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SCSL-03-01-T
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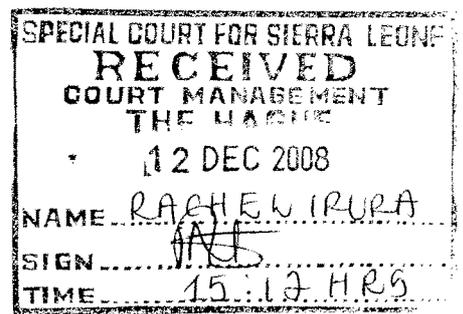
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SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR
Freetown – Sierra Leone

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

Registrar: Mr. Herman von Hebel

Date filed: 12 December 2008



THE PROSECUTOR

Against

Charles Ghankay Taylor

Case No. SCSL-03-01-T

PUBLIC

PROSECUTION MOTION FOR ADMISSION OF BBC RADIO BROADCASTS

Office of the Prosecutor:

Ms. Brenda J. Hollis
Ms. Leigh Lawrie

Counsel for the Accused:

Mr. Courtenay Griffiths Q.C.
Mr. Andrew Cayley
Mr. Terry Munyard
Mr. Morris Anyah

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Prosecution files this motion under Rule 73 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence (“**Rules**”) to request that the Trial Chamber admit into evidence certain audio clips and accompanying unofficial typed transcripts relating to BBC radio broadcasts pursuant to: (i) Rule 89(C); or, in the alternative, (ii) Rules 89(C) and 92*bis*, should the Chamber find that Rule 92*bis* is also applicable. The relevant clips are identified in **Annex A**, unofficial transcripts prepared by the Prosecution for these clips are provided in **Annex B**, and the actual audio clips are provided on a CD accompanying this motion marked “BBC 12.12.08”.¹ In this motion, the audio clips which the Prosecution seeks to admit will be referred to throughout as the “**BBC Clips**” and the transcripts will be referred to as the “**BBC Transcripts**”, which together will collectively be referred to as the “**BBC Material**”.
2. The Prosecution is mindful of this Chamber’s decision that, where a document is not being tendered through a witness, then the application should be made under Rule 92*bis*.² The Prosecution has been granted leave to appeal this decision.³
3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the first instance, the Prosecution maintains that the BBC Material is admissible under Rule 89(C) alone for three reasons: Rule 89(C) is the general rule governing admission of evidence and has been used to tender material absent a witness in other proceedings;⁴ Rule 92*bis* has been amended such that it is now limited to witness statements and transcripts; and Rule 92*bis* as amended and limited does not apply to materials which were not prepared for the purposes of legal proceedings. In the alternative, Rules 89(C) and 92*bis* allow the admission of the material discussed herein.

II. APPLICABLE LAW

Admission under Rule 89(C)

4. The Prosecution relies on and incorporates by reference its submissions made under this heading in its recent similar filing, substituting any reference therein to “Documents” with

¹ A CD is provided for each of the following: (i) the Defence; (ii) Chambers; and (iii) Court Management Section (“**CMS**”). CMS has been asked to provide the Defence and Chambers with copies of these CDs by hand when the filing is circulated to these parties in hard copy.

² *Prosecutor v. Taylor*, SCSL-03-01-T, Trial Transcript, 21 August 2008, page 14253, lines 1-6.

³ *Prosecutor v. Taylor*, SCSL-03-01-T-691, “Decision on Public Prosecution Application for Leave to Appeal Decision Regarding the Tender of Documents”, 10 December 2008.

⁴ *Prosecutor v. Sesay et al.*, SCSL-04-15-T-620, “Decision on Prosecution Motion to Admit into Evidence a Document Referred to in Cross-Examination”, 2 August 2006, p. 4 (“**Sesay 89(C) Decision**”).

a reference to “BBC Material”.⁵ Further, the Prosecution’s submissions in the UN Documents Motion regarding documentary evidence not prepared for the purposes of legal proceedings apply equally to anything on which information not prepared for the purposes of legal proceedings is recorded, such as audio-recordings.

Alternative request for relief: Admission under Rules 89(C) and 92bis

5. Assuming, *arguendo*, Rule 92bis is applicable to the admission of the BBC Material, then the requirements of Rules 89 and 92bis must be satisfied. For evidence comprising public radio broadcasts and their associated transcripts to be admitted pursuant to both Rules, the evidence must be relevant, its reliability susceptible of confirmation and its admission not unfairly prejudice the Accused.
6. The Prosecution relies on and incorporates by reference its submissions made under this heading at paragraphs 15 to 17 of the UN Documents Motion, substituting any reference therein to “Documents” with a reference to “BBC Material”. Further, the Prosecution’s submissions in the UN Documents Motion regarding documentary evidence not prepared for the purposes of legal proceedings apply equally to anything on which information not prepared for the purposes of legal proceedings is recorded, such as audio-recordings.

