What did you see him doing?

9 A. They were conspiring how to take away arms and ammunition
12:57:09 10 from us and this is what they were doing and I saw them. This is
11 how - they told me that since I did not join them they will kill
12 me. This is how they fired at me.

13 Q. Did you see Timothy Mulibah collecting arms and handing
14 them over to ULIMO?

12:57:34 15 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, I object.

16 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes, I saw it clearly. Yes, it was
17 what happened.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura?

19 MR BANGURA: It's leading, your Honours. Your Honours,
12:57:49 20 counsel could ask the witness to say what he saw what happened
21 but not suggesting a particular activity that the witness might
22 have seen, and that's obviously it's suggesting the answer that
23 the witness might give.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Well, in this case Mr Chekera had asked
12:58:06 25 before a question, "Did you ever see any member of the Black
26 Kadaffa taking - either taking - talking to an ULIMO member or
27 sending arms to ULIMO?" And then the witness gave his answer,
28 which I think was vague, and I think it was okay for Mr Chekera
29 in this case to clarify with that very question that he asked,

1 and the witness has answered.

2 MR BANGURA: [Microphone not activated] that that answer
3 was vague. Obviously that does not give counsel leave to base a
4 question - another leading question on that. That question in
12:58:50 5 itself was a leading - but notwithstanding that, the witness gave
6 an answer which was vague, and so it doesn't give him a platform
7 on which to base a question which is now leading.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, I have made a ruling. You
9 may not like it, but that's it. That's the ruling I've made.

12:59:11 10 Mr Chekera, please proceed.

11 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President:

12 Q. I want you to explain very carefully and tell us exactly
13 what you saw. What did you see Timothy Mulibah do?

14 A. Timothy Mulibah, he took some cartons of ammunitions and
12:59:39 15 some children saw him, then I decided to do fact-finding. When
16 he denied but later he confessed. After he has confessed, he
17 said, "Yes, I did." This is how I know. Then again he went and
18 set ambush and fired at me. This is what happened. [Microphone
19 not activated] exactly.

13:00:10 20 Q. You said in your answer that, "He took some cartons of
21 ammunition and some children saw him, then I decided to do
22 fact-finding." Let's just restrict ourselves to that. What
23 fact-finding did you do?

24 A. I followed them and saw them and I asked them. And he said
13:00:40 25 I was - I was - I was catering to people. He said, well, Degbon
26 has brought arms and ammunition to me, because I told him he need
27 not to carry arms and ammunition from here. So are you one of
28 the enemies?

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Stop, Mr Witness. Mr Chekera, you better

1 take this is again. This is total nonsense. We cannot make
2 sense what of is being interpreted. So ask the question again
3 and, Mr Interpreter, you had better interpret in a manner that we
4 understand, please.

13:01:20 5 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President:

6 Q. Mr Mineh, I want you to go very slowly so that the
7 interpreters can follow closely and possibly help us. The
8 question was when you said you decided to do fact-finding, what
9 exactly did you do?

13:01:51 10 A. What happened, it was the way they were doing things, I was
11 not satisfied and through them they were conspiring and I saw
12 them.

13 Q. Just pause there. What the Court would be interested in is
14 for you to tell us what you saw, and that is the question. Tell
15 us exactly what you saw and go slowly?

13:02:18 16 A. They took my ammunition and they gave it to the enemy. And
17 besides that, they fired at me. Because I did not agree with
18 them and after we have arrested them, yes, they confessed. They
19 did not deny.

13:02:39 20 Q. We'll come to the time that they fired at you. Let's talk
21 about when they took your ammunition. Tell us about that
22 incident when they took your ammunition?

23 A. Yes, when they took the ammunition, they gave it to the
24 enemy and the enemy was fighting us. This is how I managed to
25 know.

13:03:10 26 Q. Who came to take - who took the ammunition away from you?

27 A. I said Timothy Mulibah.

28 Q. And what quantities of ammunition did he take from you?

29 A. AK, one carton, the ammunition.

1 Q. Besides the one carton, did he take any other ammunition to
2 ULIMO that you know of?

3 A. This thing? Yes, they were doing this thing continuously,
4 yes. They were exposed. Everything that comes, Degbon would
13:04:01 5 take it and give it to the enemy. This is what he was doing
6 always. Because I did not agree with him, this is why he fired
7 at me.

8 Q. Earlier on you mentioned that you were ambushed. Let's
9 talk about that ambush.

13:04:18 10 A. I said these people, they came and set ambush. So when my
11 vehicle was coming in, when my vehicle arrived at the site, they
12 fired at me. And we passed through the second ambush, they fired
13 at my back. Then they took my ammunition and carried it to
14 ULIMO. After they have done that, the one I saw was One Man One.
13:04:57 15 So I agreed that indeed they have conspired against us. This is
16 how I managed to know about the conspiracy.

17 Q. Let's talk about the ambush when they ambushed your
18 vehicle. Who ambushed your vehicle?

19 A. Black Kadaffa are the ones who set the ambush because they
13:05:41 20 felt that I was strong fighter and I refused not to join them,
21 this is why they took my ammunition and gave it to ULIMO.

22 Q. You refused to join them in what? What did you refuse to
23 join them in?

24 A. [Microphone not activated] wanted so we can - to destroy
13:06:08 25 NPFL. So we should conspire against Charles Taylor. So I said I
26 would not destroy my mission. Now they fired at me.

27 Q. Who approached you for you to help them destroy Charles
28 Taylor - sorry, destroy the NPFL and conspire against Charles
29 Taylor? Who approached you?

1 A. That Degbon. Degbon is the one. He's the one who informed
2 me and I refused.

3 Q. What did Degbon say to you when he approached you?

13:06:58

4 A. Degbon said, "All the arms and ammunition, I will give you
5 \$100 US." Then I told him, "I cannot understand what you have
6 said." He said okay. Then they left. After two days then
7 Allyosious fired at my back. This is how it happened. Then I
8 agreed. Surely that they conspired against us. This is how I
9 know about this.

13:07:28

10 Q. Degbon approached you and offered you \$100 for what? What
11 was the \$100 in exchange for - in exchange of?

12 A. He said the guns that were assigned with my troops so that
13 he can take it. I said no.

13:07:56

14 Q. So he was offering you \$100 for all the guns that were
15 assigned to your troops?

16 A. Yes. Yes, he said each person would receive \$100 US and I
17 said no.

18 Q. And by each person, who do you refer - are you referring to
19 your troops?

13:08:18

20 A. Yes, those who were in my control. Those who were in my
21 command, my junior commandos. Yes, these are the people I'm
22 referring to.

23 Q. And did he tell you what he was going to do with the guns?

24 A. Yes.

13:08:38

25 Q. What did he say he was going to do with the guns?

26 A. He said he would take the arms and ammunition and give it
27 to the enemy, those who were fighting against us. Then I told
28 him I'm not able to do so. Therefore, yes, I told him I'm not
29 able to do so. This is how I turned to become enemy to them.

1 Q. And did he say which enemy he was going to take the arms
2 and ammunition to?

3 A. He said he was carrying the arms and ammunition to ULIMO.
4 He did not tell me the other group. So I asked him, I said, "You
13:09:19 5 have turned against us?" He didn't stay too long. Then they
6 begin to arrest the Dan people. Then they begin to confess.

7 Q. You earlier on mentioned someone called One Man One. Who
8 was One Man One?

9 A. One Man One was a fighter. He was assigned with Degbon.

13:09:54 10 Q. And what did you say about One Man One when you saw One Man
11 One?

12 A. One Man One, he was the first - the first time I fell in
13 the ambush when I came from in the ambush I saw One Man One.

14 Then I asked him, "Where were you when they fired at me?" He
13:10:12 15 didn't answer me, then passed on. This is how I believe that he
16 was one of the conspirators.

17 Q. And you mentioned about an incident when they fired at you
18 and you were wounded. Let's talk about that incident. What
19 happened?

13:10:29 20 A. Well, after they fired at me, I told my members under my
21 control --

22 Q. Let me just cut you short and go back to the beginning.
23 Tell us about how you got to be shot. Let's start before you
24 were shot. How did you get to be shot?

13:10:53 25 A. We were going to the battlefield. Then the pikin was
26 assigned with me. Behold they have sent him to fire at me. When
27 enemy would fire at me --

28 Q. Sorry, did I hear the word "pikin"?

29 A. Yes, that Allyosious Mendin I'm talking about. Allyosious

1 Mendi n.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: Is pi ki n a name?

3 THE WITNESS: I sai d Al l yosi ous Mendi n.

4 MR CHEKERA:

13:11:45 5 Q. Now, let's start again. Can you just describe for us how
6 you were shot, and go slowly, please?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Please explain and go slowly so that the interpreters can
9 follow.

13:12:05 10 A. Where I was when ULIMO came and attacked us, when I was
11 facing the battle, not knowing Al l yosi ous - Al l yosi ous who was
12 assigned to me, they have told him to fire at me. I didn't know.
13 Then he was supporting the enemy and he fired at me. When it
14 happened, he agreed and confessed and begged me to forgive him.

13:12:42 15 This is how I knew how he fired at me.

16 Q. Who asked Al l yosi ous to fire at you?

17 A. Degbon sent him because I did not agree with them.

18 Q. Degbon sent him because you did not agree with them in
19 what?

13:13:10 20 A. It is to go fight, to conspire against Mr Taylor, to kill
21 him. And I told them no.

22 Q. And when Al l yosi ous fired at you, were you wounded?

23 A. Yes, I wounded. Yes, I fell down. And the gun fired - the
24 gun wounded me on my secret part.

13:14:02 25 Q. Where did Al l yosi ous fire you from?

26 A. He fired at my butt and penetrated through my front.

27 Q. And what part of your body was injured in the process?

28 A. I said he fired at my back and hit my penis.

29 Q. And what sort of injuries did you sustain, if any, as a

1 result?

2 A. Yes, I was wounded and blooded and I fell unconscious.

3 This is what happened.

4 Q. Did you suffer any injuries as a result - any permanent

13:15:00 5 injuries as a result?

6 A. Yes. You said gun hit you and then you ask me question?

7 Now, now, presently I'm not fit.

8 Q. I want you to just repeat your answer because there's

9 something that has not been recorded. My question was: Did you

13:15:28 10 suffer any permanent injuries as a result? Would you repeat your

11 answer?

12 A. Yes. I was wounded.

13 Q. And what sort of injuries did you suffer? Can you describe

14 the injuries for the Court?

13:15:44 15 A. I said he fired my butt and it penetrated and it took one

16 of my testes. Yes, this is how I'm wounded.

17 Q. Do you still have any problem with your --

18 A. Yes. Presently I'm suffering from this. Yes, normally I

19 pee pee at myself. Yes, I'm impotent now as a result.

13:16:29 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, is this a personal injuries

21 claim? What is this? Why are we going into these kinds of

22 details?

23 MR CHEKERA: Because, Madam President, it's the witness's

24 evidence and --

13:16:43 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: No. You are asking the questions. I'm

26 asking you, is this a personal injuries claim?

27 MR CHEKERA: It is not, but it impacts on evidence that we

28 are going to confront from the Prosecution later.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: The details of his injuries are relevant

1 to this case?

2 MR CHEKERA: I will establish the relevance in due course:

3 Q. After your injuries, Mr Witness, what happened to you?

4 A. I was carried to the hospital.

13:17:21 5 Q. And for how long were you hospitalised?

6 A. I stayed long there. I cannot remember the month, neither
7 the day.

8 Q. And did you take up any assignment after you came out of
9 hospital?

13:17:42 10 A. Yes. After I left the hospital, after I recovered,
11 Mr Taylor sent me to Sanniquellie as superintendent. Then I was
12 not fighting again. I was not doing anything again.

13 Q. Now, from the time that you were fighting, from the time
14 that you entered into Liberia to the time that you were sent
13:18:17 15 Sanniquellie, you were actively engaged in combat. Is that
16 correct?

17 A. No. After I was wounded and I went to hospital and
18 discharged and went to Sanniquellie, I was not fighting.

19 Q. During the time that you were fighting in the NPFL, did you
13:18:41 20 have any policy, or did you have any system of discipline in the
21 NPFL?

22 A. Yes. If anyone does wrong, I advise. That is how we were
23 - what we were doing, yes, I gave them strong advice. Yes. I
24 don't allowed my soldiers to loot or to harass people.

13:19:23 25 Q. Now, do you know if anything happened to Degbon and the
26 others who were members of the Black Kadaffa after your shooting?

27 A. Yes, they arrested them. They carried them to Gbarnga and
28 investigated them.

29 Q. Who were arrested, if you can give us the names?

1 A. Those that they arrested, Degbon, Anthony Mekunagbe,
2 Timothy Mulibah, One Man One; they investigated them. Allyosious
3 Melee who fired at me.

4 Q. Who investigated them?

13:20:12 5 A. The tribunal chairman. In our organisation there was
6 tribunal and the tribunal investigated them.

7 Q. Who was the chairman of the tribunal?

8 A. McDonald Boam.

9 Q. The spelling for Boam is B-O-A-M. I think it's on the
13:20:44 10 record from previous transcripts. And what was the purpose of
11 the tribunal?

12 A. Repeat that.

13 Q. The tribunal that was chaired by McDonald Boam, what was
14 the purpose of that tribunal? What was it there to do in the
13:21:12 15 NPFL?

16 A. He was the investigator. Whoever is charged - whoever that
17 conspired against Taylor or want to do bad to anybody, yes, then
18 they take care of them. If you were found guilty, and just as
19 our brothers conspired against us, besides that, if any Special
13:21:46 20 Forces having to do anything wrong on the outside, that person is
21 investigated.

22 Q. When you say if any Special Forces did anything wrong
23 outside, what do you mean? Or if they did anything wrong
24 outside.

13:22:09 25 A. [Microphone not activated] for example, if you looted - you
26 looted people's things or you fired at anybody, we arrest you and
27 investigate you.

28 Q. Do you know whether the tribunal lead authority to
29 investigate complaints by civilians?

1 A. Tribunal was there organised for only soldiers. It is
2 geared we can investigate soldiers.

3 Q. I will try my question exactly the way I put it. If a
4 civilian had a complaint, could they go to the tribunal?

13:23:09 5 A. No, civilian cannot just go there. Civilian - if civilian
6 carries complaint against civilian, yes, that person will be
7 investigated. But this tribunal is mainly organised for the
8 soldiers.

9 Q. And what happened when the members of the Black Kadaffa who
13:23:35 10 you mentioned earlier were referred to the tribunal?

11 A. Those who were there, they investigated them.

12 Q. What was the outcome of the investigation?

13 A. They executed them because they did harm. Yes, we took
14 oath and they violated the oath.

13:24:02 15 Q. Do you know whether they were tried?

16 A. Yes, they investigated them, but at that time I was in the
17 hospital. Yes, they investigated them.

18 Q. Do you know whether the - these people were tried before
19 the tribunal?

13:24:39 20 A. Yes, they investigated them. Yes, they arrested - they
21 brought them - yes, they themselves confessed.

22 Q. To whom did they confess?

23 A. Degbon agreed, Oliver Varney, Timothy Mulibah, all of them,
24 One Man One. In fact, Allyosious agreed that he was the one that
13:25:11 25 fired at me.

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, this tribunal, was it an
27 investigative tribunal, or was it a Court, or was it both?

28 MR CHEKERA: To be honest, I'm struggling to extract that
29 piece of information. Let me try again. I was hoping I would

1 get there through the line of questioning I was following.

2 Q. Mr Witness, you said these people, they all agreed, they
3 confessed. To whom did they confess?

4 A. I said to the tribunal chairman, McDonald Boam.

13:26:01 5 Q. Do you know whether they were brought before the tribunal?

6 A. Yes, they brought them. They brought them to Gbarnga and
7 investigated them.

8 Q. And when they were brought to Gbarnga, were they brought in
9 front of the Tribunal which was chaired by McDonald Boam?

13:26:26 10 A. Yes, they brought them in front of him and investigated
11 them.

12 Q. Do you know whether they were given a chance to defend
13 themselves before the tribunal?

14 A. Yes, yes, they gave them time to explain.

13:26:52 15 Q. And do you know what they explained to the tribunal?

16 A. What I heard was it was their conduct. Yes, they confessed
17 that they conspired against us.

18 Q. Do you know exactly what they confessed to when you say
19 "conspired against us"?

13:27:20 20 A. Because they wanted to kill Mr Taylor. They don't - they
21 do not like him, so they want to kill him.

22 Q. And what were they going to do after they killed Mr Taylor?

23 A. They want to organise their own government. They want to
24 be leaders of the nation.

13:27:56 25 Q. What nation are you talking about? You said they wanted to
26 be the leaders of the nation. What nation are you talking about?

27 A. Liberia I'm talking about.

28 Q. Was Mr Taylor leader of the nation at this time?

29 A. What you said?

1 Q. You said they wanted to kill Mr Taylor and, from the
2 follow-up questions, so that they could be the leaders of the
3 name. My question is was Mr Taylor leader of the nation at this
4 time?

13:28:37 5 A. Yes, he was our leader. He was the leader of NPRAG, and he
6 was the head and they wanted to kill him.

7 Q. Do you know what NPRAG means?

8 A. No, I don't know it. All I know is this was the
9 government, yes. That's the only thing I know. We were on our
13:29:13 10 own. We were independent.

11 Q. After the confessions --

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Actually, this is now important. The
13 witness earlier said this tribunal was a tribunal of their
14 organisation, but he didn't say what that organisation was.

13:29:39 15 MR CHEKERA: Let me - thank you.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: So this tribunal now was a tribunal of
17 what? Which organisation?

18 MR CHEKERA: Let me try to clarify, thank you.

19 Q. Mr Mineh, The organisation - sorry. The tribunal that was
13:30:01 20 chaired by McDonald Boam, it was a tribunal for which
21 organisation?

22 A. NPFL. NPFL. Yes, we all agreed and took oath that we
23 should not go against one another. Yes, it was under NPFL.

24 Q. And you've mentioned the NPRAG. What was the relationship
13:30:51 25 between the NPFL and the NPRAG?

26 A. Repeat.

27 Q. What was the relationship between the NPFL and the NPRAG?

28 A. NPRAG was the government. Because Liberia was subdivided,
29 so those of us - NPFL was the fighting force - fighting force for

1 NPRAG. This is what I know.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: I think we've come to the time for the
3 break. We shall reconvene at 2.30.

4 [Lunch break taken at 1.30 p.m.]

14:29:45 5 [Upon resuming at 2.33 p.m.]

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Good afternoon. Mr Chekera, please
7 continue.

8 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President:

9 Q. After you were wounded, you indicated that you were sent to
14:33:41 10 Nimba as superintendent. Do you remember that part?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Do you recall the year that you were assigned to Nimba?

13 A. That happened in 1993.

14 Q. And as superintendent in Nimba, what were your functions?

14:34:25 15 A. The first thing I did was I took care of the affairs.

16 Q. Yes, sorry, continue. You took care of the affairs?

17 A. Okay. The first thing I did, I called all the citizens and
18 they welcomed me with happiness. Students in schools, they all
19 welcomed me upon arrival there. Besides that, I went to so many
14:35:10 20 areas. I built bridges, I renovated schools, I called the
21 marketeers, I read, I visited towns, and all the elders welcomed
22 me. Besides that I built bridges in Ganta, in Sanniquellie, I
23 built bridge between them, between Sanniquellie and Senkapa I
24 build a bridge. Iron bridges I built.

14:35:53 25 Q. Between Sanniquellie and what is the name of the place?

26 A. Between Sanniquellie - Suakazu.

27 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, may I seek the assistance of
28 the interpreters with the spelling.