III. SUBMISSIONS ON ADMISSIBILITY OF EVIDENCE

7. As required by SCSL jurisprudence,⁶ the Prosecution has made every effort to save the Court from wading through a mountain of material⁷ or a mass of undigested paperwork.⁸ Therefore, **Annex A** includes a table describing the relevant BBC Clip to be admitted.⁹

⁵ *Prosecutor v. Taylor*, SCSL-01-03-T-650, “Public Prosecution Motion for Admission of Documents of the United Nations & United Nations Bodies”, 29 October 2008, paras. 4 – 13 (“**UN Documents Motion**”).

⁶ See the Separate Opinion of Justice Robertson to *Prosecutor v. Norman et al.*, SCSL-04-14-AR73, “Fofana – Decision on Appeal Against “Decision on Prosecution’s Motion for Judicial Notice and Admission of Evidence”, 16 May 2005 (“**Fofana Appeals Decision**”) at para. 31: “All relevant material is admissible, but that is not an invitation to the parties to deluge the court [...] The wider admissibility provisions in the SCSL carry a concomitant duty to the parties to narrow the documentary material they seek to introduce and to identify only those passages which are relevant to the case [...]”. See also the direction of this Chamber given in *Prosecutor v. Taylor*, SCSL-03-01-T-369, “Decision on Prosecution’s Motion for Admission of Material Pursuant to Rules 89(C) and 92bis”, 7 December 2007, at p.3.

⁷ See *Prosecutor v. Brima et al.*, SCSL-04-16-T-423, Decision on the Prosecution Motion for Judicial Notice and Admission of Evidence, 25 October 2005, para. 71.

⁸ See Separate Opinion of Justice Robertson to the *Fofana Appeals Decision*, para. 30.

⁹ **Annex A** describes the clip (by reference to the ERN number and track number given to it on the accompanying CD), gives the date and time of broadcast, provides the length of the clip, summarises the content of the clip, and identifies the relevance of the clip to the Indictment.

Annex B contains the BBC Transcripts. The BBC Transcripts are unofficial transcripts, prepared by the Prosecution and refer only to the clip in respect of which the Prosecution seeks admission and not to the entire broadcast. The Prosecution advises that a CD marked “BBC, 12.12.08” containing each BBC Clip is submitted with this motion.¹⁰ To further assist the Chamber in evaluating the evidence in light of both the primary and alternative requests for relief, those parts of the BBC Material that could accurately be considered acts and conduct of the Accused are identified in **Annex A** by underlining the relevant summarized text and in **Annex B** by underlining the relevant part of the transcript. Admission of this evidence is requested under Rule 89(C) or, in the alternative, under Rule 89(C) and Rule 92*bis* (based on the interpretation of Rule 92*bis* advanced in paragraphs 15 and 16 of the UN Documents Motion).

Application for Admission under Rule 89(C)

8. The relevance of each BBC Clip to the current proceedings and the Second Amended Indictment is identified in **Annex A**. As noted therein, the clips relate to: (i) the chapeau requirements of the crimes charged; (ii) the several forms of liability alleged by the Prosecution in this case; (iii) the crime base; and (iv) evidence of a consistent pattern of conduct admissible under Rule 93. The BBC Clips are also relevant as they establish the notoriety of the crimes and, therefore, are evidence of intent, knowledge, awareness or reasonable foreseeability of the crimes. Further, the BBC Clips are also relevant as they corroborate and so lend weight to evidence on record.
9. The BBC Clips are taken from the radio programme “Focus on Africa”. This programme originates from the BBC and was aired publicly. Therefore, the BBC Material does not impact adversely and unfairly upon the integrity of the proceedings nor is it of such a nature that its admission would bring the administration of justice into serious disrepute.
10. This Chamber has noted that it “has a discretion under Rule 89(C) to admit any relevant evidence” and “the inability of the Defence to cross-examine such witnesses is a matter that goes to the weight of the evidence, not its admissibility.”¹¹ In addition, at the ICTY, a report from a member of a commission of experts was admitted despite defence complaints

¹⁰ See footnote 1 above.

¹¹ See *Prosecutor v. Taylor*, SCSL-03-01-T-543, “Decision on Defence Application to Exclude the Evidence of Proposed Prosecution Expert Witness Corinne Dufka, or in the alternative, to Limit its Scope And on Urgent Prosecution Request for Decision”, 19 June 2008, para. 25, in relation to Defence objections regarding the admission of witness testimonies collected by Ms Dufka.

that they were being: "denied the right to cross-examine a paper witness."¹² In the face of such objections, the Chamber did "take entirely the point made by the Defence, that they cannot cross-examine the 400 witnesses on whose statements this evidence will be based." But found that "in this Tribunal we admit all types of evidence. The hearsay rule does not apply, but the issue of how much weight is given to this evidence is very much a matter for the Tribunal."¹³ Trial Chamber I has also admitted evidence on a similar basis as the "Chamber is composed of professional judges who are certainly capable of not drawing inferences without proper evidentiary basis or foundation and that the matter of weight to be given to any piece of evidence will be determined at the appropriate time in light of all of the evidence adduced at trial."¹⁴ It is, therefore, clear that no undue prejudice to the Accused arises from the fact that an audio-recording and a transcript thereof are produced without calling a witness.¹⁵

11. While authenticity has no bearing on the admissibility of evidence at the SCSL but rather goes to the weight to be accorded to it,¹⁶ the authenticity of the BBC Clips can be sufficiently established by the content of the Clips themselves. In addition, the CDs from which the BBC Clips were taken have sufficient indicia of authenticity as well. These original CDs also indicate the date of the Broadcast. These original CDs are available for inspection and for production to the Trial Chamber if required.