29 THE WITNESS: Zlowee.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, what is the name of that
2 place again?

3 THE WITNESS: The Mano town?

14:36:31

4 PRESIDING JUDGE: No, you said you built a bridge between
5 Sanniquellie and another place. What is that other place?

6 THE WITNESS: I said Suakazu.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, can you spell the name of
8 that place for us?

9 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour.

14:36:50

10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please do.

11 THE INTERPRETER: S-U-A-K-A-Z-U.

12 MR CHEKERA:

14:37:23

13 Q. Now, we're going to come back to the activities that you
14 did, all the bridges that you built and other things. My
15 question was as superintendent, what does a superintendent do?
16 Let me ask it another way. In your position as superintendent,
17 was that a military or a civilian position?

18 A. When you are army personnel you can become superintendent.
19 If you are a civilian, you can become superintendent.

14:37:50

20 Q. What does a superintendent do?

21 A. Superintendent, he is the direct representative of the
22 President. He supervises the administration of the county. This
23 is how the superintendent does the work of the county. Any time
24 any government officials come, you welcome them, you lodge them
25 and you hold meeting with them.

14:38:18

26 Q. Okay. And when you were superintendent, which government
27 were you representing?

28 A. I was under the state council.

29 Q. Can you explain to us what the state council was?

1 A. Those who were fighting, the top military brass, when they
2 came together then formed interim government. Each faction had a
3 representative, and they were called council.

14:39:23 4 Q. Do you know some of the forces that were part of the state
5 council? Can you name some of them?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Yes, could you please name some of them that you remember?

8 A. Those who formed the council, one of them was George Boley,
9 another was Wilson Sankawulo, another Ruth Perry, and the other,
14:39:59 10 Mr Taylor.

11 Q. Now, do you know which organisation or faction George Boley
12 was representing in the state council?

13 A. He was the head of the LPC.

14 Q. And do you know what LPC stands for?

14:40:27 15 A. No. That was the name given to his fighting group. I do
16 not know the meaning.

17 Q. And Wilson Sankawulo, do you know which organisation he was
18 representing?

19 A. No. In fact, it was the faction - the warring faction
14:40:50 20 leaders put him there to be the head of the council.

21 Q. So Wilson Sankawulo was the head of the council?

22 A. Yes. He was the head of everybody.

23 Q. And which organisation was Ruth Perry representing?

24 A. No, I cannot remember. What I can remember now is she
14:41:24 25 formed part of the council.

26 Q. What about Mr Taylor?

27 A. Yes, he was from NPFL.

28 Q. Now, who appointed you to the position of superintendent in
29 Ni mba?

1 A. At that time it was Mr Taylor, but at that time we were in
2 Gbarnga, in NPRAG.

3 Q. Was that before the Council of State --

14:42:11

4 A. Yes. After he had appointed me, then they all went to
5 Monrovia. All were in Monrovia.

6 Q. And during the period of the Council of State, did you
7 remain superintendent in Nimba?

8 A. Yes. I was superintendent in Nimba County. All of them
9 came and visited me.

14:42:30

10 Q. Now, you mentioned various projects that you undertook when
11 you were superintendent in Nimba County. But maybe before I go
12 to that, which part of Nimba County were you based? Where in
13 Nimba County were you based?

14 A. I was in the capital city, Sanniquellie.

14:42:54

15 Q. And let's now talk about the various projects that you
16 undertook. You said you built bridges. Was that on one occasion
17 or more than one occasion?

18 A. The bridges were four. I can remember four.

14:43:20

19 Q. Let's have the names of each one bridge at a time, and if
20 you could pronounce the names slowly so that we can get the
21 names.

22 A. Okay. The first bridge I built was between Sanniquellie
23 and Sololweh.

14:43:43

24 MR CHEKERA: I'm afraid I'm unable to assist with the
25 spelling of Sololweh and I would seek the help of the
26 interpreters.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, can you spell the name of
28 that second place.

29 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, your Honour. S-O-L-O-L-E-W-E-H.

1 MR CHEKERA:

2 Q. And let's have the name of the second bridge.

3 A. The next was between Sanni quellie and Senkenpa.

14:44:47 4 MR CHEKERA: And, again, if I could enlist the service of
5 the interpreter with the spelling of Senkenpa.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Please spell the second place,
7 Mr Interpreter.

8 THE INTERPRETER: S-E-N-K-E-N-P-A.

9 MR CHEKERA:

14:45:08 10 Q. And the third bridge?

11 A. The third one was from Senkenpa to Kialay.

12 Q. And the fourth bridge?

13 A. Lappia Number 2 and Loguato.

14 Q. Now, besides building bridges, what else did you do? What
14:45:47 15 other works did you do?

16 A. I was there - in Nimba County I went and undertook several
17 projects. I renovated a compound. The residence of the
18 superintendent, I renovated it. The second one, the area that I
19 went was bushes. I called all the citizens to come to clear the
14:46:12 20 bushes. Besides that, the schools were not in sessions. I
21 re-opened schools. I re-opened markets. The hospitals, I
22 re-opened them, encouraged the doctors to go to work. All
23 strangers were hosted.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: What was that last sentence you said,
14:46:51 25 Mr Interpreter?

26 THE INTERPRETER: The strangers were hosted.

27 MR CHEKERA:

28 Q. Mr Witness, you said that you re-opened the markets, the
29 hospitals and encouraged doctors to go to work. What did you say

1 after that?

2 A. I said the area to host the strangers, I renovated it and I
3 hosted strangers.

4 Q. When you say "strangers", who do you refer to?

14:47:29 5 A. Government officials from Monrovia, from the mansion, I
6 lodged them.

7 Q. Where were you getting the resources for these public
8 works?

9 A. Well, from our own efforts, self-help projects. The
14:48:00 10 citizens, they all contributed meaningfully. They all
11 contributed whatever resources they had.

12 Q. And who was responsible for mobilising the citizens to
13 contribute?

14 A. My district commissioner, my paramount chief, my current
14:48:23 15 chief, my city mayor, the zone chief. All of them contributed
16 meaningfully. We did it out of nationality accord.

17 Q. Was it compulsory to contribute?

18 A. Yes, they came. We all worked together meaningfully.

19 Q. My question was - you said you mobilised these resources
14:49:05 20 from contributions. My question was: Were the citizens forced
21 to contribute?

22 A. No, I never forced them. It was just to develop our own
23 county. They did it out of sincerity. I never took anything
24 from them.

14:49:31 25 Q. The bridges that you mentioned, the four bridges, were they
26 built from the resources you mobilised from the contributions by
27 the civilians?

28 A. It was the NGO called Save the Children. They're the ones
29 I approached. Yes, they brought all their materials and I

1 welcomed them, and so they - we cooked for them. We provided
2 food for them. They brought all their materials. That's how the
3 bridge was built. No, they did not ask us for any money. Their
4 own materials they brought is what they used to build the bridge.

14:50:13 5 Q. And besides Save the Children, were you working with any
6 other organisations?

7 A. What I was doing is just to persuade the citizens to make
8 farm, to send children to school. These are some of what I used
9 to do.

14:50:39 10 Q. My question was - you said you worked with Save the
11 Children and the question was: Besides Save the Children, did
12 you work with any other organisations?

13 A. No. Besides Save the Children, no.

14 Q. You talked about hosting government officials. During the
14:51:11 15 time that you were superintendent, did you ever host any
16 dignitaries?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Who did you host?

19 A. Sankawulo. Wilson Sankawulo. He was the head of the
14:51:34 20 Council of States. He came to visit my county.

21 Q. And when he came to visit your county, did he go anywhere?

22 A. He remained in the city centre. Yes, I carried him on a
23 tour. He went to the hospital. He went to the school compound.
24 He went to the marketing centre and other areas he inspected.

14:52:05 25 Yes, he visited me. He slept there for two days before he
26 returned to Monrovia.

27 Q. And during this visit --

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Wait. Wait a minute, please. Did the
29 witness say I carried him on a tour? Mr Interpreter, is that

1 what you said.

2 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, he said he carried him on a tour
3 around the city.

4 MR CHEKERA:

14:52:43 5 Q. And during the tour of this city, did he have a chance to
6 meet with the citizens?

7 A. Yes. I carried him to the City Hall where he greeted the
8 citizens and gave them thanks and the citizens themselves also
9 made remarks.

14:53:09 10 Q. What was the nature of the remarks by the citizens, if you
11 remember?

12 A. They said he should help them to build the road. Besides
13 that, the hospital should be supplied with enough drugs. This is
14 what the citizens demanded. Yes, he responded that he would do

14:53:35 15 so.

16 Q. And during this time that you were superintendent in Nimba,
17 did you have NPFL fighters deployed in Nimba?

18 A. Yes, there were many. There were many. But in
19 Sanniquellie, no, no, I didn't see them to even harass any
14:54:00 20 citizen in Sanniquellie.

21 Q. The original question was whether there were NPFL fighters
22 deployed in Nimba, and if you can answer that question directly.

23 A. No, they did not send them ordinarily. These were
24 citizens, peaceful citizens. NPFL soldiers were not ordinary
14:54:32 25 soldiers. Yes, they themselves were citizens.

26 Q. At this time was there any fighting going on in Nimba?

27 A. No. When I was there, there was no war.

28 Q. And you said there were NPFL soldiers who were in Nimba as
29 ordinary citizens. Did I get that correctly?

1 A. I said those who were there were not fighters. These were
2 citizens. NPFL who were fighting, no, I did not permit them,
3 just like that.

4 Q. Now, as superintendent, were you performing any functions
14:55:29 5 relating to law and order?

6 A. Yes. I was regulating rules and orders.

7 Q. And what did those rules and orders relate to?

8 A. The first one was do not do harm to anyone. If you harass
9 any citizen, if the complaint comes to me, I will take them - the
14:56:05 10 item that you confiscated and give it to the owner. Besides
11 that, I made sure that all the children go to school. I made
12 sure that the market women go to market, bring goods. No, I did
13 not want for my county administration name to be spoiled.

14 Q. Did you receive any reports or cases of harassment of the
14:56:41 15 civilians by elements of the NPFL who were in Nimba?

16 A. Yes, they came ahead of me - yes, if any case before me
17 against NPFL, I gave them warnings. And because I was at the
18 head of all, including the citizens, the civilians --

19 Q. There is a part of your answer, the beginning part that was
14:57:13 20 not captured on the record. Can you repeat your answer, please,
21 right from the beginning?

22 A. Which one? The work I was doing?

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: You should remind the witness of the
24 question that you are asking him to answer.

14:57:35 25 MR CHEKERA:

26 Q. Did you receive reports of cases of harassment of the
27 civilians by elements of the NPFL when you were superintendent in
28 Nimba?

29 A. Yes, they complained and I investigated. Then the soldiers

1 were guilty and so I disciplined them. I disciplined them and I
2 gave them warning. Besides that, they didn't do any other thing
3 other than what I have advised them.

4 Q. What was the nature of the complaints you received?

14:58:16 5 A. The complaint was, they took some material away from
6 people. Then I took the oil and gave it to the owner.

7 Q. And what did you do with the culprit?

8 A. I put him in to prison for three days and after we released
9 him, he apologised.

14:59:08 10 Q. Did you deal with more than one case of this nature where
11 NPFL elements were confiscating civilian property?

12 A. No. To tell the truth, the area I was there was no other -
13 in Sanniquellie many people respected me. But in Sanniquellie
14 everyone respected me, so such thing did not occur again.

14:59:52 15 Q. And when you presided over these matters, did you have a
16 system which you employed?

17 A. Yes. My special assistant was there. Yes, he assisted me.
18 The government is run by many people, not one person. There were
19 many who were under me working along with me.

15:00:23 20 Q. Did you have an arm or organ that dealt with issues of law
21 and order?

22 A. Yes, I had my own bodyguard. I was the head of the
23 government in the county. So my bodyguard was warning people.
24 Yes, people were afraid because they respected me.

15:00:52 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: You said, Mr Interpreter, so my bodyguard
26 was what?

27 THE INTERPRETER: Afraid.

28 THE WITNESS: I said those who were my bodyguards, none of
29 them did any evil. They respected me. No, I did not permit them

1 to disturb anyone on the street.

2 MR CHEKERA:

3 Q. Were your bodyguards assisting you in maintaining law and
4 order?

15:01:25 5 A. My county staff and myself were working together. Yes,
6 they themselves too, they were administering the affairs of the
7 county.

8 Q. What county staff did you have when you were
9 superintendent?

15:01:45 10 A. It is the secretariat, the supervisor over the county
11 inspector who supervises the commissioner, the development
12 superintendent, the city mayor. These are those who and myself
13 work together to develop the county.

14 Q. Now, for how long did you remain in the position of
15 superintendent?

16 A. I spent two and a half years.

17 Q. Did you say anything else after the two and a half years?

18 A. Like what?

19 Q. After superintendent did you hold any other position?

15:03:06 20 A. Yes, I did another job, but we that were in the armed
21 forces and were dismissed, those who were in the NPFL after the
22 war, we were called to rejoin the army.

23 Q. When were you called to rejoin the army?

24 A. I was there until the elections. After the elections
15:03:50 25 Daniel Chea called us and told us that we should report back into
26 the army.

27 Q. What elections are you talking about?

28 A. The one that elected Mr Charles Taylor. This is the one I
29 am talking about.

1 Q. And who is Daniel Chea - or who was Daniel Chea at the
2 time?

3 A. Daniel Chea was the head of the army. He was the head of
4 the army. Those of us that were dismissed from the army, after
15:04:27 5 the elections he recalled us. This is how we went back into the
6 army.

7 Q. You are talking of a time when you were dismissed from the
8 army. When were you dismissed from the army before you were
9 recalled?

15:04:52 10 A. The one that I talked about before, it was during the war
11 and we that were in the NPFL, we were not working. After the
12 elections of Mr Taylor is when they called us. Yes, that's when
13 Daniel Chea called us back into the army.

14 Q. Were other members of the NPFL who were not originally in
15:05:24 15 the army called to join the army by Daniel Chea?

16 A. Yes. NPFL - many of the NPFL fighters were former army
17 personnel, and so he called us back into the army.

18 Q. Were those who were not former AFL men in the NPFL also
19 called to join the army?

15:05:57 20 A. Yes, those who were old personnel. It was not only NPFL,
21 but all those who were former army personnel were called.

22 Q. When you were called to join the army, were you assigned
23 anywhere?

24 A. After I had been called they sent me somewhere.

15:06:35 25 Q. Where were you assigned?

26 A. The new assignment was that I was sent to Grand Gedeh. I
27 was there.

28 Q. Were you assigned any particular position when you were
29 sent to Grand Gedeh?

1 A. No. They removed me and reassigned me to Sinoe as
2 commander.

3 Q. Before you were reassigned to Sinoe as commander, what was
4 your position when you were sent to Grand Gedeh?

15:07:15 5 A. I was captain in the army.

6 Q. How long were you in Grand Gedeh for, if you recall?

7 A. No, I cannot remember, but I stayed too long there after
8 that before I was sent to Sinoe. From Sinoe they recalled me to
9 Monrovia and finally dismissed us. Besides that there is no

15:07:49 10 former army personnel except the new recruits.

11 Q. When you were in Grand Gedeh - when you were assigned to
12 Grand Gedeh was any fighting going on in Grand Gedeh?

13 A. No, war was not raging.

14 Q. What about in Sinoe?

15:08:13 15 A. No, nothing was happening. The second war came, the MODEL,
16 ULIMO - I mean MODEL, they came back after the elections. Then a
17 new war - no, by that time I have left. I have come to Monrovia.

18 Q. So from the time that you were superintendent to the time
19 that you were retired from the army you never took part in active
20 combat?

15:08:54 21 A. I can't remember.

22 Q. Now I'm going to take you back and we're going to discuss a
23 few issues that cover your entire evidence. You spoke about the
24 incident when - you spoke about the Black Kadaffa and the
15:09:25 25 connivance. You've talked about Oliver Varney, Anthony Mekuagbe
26 and the other guys - and the other gentlemen. Was that the first
27 time that there was an attempt by members of the NPFL to topple
28 the leadership?

29 A. Yes.

1 Q. Before the incident in Cape Mount --

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. -- relating to Black Kadaffa, did anyone else before that
4 try to remove Mr Taylor from the leadership of the NPFL?

15:10:21 5 A. Yes, it was so, but the first - it was never in Liberia.
6 It was --

7 Q. When was the first time?

8 A. It was in Libya when we were undergoing the training. Some
9 of our brothers left from us and consulted and said if Mr Taylor
15:10:45 10 comes, they should bump him. Then among them somebody came to
11 inform us. Then our leaders decided to investigate them. Those
12 who wanted to do this, Augustine Wright, Cooper Miller, AK
13 Zammay.

14 Q. Just go slowly, please.

15:11:11 15 A. I said we were training. The old man was coming. I'm not
16 talking about in Liberia. Some of our brothers who - and us were
17 undergoing the training. They decided to conspire. If Taylor
18 comes to our meetings - our training camp, he should be killed.
19 Then Mentor Diakpo left and informed us. Then they called us
15:11:39 20 into assembly and those who did the planning, they were named.
21 They were investigated and found guilty and they agreed that,
22 yes, they wanted to have killed Mr Taylor.

23 Q. Who informed you about the plot to kill Mr Taylor? You had
24 mentioned a name that has not been captured. Who was it who
15:12:00 25 informed you?

26 A. I said Mentor Diakpo. Mentor Diakpo. He was also in the
27 training with us. After they have had the meeting, that's when
28 he came to inform us and when they called them, yes, they
29 confessed that truly they wanted to kill Mr Taylor.

1 Q. Who confessed that they wanted to call Mr Taylor?

2 A. Augustine Wright, Cooper Miller, DK Zamma.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Are those names correctly spelt in the
4 record?

15:12:45 5 MR CHEKERA: Yes, Madam President.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Including the last one that has a little
7 sign?

8 MR CHEKERA:

9 Q. You mentioned the name of - you mentioned Zamma. What is
15:13:01 10 the first name of Zamma? Let's have the full name of Zamma
11 again?

12 A. He is Augustine Zamma. The next is Augustine Wreh and
13 Miller is Cooper Miller.

14 Q. Who did they confess before?

15:13:36 15 A. They judged them. They investigated them at the training
16 base. Yes, they themselves agreed, and Mr Taylor came and so
17 they complained this case before Mr Taylor. Then he said, "Okay,
18 I will send them another camp." They did not take training along
19 with us again.

15:13:56 20 Q. Just pause there, if you may. Who judged Augustine Miller
21 and the others?

22 A. They were the top leaders. The top leaders. They are the
23 ones that investigated the people. Because whenever Taylor is
24 not there, they are the ones who can supervise. Yes, indeed,
15:14:24 25 they themselves confessed, but God did not agree for them to do
26 the act.

27 Q. And who were those leaders who investigated Augustine
28 Miller and the others, if you remember the names?

29 A. Those who were the top brass, or who, that investigated?

1 Q. Yes.

2 A. I want for me to get a clear understanding.

3 Q. Yes. Could you tell us the names of the top brass that
4 investigated?

15:15:18 5 A. Those who were our top brass, whenever Taylor is not there,
6 Moses Blah, Isaac Musa, Samuel Varney and others. They were the
7 top brass. They investigated the case. McDonald was there.
8 Then when Taylor came, they sent their findings to Mr Taylor.

9 Q. Do you know the second name from McDonald?

15:15:51 10 A. McDonald Boam, whom I have been talking about.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can I remind you to speak
12 slowly when you are giving your answers. You are not speaking
13 slowly, but I asked you to speak slowly and I told you the
14 reasons why.

15:16:23 15 MR CHEKERA:

16 Q. What were the findings of the investigations?

17 A. The thing - what Mr Taylor did was, he removed them to
18 another camp until we completed our training.

19 Q. My question was - you said McDonald Boam and Moses Blah and
15:16:45 20 the others, the top brass, they investigated. My question was:
21 What were the findings of the investigations?

22 A. What I want to explain is, after the investigation, when
23 Mr Taylor came, what he did was, they just transferred them to
24 another camp. What I can remember is this.

15:17:16 25 Q. Do you know why they were transferred to another camp?

26 A. Yes, because they wanted to do evil and God did not permit
27 them. When they were exposed and they confessed, then the old
28 man said, "I will transfer you people to another area." That is
29 how he transferred them. This is what I know. That's the truth

1 I am talking.

2 Q. Did they confess before the top brass including Moses Blah,
3 McDonald Boam and the others?

4 A. Yes, they agreed, they accepted that they'd conspired.

15:18:10 5 Q. You said they were sent to another camp. Where were they
6 sent?

7 A. The old man sent them to Burkina Faso. That they were left
8 in Burkina Faso and we left.

9 Q. Let me start by clarifying the old man. Who is the old man
15:18:39 10 who sent them to Burkina Faso?

11 A. I said those who did the evil. Those who wanted to kill
12 the old man. They wanted to burn his house. These are the
13 people he sent - he himself sent them to Burkina Faso.

14 Q. And who do you refer to as the old man?

15:19:01 15 A. I said Mr Taylor.

16 Q. When they were sent to Burkina Faso, did the rest of the
17 group remain in Libya?

18 A. Yes, we were there training until we completed. After
19 that, they were never part of us again.

15:19:37 20 Q. Do you know what they were doing in Burkina Faso?

21 A. The old man sent them there, because when they were with
22 us, there would be always confusion. This is why he sent them to
23 Burkina Faso.

24 Q. And in Burkina Faso, do you know what they were doing?

15:20:03 25 A. They just separated them from us, and I think they gave
26 them place for them to be until we can complete our training.
27 That's the one I can remember. Whether they did any other thing
28 there, I can't tell.

29 Q. Did you ever see them after that?

1 A. Yes, they came. Yes, they all came. We all came to
2 Liberia and began to fight.

3 Q. Do you recall where they joined you or when?

15:20:48

4 A. These people - Augustine Wright, I met him in Buchanan
5 after we have captured Buchanan, but I don't know where he came
6 from. Cooper Miller, wherever he came from, I do not know. But
7 we all met and fight.

8 Q. Now, when you were at Tajura in Libya, you mentioned that
9 there was a Gambian group and a Sierra Leonean group. When the
10 Liberians left Libya, were the Gambians still in Libya or they
11 had left?

15:21:15

12 A. The group I was in, we left them behind. Their coming, I
13 do not know much about it.

14 Q. What about the Sierra Leoneans, did your group leave them
15 behind or they left before you?

15:21:39

16 A. We left them behind and came.

17 Q. And when you went to Burkina Faso, did you meet any members
18 of either the Sierra Leonean group or the Gambian group in
19 Burkina Faso?

15:22:05

20 A. Please repeat your question.

21 Q. When you left Libya to go to Burkina Faso, did you see any
22 Gambians who were in Libya in Burkina Faso?

23 A. No, I didn't see them.

24 Q. Did you see any Sierra Leoneans in Burkina Faso who were in
25 Libya?

15:22:24

26 A. No.

27 Q. What about when you went from Burkina Faso to Guinea, did
28 you see any Gambians in Guinea who were in Libya?

29 A. No.

1 Q. What about Sierra Leoneans who were in Libya, did you see
2 any one or more of them in --

3 A. No.

4 Q. Did you see any one of the Sierra Leoneans who were in
15:22:51 5 Libya at any point during the time that you were in Liberia?

6 A. The only person I saw, the Gambian I saw was - we were
7 already in Liberia. They were never with us. I never saw them
8 until when they came to Gbarnga, then I saw them.

9 Q. I had asked you about Sierra Leoneans, but let's talk about
15:23:22 10 the Gambians you saw in Gbarnga. Who did you see in Gbarnga of
11 the Gambians?

12 A. I saw many groups. I saw them. They were many. I saw
13 them.

14 Q. Can you remember some of their names?

15:23:42 15 A. I saw Mr Yan [phon]. I saw Mustapha, Alpha Jalloh.

16 Q. Let's start again. You saw Mr who? The first one. Mr Yen
17 something.

18 A. I saw Musa Jalloh. There were many.

19 Q. Sorry, I'm just going to ask you to tell us some of their
15:24:12 20 names again. Let's start with the names, each one in turn and
21 slowly. The names again, please.

22 A. The people were many. Those who I remember, I saw Yan. I
23 saw Musa --

24 Q. Did you say Yan?

15:24:37 25 A. Yes.

26 MR CHEKERA: The spelling I have for Yan is Y-A-N-K-S. I
27 don't know how to elicit that without --

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: I do not agree, I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

29 MR CHEKERA: Then I might have to settle for Y-A-N, as it

1 is pronounced:

2 Q. Besides Yan, who else did you say?

3 A. I saw Musa Jalloh.

4 Q. Did you say Musa Jalloh?

15:25:24 5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Anyone else?

7 A. These are the ones I can remember. I can't remember all of
8 them.

9 Q. And when you saw them in Gbarnga, what were they doing?

15:25:41 10 A. They were there, they were guarding Mr Taylor. They were
11 the security to him. That is how I saw them.

12 Q. You mentioned that the leader of the Gambians in Libya was
13 Dr Manneh. Did you ever see Dr Manneh in Liberia after you came
14 from Libya?

15:26:06 15 A. Yes, I saw it.

16 Q. Did you see it or did you see him?

17 A. I saw him in Buchanan at flour mill in the company yard.

18 Q. Do you know what Dr Manneh was doing in Buchanan?

19 A. I can't remember. I think he was one of the big men.

15:26:42 20 Q. When you say "big man", what do you mean?

21 A. Yes, because he was the head of the Gambian - he was the
22 head of the Gambians. He was taking the administration as the
23 head.

24 Q. What was Dr Manneh administering in Buchanan?

15:27:09 25 A. This Manneh, what I can remember is, he was - those who
26 were bodyguards to Taylor, he was their chief. He always
27 assigned bodyguards to Mr Taylor.

28 Q. Do you know whether Dr Manneh had any position in the NPFL?

29 A. No, I can't remember anyone. I can't tell anything about

1 that.

2 Q. You mentioned that Foday Sankoh was the leader of the
3 Sierra Leoneans in Libya. After Libya, did you see Foday Sankoh
4 anywhere else?

15:28:10 5 A. I saw him once only in Harbel. Besides that, I never saw
6 him again. Then I only heard there was war in Sierra Leone.
7 When I saw him, I just passed by him.

8 Q. When you saw Foday Sankoh in Harbel, do you know what he
9 was doing in Harbel?

15:28:32 10 A. No, I never asked him. Myself, I was based in - no, I
11 never asked him.

12 Q. What was Foday Sankoh doing when you saw him?

13 A. I saw him at the parking lot. I didn't even stop to ask.
14 No, I just went about my business.

15:28:58 15 Q. And do you know whether Foday Sankoh held any position in
16 the NPFL?

17 A. No, I don't know. No, I don't know anything about that.

18 Q. There is evidence before this Court that Foday Sankoh was
19 Mr Taylor's adviser in Gbarnga around 1991. Do you know anything
15:29:22 20 about that?

21 A. I said I don't remember. No. What I don't know anything
22 about, I can't make statement about it. No, I was never there.

23 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, may I seek counsel's assistance
24 in giving us a time frame from the period that the witness said
15:29:41 25 he saw Foday Sankoh in Harbel?

26 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, indeed.

27 MR CHEKERA:

28 Q. Mr Mineh, do you remember the time or the year that you saw
29 Foday Sankoh in Harbel?

1 A. I saw Sankoh in 1990. I saw him once. Since then I didn't
2 see him again.

3 Q. And again we have evidence before this Court that Dr Manneh
4 was Mr Taylor's adviser when Mr Taylor was in Gbarnga around
15:30:20 5 1991. Do you know anything about that?

6 A. I don't know anything because I was not closer there or
7 nearer there.

8 Q. To your knowledge did any of the Sierra Leoneans who were
9 training in Libya play any part in the NPFL?

15:30:47 10 A. [Microphone not activated]

11 MR CHEKERA: I didn't get the translation, Madam President.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, what happened? The
13 witness said something. You didn't tell us what he said?

14 THE INTERPRETER: "No".

15:31:18 15 MR CHEKERA:

16 Q. You've talked about the war in Sierra Leone. What do you
17 know about the war in Sierra Leone?

18 A. No, I don't know anything about this.

19 Q. What did you hear about the war in Sierra Leone?

15:31:33 20 A. I never heard anything from anybody. I only heard it on
21 radio. I only heard it on radio that there is war in Sierra
22 Leone.

23 Q. Did you hear that Liberians were involved in the war in
24 Sierra Leone?

15:31:54 25 A. No. Whatever happened, I don't know about it.

26 Q. Did you hear that the people who started the war in Sierra
27 Leone came out of Liberia?

28 A. I said I don't know anything about this.

29 Q. Now, when you were in Libya - excuse me, Madam President.

1 Do you want to take a break, Mr Mineh?

2 A. Yes, I want to go to restroom.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, you may.

4 MR CHEKERA: Thank you, Madam President:

15:36:08 5 Q. Mr Mineh, you mentioned that when you went to Libya your
6 goal was to come back and fight Doe. When you came back to
7 Liberia, did that goal change?

8 A. Yes, it changed. Some of our brothers, they left us.

9 Q. When you were fighting in Liberia, did you have territorial
10 ambitions anywhere else other than in Liberia?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Did you have territorial ambitions in Sierra Leone?

13 JUDGE DOHERTY: Mr Chekera, the way this is worded, it
14 appears to be addressed to the witness personally. Is that your
15 intention, or are you talking about him as part of an
16 organisation?

17 MR CHEKERA: Thank you. Let me clarify:

18 Q. Mr Mineh, when you were fighting in the NPFL, did the NPFL
19 have territorial ambitions other than Liberia?

15:37:58 20 A. I said I do not know. I don't know anything about this.

21 Q. Did the NPFL seek to conquer any other country other than
22 to seize power in Liberia?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Did the NPFL seek to take over Sierra Leone?

15:38:24 25 A. No. I don't know anything about that.

26 JUDGE LUSSICK: It's all right, Mr Chekera. I was just
27 going to say how can he give any details about that when he
28 doesn't know anything about it? But he's just confirmed that he
29 doesn't, in fact, know anything about it.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Also, Mr Chekera, you asked the witness a
2 while ago whether their goals changed, and he gave an answer that
3 to me doesn't quite explain or doesn't answer the question you
4 asked. He said, "Yes, some of our friends left us." How does
15:39:06 5 that change - or explain a change in goals?

6 MR CHEKERA: The subsequent questions addressed the issue I
7 wanted to raise.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Really? Fine. Please continue.

9 MR CHEKERA: Thank you.

15:39:31 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Even though the witness says he doesn't
11 know in those answers. He says yes, the goals changed. You
12 don't ask him how the goals changed. You then ask him if they
13 had ambitions to go to Sierra Leone. He says he doesn't know.

14 MR CHEKERA:

15:39:51 15 Q. Mr Mineh, in Libya the NPFL wanted to come back to Liberia
16 to take over power from Doe. When you came to Liberia, did that
17 goal change?

18 A. No, it never changed. I never saw any change. It did not
19 change, except those who left us and joined, like Degbon.

15:40:53 20 Q. You indicated earlier on in your evidence that when you
21 entered from Ivory Coast there were only members who you referred
22 to as the Special Forces who came into Liberia. Did the NPFL
23 subsequently - did they recruit any other persons?

24 A. Yes, there were many children who joined us to become
15:41:27 25 fighters.

26 Q. You've just said, "There were many children who joined us
27 to become fighters." When you say "children", what sort of age
28 group are you referring to as children?

29 A. When I said - I am talking about those who were at the age

1 of 30, 35. These are the people I am referring to as children.

2 Q. And did the NPFL establish training bases --

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Excuse me. Mr Witness, you referred to a
4 30 year old as a child; is that what you're saying?

15:42:16 5 THE WITNESS: I didn't say they were small children. I
6 said those who were at the age of 30, 35. I am not just talking
7 about ordinary small child.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes. And I'm asking you would you refer
9 to a 35 year old as a child?

15:42:38 10 THE WITNESS: I said they were not actually children. They
11 were not children. They were 30, 35 years of age.

12 JUDGE LUSSICK: Well, Mr Witness, why did you use the word
13 "children"?

14 THE WITNESS: Why I said "children"? Well, you may not
15:43:06 15 understand when I said "children". I'm talking about those who
16 joined us, they were at the ages of 30, 35.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE: Do you always refer to people aged 30 and
18 35 as children?

19 THE WITNESS: Yes, they were not little kids. They were
15:43:38 20 not little children.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE: So why do you call them children?

22 THE WITNESS: Well, I didn't call them children. If I said
23 so, I am just talking about those who were at the ages of 30 and
24 35.

15:44:18 25 MR CHEKERA:

26 Q. Did the NPFL establish training bases?

27 A. Yes. Our training base was in Gborplay.

28 Q. Besides Gborplay, were other training bases opened
29 elsewhere?

1 A. It was in Buchanan.

2 Q. And was there a policy as to who could be recruited in
3 terms of age?

4 A. Yes. Somebody who was responsible for the recruitment - G1
15:45:03 5 was responsible for the recruitment. They were responsible for
6 the recruitment.

7 Q. And do you know whether they had a restriction as to the
8 age of people who could be recruited?

9 A. Those who have the responsibility, they have their records.
15:45:27 10 Yes, they asked those who have come to be recruited and they will
11 give responses of their ages. But I was never there.

12 Q. Now, throughout the time that you were in the NPFL at the
13 front line, did you have a unit that was called SBU?

14 A. No. I never heard that.

15:46:09 15 Q. Did you have children who were maybe below the age of 16
16 who were fighting with you when you were at the front line?

17 A. I said no.

18 Q. When you went to Gborplay when Mr Taylor called you to
19 Gborplay, did you see any children who were below the age of 16
15:46:42 20 anywhere around Gborplay?

21 A. Gborplay is a town and it's got citizens and so there were
22 children. So I can't tell you no. It was a big town, a lot of
23 children in the town with their parents. If I said there was no
24 children there, then I have lied. There were children that were
15:47:13 25 staying with their parents.

26 Q. Did you see any of those children taking part in the
27 military activities like manning the checkpoints?

28 A. No, I never saw them. I cannot remember.

29 Q. And when you went to Gbarnga, did you see any children

1 taking part in military activities like manning checkpoints?

2 A. No, I never saw that to explain anything on this.

3 JUDGE LUSSICK: That answer, Mr Chekera, I think you'll
4 agree, is ambiguous. You asked the question: "Did you see any

15:48:01 5 of those children taking part in military activities like manning
6 the checkpoints?"

7 THE WITNESS: I said no.

8 JUDGE LUSSICK: And the answer was: "No, I never saw them.
9 I cannot remember." So is he saying he never saw them or he

15:48:25 10 can't remember whether he ever saw them?

11 MR CHEKERA:

12 Q. Mr Mineh, did you see children under the age of 16 manning
13 checkpoints or you don't remember?

14 A. I said I never saw them to explain anything.

15:48:58 15 Q. When you were taking part in training in Libya, were you
16 taught any ideology?

17 A. Please repeat your question.

18 Q. When you were training in Libya, were you taught any
19 ideology?

15:49:34 20 A. Besides the training in the military, I did not learn
21 anything that I can remember like ideology.

22 Q. Did they teach you, for instance, about how you should
23 relate with civilians?

24 A. Yes.

15:50:02 25 MR BANGURA: [Microphone not activated].

26 THE WITNESS: Yes. When you are in the army, you used to
27 have to take - you have to respect the civilians. You have to
28 respect the civilians.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, can you pause. I'm of the

1 view that this question that Mr Chekera asked is in order because
2 he has asked the witness - the witness has indicated that as far
3 as ideology is concerned, he cannot remember. And, frankly, I'm
4 not sure how the word "ideology" was translated, but the way
15:51:16 5 Mr Chekera asked whether they were taught how civilians should
6 relate or how, for instance, the soldiers should relate to
7 civilians, he's not suggesting the way that they should relate
8 and for me that is not leading. So the objection is overruled.
9 And the witness has answered, in any event.

15:51:52 10

MR CHEKERA:

11 Q. Mr Mineh, you said they taught you about how to respect the
12 civilians. Can you elaborate on that? What do you mean when you
13 say they taught us about how to respect civilians?

15:52:20 15

14 A. What we learnt was, civilians, whenever we see them
15 anywhere, we cater to them, we make them to feel free to come
16 around personnel.

17 Q. You make them to feel free to come around personnel. What
18 "personnel" are you talking about, Mr Witness?

15:52:53 20

19 A. You asked me when in the army, what do you learn in the
20 army. I said when we see civilian, if we - we as soldiers we
21 respect them. Whenever we get food, we would give to them.
22 Whatever that is in our purview, we give it to them. This is how
23 we respected them.

15:53:16 25

24 Q. And did you learn this in the army or in Libya? Because my
25 question related to when you were in Libya.

26 A. Yes, I learnt that in Libya. But besides that, I was in
27 the army.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, you were asked whether you
29 learnt that in Libya or in the army. What is your answer?

1 THE WITNESS: I learnt that in Libya.

2 MR CHEKERA:

3 Q. Now --

4 JUDGE DOHERTY: Just a moment, Mr Chekera.

15:54:07 5 Mr Witness, what do you mean when you say "whatever that is
6 in our purview, we give it to them"? What does that mean?

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, did the witness say
8 "whatever is in our purview, we give it to them"?

9 THE INTERPRETER: Yes. He said whatever resources that we
15:54:41 10 have available, we give it to them, that is in our power.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

12 MR CHEKERA:

13 Q. And, Mr Witness, when the NPFL came to Liberia to start the
14 war in Liberia, did they follow those teachings?

15:55:11 15 A. Yes, we followed it.

16 Q. Did you hear any cases of NPFL fighters who were not
17 following those teachings?

18 A. No, I never heard that. If it happened, for me, I didn't
19 hear that.

15:55:48 20 Q. Did you hear of any cases that were taken to the military
21 tribunal - sorry, let me rephrase. Did you hear of any cases
22 that were taken to the tribunal that was headed by McDonald Boam
23 which involved atrocities by NPFL fighters?

24 A. Yes, yes. I know this.

15:56:17 25 Q. What sort of cases did you hear?

26 A. What I heard was, one of our brothers called Sam Larto
27 killed somebody at the police station in Kakata and he was
28 investigated and found guilty. Then they did some harm to him.
29 The next one, Bullet Patrol [sic] went to Maryland County and

1 killed somebody there. Then tribunal investigated him and he was
2 found guilty. This is what I can remember.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Bullet Patrol is a person - is the name
4 of a person?

15:57:06 5 THE WITNESS: Yes. His human name.

6 MR CHEKERA:

7 Q. That name you've just mentioned. Did you say "bullet"?

8 A. Bullet Patrol. He's one of us that came with us.

9 MR CHEKERA: I do not wish to lead evidence. I heard
10 differently and I'm going to try for the last time:

11 Q. The name again, Mr Witness.

12 A. I said Bullet Patrol.

13 Q. Did you say Bullet Patrol or Border Patrol?

14 A. I said Border Patrol. Border Patrol.

15:57:56 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: But I asked the witness if Bullet Patrol
16 is the name of a person and he said, yes, he's a human being.

17 MR CHEKERA: Yes, Madam President, it is a human being.
18 What I heard was different from "bullet" and that's the issue I
19 was trying to clarify.

15:58:14 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: So what have you clarified?

21 MR CHEKERA: That is the name is actually "Border", not
22 "bullet".

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: The name is Border Patrol?

24 MR CHEKERA: Yes.

15:58:25 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: This person was called Border Patrol,
26 Mr Witness?

27 THE WITNESS: Yes. There was somebody among us who was
28 called Bullet Patrol.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, was it Bullet Patrol or

1 Border Patrol?

2 THE INTERPRETER: It's "border". Border Patrol.

3 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, through you, Mr Interpreter,
4 could you please spell the word that you heard because I'm now
15:58:59 5 hearing two things from the booth.

6 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, sir. The word is B-O-R-D-E-R.

7 MR CHEKERA: May I proceed, Madam President? Thank you:

8 Q. This person that you mentioned who was referred to as
9 Border Patrol, do you know whether he had any other name?

16:59:48 10 A. If he has another name, I do not know. This is the only
11 name I know. Maybe he may have another name.

12 Q. Okay. Now, let's deal first with the case involving Sam
13 Larto. The person that Sam Larto killed, was that person a
14 civilian or a military personnel?

16:00:24 15 A. The person was a soldier. He was one of the fighters.

16 Q. And do you know why Sam Larto killed that person?

17 A. No, I don't know it. When I asked they only gave the name,
18 and when he reached there they fired at him. I don't know what
19 happened.

16:00:45 20 Q. Who fired at Sam Larto?

21 A. I said when they fired at him. Yes, I said somebody fired
22 at him.

23 Q. And my question was --

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: Sorry, fired at who? Sam Larto or who?

16:01:11 25 THE WITNESS: Sam Larto is the one who fired at the person.

26 MR CHEKERA:

27 Q. And what happened to Sam Larto as a result?

28 A. They investigated him and he was found guilty, so they
29 executed him too.

1 Q. Who investigated Sam Larto?

2 A. McDonald Boam, he was the chairman of the tribunal.

3 Q. And the case involving Border Patrol, what happened in that
4 case?

16:01:48 5 A. Sam Larto, he killed somebody in Maryland County and so
6 they brought him to Gbarnga and investigated him, and they
7 executed him also.

8 Q. The person that - sorry, let me ask the question again,
9 because you've answered - your answer relates to Sam Larto when I
16:02:14 10 had asked about Border Patrol. Let me start again. The case
11 involving Border Patrol, do you know what happened in that case?

12 A. I was not there. I only heard that he beat somebody - I
13 mean, he killed somebody in Maryland County. And so when they
14 investigated him he was guilty, and so they killed him too. But
16:02:41 15 I was not there.

16 Q. And do you know who the person that he killed was?

17 A. I don't know.

18 Q. Did you hear whether the person was a military man or a
19 woman - a military personnel, let me put it that way, or a
16:03:02 20 civilian?

21 A. I can't place - I do not know what happened. But all I
22 know is he killed somebody in Maryland County. Whether civilian
23 or soldier, I don't know.

24 Q. And was he brought before the same board that you referred
16:03:22 25 to in relation to Sam Larto?

26 A. Everything. They investigated him in Gbarnga and he was
27 guilty.

28 Q. Who investigated? Was that McDonald Boam?

29 A. McDonald Boam was the tribunal chairman.

1 Q. And what happened to Border Patrol following the
2 investigations?

3 A. He was guilty. That's what I said. I said he was guilty.

4 Q. And did he get any penalty when he was found guilty?

16:04:14 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Didn't he already say that they killed
6 him too?

7 JUDGE LUSSICK: Yes, he did.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE: On more than one occasion he said that.

9 MR CHEKERA: Yes. Yes, indeed. Thank you for the pointer:

16:04:26 10 Q. Besides those two cases, do you know any other cases that
11 were brought before the disciplinary board that was chaired by
12 McDonald Boam?

13 A. No, I did not see any. I did not see it to say anything
14 about it.

16:04:51 15 Q. When you were commander of the 1st Battalion, did you have
16 cases of indiscipline in your battalion?

17 A. No, no case came before me.

18 Q. And when you were in Cape Mount, did you receive or hear of
19 any cases of indiscipline by NPFL fighters?

16:05:27 20 A. When I was in Cape Mount there was no case before me and I
21 did not hear of any.

22 Q. You mentioned that during the Nimba raid and the failed
23 coup by Quiwonkpa, the Krahn soldiers - the Doe soldiers who were
24 of the Krahn ethnic group were targeting people who were from
16:06:01 25 Quiwonkpa's tribal group, who were the Gios. Now, when the NPFL
26 came to Liberia, do you know whether they took revenge on the
27 Krahn people?

28 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, that would be leading.

29 THE WITNESS: Yes, there was nothing about Krahn people --

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Wait. Yes, Mr Chekera, it is leading.
2 It is very leading.

3 MR CHEKERA: I will rephrase and just deal with it when I
4 refer to the transcript:

16:06:45 5 Q. When the NPFL fighters came to Liberia, when they were
6 fighting in Liberia, did they target people from any particular
7 group?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Now, after you left the Armed Forces of Liberia - what year
16:07:21 10 did you say? Was that in 2003?

11 A. The same year I left the army, it was the same year.

12 Q. What did you do after you left the army?

13 A. When I left the army, I was just a mere farmer. I just
14 worked on my farm.

16:08:04 15 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, I'm just going to go into the
16 transcript and I would, with your permission, just seek a few
17 minutes to resolve the transcript. And maybe through you, if you
18 could inquire whether the witness would like to take a break
19 during that time.

16:08:21 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: I am not going to inquire. If he wants
21 to take a break, he can put up his hand. This is a standing
22 order. I'm not going to wet nurse him.

23 You want to leave the room?

24 THE WITNESS: Yes.

16:12:08 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, you asked a question: "Now,
26 after you left the Armed Forces of Liberia - what year did you
27 say? Was that 2003?" But you're the one suggesting this year.
28 The witness hasn't said at all today what year he left the
29 forces; you said it.

1 MR CHEKERA: Just give me a minute to check with the
2 transcript, because I thought I heard 2003. I could be wrong.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, did you find a prior reference?

16:12:48

4 MR CHEKERA: My mistake, Madam President. You are indeed
5 correct. I will withdraw the question as put.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: It is already answered. All I'm asking
7 you to do is to refrain from leading the witness.

8 MR CHEKERA: Indeed. I take the point:

16:13:40

9 Q. Mr Mineh, do you know someone by the name Joseph D Marzah
10 or Zigzag Marzah?

11 A. Yes, I know Zigzag Marzah.

12 MR CHEKERA: Sorry, Madam President, maybe before I
13 proceed, just so that all of us could follow, I will be making
14 reference to the transcript of 12 March 2008. I'll be looking at
15 various pages and I'll probably start at page 5849:

16:14:03

16 Q. How do you know Zigzag Marzah?

17 A. Zigzag Marzah, I saw him with Benjamin Yeaten as bodyguard
18 to Benjamin Yeaten. This is how I knew him.

19 Q. At what point was this during the conflict in Liberia?

16:14:46

20 A. I saw him with Ben during the war. That's how I saw him.

21 Q. Where did you see Zigzag Marzah with Ben?

22 A. Zigzag Marzah was always at Benjamin - yes, he was the
23 bodyguard to Ben, so here I saw him.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE: And what war are we talking about? I
16:15:24 25 thought there were several wars in Liberia. Which one are we
26 talking about?

27 MR CHEKERA: Let me rephrase. Thank you:

28 Q. During the time that you entered Liberia from Ivory Coast
29 until you left the NPFL, at what point did you see Zigzag Marzah

1 with Ben?

2 A. I saw him always with Ben. He has stayed too long. This
3 is how I saw him.

4 Q. Did you see Marzah with Ben as far back as the time that
16:16:09 5 you were called by Mr Taylor to Gborplay?

6 A. I saw him in Monrovia to Ben. Myself, wherever Ben goes,
7 then he goes. There I saw him.

8 Q. When you were called by Mr Taylor to Gborplay, when
9 Mr Taylor was still in Gborplay, did you see Zigzag Marzah in
16:16:41 10 Gborplay?

11 A. Zigzag, I can't remember about - I can't remember, but I
12 saw him with Ben. Benjamin Yeaten. In Gborplay, no, I didn't
13 see him.

14 Q. Did Zigzag Marzah ever fight under you?

16:17:07 15 A. No, he was not fighting under my command. No. Anyone who
16 said that he was at my command, no, that person is lying.

17 Q. When the NPFL was still in Ivory Coast, do you know whether
18 Zigzag Marzah joined the NPFL at that point in Ivory Coast?

19 A. I said I cannot remember. To say the truth is - it is good
16:17:58 20 to say the truth. No.

21 Q. Zigzag Marzah says that he fought under you with the
22 1st Battalion. Do you remember that?

23 A. I cannot remember. Those who were under my command, they
24 were many, so I do not remember seeing him.

16:18:25 25 MR BANGURA: Your Honours, if counsel is now referring
26 questions from testimony of a witness, may he give us the
27 references, please.

28 MR CHEKERA: Yes, I was actually going to proceed to do
29 that. At page 5858 of the transcript of 12 March 2008 a question

1 was posed and I will just --

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: What line?

3 MR CHEKERA: The question is at line 12:

4 Q. The question is:

16:18:54 5 "Q. So, sir, after that incident where you pledged loyalty
6 to Charles Taylor, what assignments did you get? What did
7 you do?

8 A. After my release from the container by Charles Taylor,
9 he assigned me with the 1st Battalion under Edward Millen
16:19:20 10 [phon]. "

11 Have you heard that aspect of the evidence which I've just
12 read, Mr Witness?

13 PRESIDING JUDGE: Have you explained to the witness that
14 this was [overlapping speakers].

16:19:37 15 THE WITNESS: I'm able, but I cannot remember. I cannot
16 remember.

17 MR CHEKERA:

18 Q. The evidence I've just read you is from the evidence that
19 Zigzag Marzah gave before this Court and what he is saying here
16:19:48 20 is that he actually fought under you under the 1st Battalion.

21 A. I said if Zigzag Marzah was assigned under my command, I
22 cannot remember. I did not remember seeing him.

23 Q. And at page 5859 he again reiterates the point that I've
24 just made. Now, at line 24 he makes an allegation and I'm going
16:20:47 25 to put to you, are you from a place called "Berika"?

26 A. Yes, I'm from Gbalegah.

27 Q. Sorry, the name again slowly.

28 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, repeat the name of the place.

29 THE WITNESS: Gbalegah District.

1 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Interpreter, do you think you can
2 spell the name of that district? Have you ever heard of it?

3 THE INTERPRETER: Yes. The name is G-B-A-H-E-G-A-H. Your
4 Honour, let me correct the spelling. G-B-A-L-E-G-A-H.

16:22:07 5 PRESIDING JUDGE: Say it. Pronounce, it place.

6 THE WITNESS: Gbalegah. Gbalegah District.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE: Thank you.

8 MR CHEKERA:

9 Q. Now, Zigzag Marzah alleges that when he was fighting under
10 you there was looting that was going on. I'm referring to the
11 same transcript at page 5862 and at line 15 this is what he says.

12 A. I want to give the answer.

13 Q. Sorry, if you could just let me read what he says. I will
14 just read the relevant part of the answer he gave: "Whatsoever
15 we captured, what we got there was for us." He's talking about
16 at the battlefield, when they were at the battlefield, he says,
17 "Whatsoever we captured" --

18 PRESIDING JUDGE: What line are you reading from?

19 MR CHEKERA: 15. I've just removed the context because
20 there's a lot of preceding discussion that may not be relevant,
21 so I'm just referring to the relevant portion that relates to
22 looting.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE: It says "wheresoever".

24 MR CHEKERA: Oh, sorry. Okay:

16:23:51 25 Q. "Wheresoever we captured, what we got there was for us. So
26 we were encouraged to battle. We were not physically paid, no."

27 When Zigzag Marzah was fighting under you, was there a
28 policy that whatever the fighters captured was for them?

29 A. What I will say is no. In my command, I did not see it.

1 Maybe what he did is what he has explained. Whatever - wherever
2 we were, we didn't do it that way because whoever that commit
3 such was against the NPFL.

16:25:02 4 Q. Let me explain this to you very carefully. Zigzag Marzah
5 is talking about the time that he was fighting under you under
6 the 1st Battalion and what he is saying here is that your
7 fighters were being encouraged to fight because whatever they
8 captured during the fight was theirs. Do you agree with that?

9 A. I said I never mandated him so. No, I didn't say so.

16:25:33 10 Q. He goes further to allege --

11 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, remember, this is in the
12 context of before the election, before the election, if you look
13 at the previous lines.

14 MR CHEKERA: Yes. Madam President, just to put the issue
16:26:00 15 into context, if you look at page 585 [sic], at line 14 the
16 witness, in this case Zigzag Marzah, alleged --

17 JUDGE LUSSICK: What was the page number?

18 MR CHEKERA: 5858. I'm sorry, your Honour. 5858 at line
19 15, he alleges in that evidence that he was in Gborplay and
16:26:31 20 detained in a container. And when he was released by Mr Taylor,
21 that was the time that he was assigned to Mr Mineh who was the
22 leader of the 1st Battalion and we have established through his
23 evidence that he was the leader of - he was appointed leader at
24 Gborplay.

16:26:56 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, perhaps you didn't get my
26 point. I was looking at the very transcript which you were
27 quoting to the witness and the question put to Zigzag Marzah was:
28 "Before the election, were you receiving any salaries?" And then
29 gives that answer.

1 MR CHEKERA: Yes.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE: That is the context that I'm trying to
3 put in. I'm not troubled with whatever other time Zigzag is
4 alleged to have worked under him.

16:27:23 5 MR CHEKERA: Madam President, with your permission, could I
6 seek an adjournment of the proceedings at this point because I
7 have an issue that I seek to address with you in the absence of
8 the witness and that might be just a few minutes.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Witness, there is a matter that
16:27:48 10 doesn't concern you that the Chamber needs to hear about, and so
11 since we've nearly come to the end of the day, I'm going to allow
12 you to go and retire for the rest of the day and merely to remind
13 you, as I normally do, that you are not to discuss your evidence
14 with anyone. Do you understand that, please?

16:28:10 15 THE WITNESS: Yes. Repeat your statement.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: I'm going to let you go out now because
17 we have other matters to deal with and you can go home now
18 because - well, home to where you live temporarily. We shall
19 continue the proceedings on Monday. And in the meantime, you are
16:28:36 20 not to discuss your evidence. We've come to the end of the day,
21 that's what I'm saying.

22 Please escort the witness out.

23 MR CHEKERA: Maybe the first issue I could deal with which
24 does not directly relate --

16:28:59 25 [In the absence of the witness]

26 Madam President, the issue I wish - two issues. The first
27 issue quickly relates to an issue that arose previously. Both
28 Mr Taylor and Mr Mineh indicated that they would, with your
29 permission, like to see each other after the end of the witness's

1 testimony briefly, possibly for not more than 15 minutes, subject
2 to the necessary conditions relating to the monitoring of the
3 proceedings.

4 This issue has arisen before this Chamber before, and the
16:29:38 5 practice we have adopted is for us to raise it directly with the
6 Chamber, although in my submission it would ordinarily fall under
7 the rules of detention and under the purview of the Registry.
8 But this is a practice that has been adopted, and we are happy to
9 follow the practice and seek your permission.

16:29:54 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Mineh is a witness in this Court. How
11 can you tell me the Chamber is not involved?

12 MR CHEKERA: Sorry? That is why I'm raising the issue. At
13 the conclusion of his evidence, we would like your permission for
14 the witness to be allowed to have a brief interaction or
16:30:12 15 encounter with Mr Taylor. Of course, subject to the necessary
16 conditions relating to monitoring and other restrictions imposed
17 in terms of the rules of detention.

18 Premature as it might be, I just wanted my learned friend
19 opposite, Mr Bangura, to - if he is able to give us an indication
16:30:42 20 of how long he would think he would proceed in cross-examination,
21 bearing in mind that I probably have just about an hour or so to
22 conclude my evidence-in-chief. This imparts on our scheduling of
23 the next witnesses who, because of the flight delays, were
24 delayed by over a week and only arrived here today. If we could
16:31:09 25 get an indication, that would also help us to schedule our next
26 witness order.

27 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Bangura, what is your response to the
28 - well, to both requests, really.

29 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, I will address the second issue,

1 and Ms Hollis will address the Court on the first issue.

2 Your Honour, as counsel himself puts it, it's premature and
3 it's rather difficult at this stage to anticipate how long my
4 cross will take, especially as he has already indicated he's got
16:31:52 5 about an hour to go to complete. I don't know what will be
6 unfolding in the rest of his direct examination, so it's really
7 difficult to say. It may be Monday, perhaps the whole day - if
8 he takes an hour, which perhaps might be half the first session,
9 I might probably go through the rest of the day.

16:32:16 10 PRESIDING JUDGE: Can I just note, though, that I've been
11 told that the tape has completely run out and I want some of
12 these things to go on record, please. If you could quickly put
13 in another tape.

14 MS IRURA: Your Honour, we are ready to proceed.

16:37:16 15 PRESIDING JUDGE: We were looking at the issue of how long
16 the cross-examination will likely take. Of course, remember that
17 tomorrow is a public holiday, namely, the Queen's Day, and
18 therefore court is not sitting. That's tomorrow, Friday. And
19 Monday the Court is scheduled to sit only from 9 o'clock in the
16:37:37 20 morning until 1. So we're sitting half a day on Monday, and
21 Tuesday we're sitting only in the afternoon from 2 o'clock until
22 6.30. So, Mr Chekera, I do not think that you can really get any
23 assistance in this regard. This is how things are.

24 MR BANGURA: Your Honour, I was just going to add what your
16:38:08 25 Honour has just mentioned, that sitting on Monday would not be
26 the normal five and a half hours, so that in fact makes it much
27 more difficult. I will definitely be going beyond Monday, given
28 that we will not be having a normal sitting day.

29 PRESIDING JUDGE: But on the other hand, if you require

1 time to prep the witnesses I think you have plenty of time to
2 prep the witnesses, Mr Chekera.

3 MR CHEKERA: Indeed, Madam President. Those indications
4 alone have sufficiently warned us for what possible time we have
16:38:40 5 at hand.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE: Now, Ms Hollis, you have a word to say on
7 the second request?

8 MS HOLLIS: Very briefly, Madam President, your Honours.
9 Assuming that security can do this - which, of course, we don't
16:38:56 10 know - the Prosecution has no objection to this meeting if there
11 is a monitor from the Registry and an interpreter, if that would
12 be necessary for the monitor to know what was being said. If
13 those conditions were in place, which I believe were similar to
14 the conditions on the prior occasion, then the Prosecution
16:39:15 15 certainly has no objection to the meeting.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE: Mr Chekera, you said this meeting should
17 take place at the detention centre.

18 MR CHEKERA: Wherever is convenient. If the detention
19 centre is convenient, that would actually be more preferable.

16:39:33 20 PRESIDING JUDGE: Yes, because I think the accused is not
21 allowed to receive visitors here at the courthouse.

22 MR CHEKERA: Then we would request the meeting at the
23 detention centre.

24 [Trial Chamber conferred]

16:40:08 25 PRESIDING JUDGE: We're of the view that the request by the
26 Defence - or by the accused to meet with Mr Mineh after he's
27 given his testimony is a reasonable one, and we will direct that
28 this meeting should take place at the detention centre subject,
29 of course, to the rules of detention and that, as the Prosecution

1 has indicated, that there must be from the Registry, preferably
2 the head of office, Mr Greg Townsend, should be present, and that
3 there should also be an interpreter - an impartial interpreter to
4 interpret whatever is being said between the accused and the
5 witness.

16:40:58

6 In view of those matters being concluded that way, we will
7 adjourn to Monday at 9 o'clock.

8 [Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.41 p.m.
9 to be reconvened on Monday, 3 May 2010 at
10 9.00 a.m.]

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I N D E X

WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENCE:

DCT-131	40290
EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR CHEKERA	40290