¹² *Prosecutor v. Kovačević*, IT-97-24, Trial Transcript, 6 July 1998, pp. 74-75 where the Defence elaborated that "We cannot cross-examine a piece of paper, 600 or whatever amount of pages in this record or this tendered exhibit, is nothing more than a paper witness. It's not this witness that is testifying. She has no knowledge of any fact contained in the document."

¹³ *Ibid*, p. 75.

¹⁴ *Sesay* 89(C) Decision, p. 4.

¹⁵ See Judge Richard May and Marieke Wierda, *International Criminal Evidence* (Transnational Publishers, Inc., New York: 2002), para. 7.97 which notes that the "procedure [of producing documents without calling a witness] has the advantage of expediting the trial without being detrimental to fairness."

¹⁶ *Prosecutor v. Blaskić*, IT-95-14-T, "Decision on the Defence Motion for Reconsideration of the Ruling to Exclude from Evidence Authentic and Exculpatory Documentary Evidence", 30 January 1998, para. 10: "Admissibility is governed by Sub-rule 89(C) of the Rules which reads: "A Chamber may admit any relevant evidence which it deems to have probative value". The word "admit" is stressed here. Only two elements, namely, relevance and probative value, are specified in the Rule as governing the admissibility of any particular piece of evidence. There is no third element relating, for example, to authenticity. ... If the Trial Chamber considers that the document is relevant and has probative value, it is admissible. Any challenge to its authenticity goes to the weight to be given to the document." Applying this approach to SCSL Rule 89(C), only one element, namely relevance is specific in the Rule as governing admissibility.

Alternative request for relief: Application for Admission under Rules 89(C) and 92bis

12. Assuming, *arguendo*, Rule 92bis is applicable, the Prosecution seeks in the alternative to have the BBC Material, admitted under Rules 89(C) and 92bis.
13. In relation to relevance, the Prosecution refers to paragraph 8 above and to **Annex A**.
14. As regards susceptibility of confirmation, the Prosecution is not required to prove that the evidence is in fact reliable at this stage, only that the reliability of the evidence is susceptible of confirmation.¹⁷
15. In relation to “undue prejudice to the Accused”, the Prosecution refers to paragraphs 9–10 above.
16. Assuming further, *arguendo*, that the qualification regarding evidence going to proof of the acts and conduct of the accused is still applicable to material not prepared for the purposes of legal proceedings notwithstanding the May 2007 amendments, then those portions of the BBC Material that would be accurately considered as going to proof of the acts and conduct of the Accused (as defined and limited by the jurisprudence) are identified in the Annexes as noted in paragraph 7 above.
17. As regards issues of proximity, while the BBC Material does concern the acts and conduct of those who might be considered the Accused’s immediately proximate subordinates, the Prosecution relies on its arguments incorporated above at paragraphs 4 and 6. Further, the BBC Clips are public broadcasts which are not being presented to a lay jury, and so will not “impact adversely and unfairly upon the integrity of the proceedings.” Rather, it is in the interests of justice that this relevant evidence is brought before the Chamber, and that the Chamber be allowed to assess the appropriate weight to be given to it at the conclusion of the case.

IV. CONCLUSION

18. The Prosecution requests that the Trial Chamber admit into evidence the BBC Clips identified in **Annex A** and provided on the CD accompanying this motion and the BBC Transcripts provided in **Annex B** pursuant to: (i) Rule 89(C) as this rule alone has been used at the SCSL to tender documents absent a witness and Rule 92bis has been amended such that it is now limited to witness material and does not apply to documents not

¹⁷ *Fofana Appeals Decision*, para. 27.

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prepared for legal proceedings; or, in the alternative, (ii) Rules 89(C) and 92*bis*, as Rule 92*bis* is interpreted in paragraphs 15-16 of the UN Documents Motion.

Filed in The Hague,

12 December 2008,

For the Prosecution,



Brenda J. Hollis
Principal Trial Attorney

LIST OF AUTHORITIES

SCSL

Prosecutor v. Taylor – Case No. SCSL-03-01

Prosecutor v. Taylor, SCSL-03-01-T-369, “Decision on Prosecution’s Motion for Admission of Material Pursuant to Rules 89(C) and 92bis”, 7 December 2007

Prosecutor v. Taylor, SCSL-03-01-T-543, “Decision on Defence Application to Exclude the Evidence of Proposed Prosecution Expert Witness Corinne Dufka, or in the alternative, to Limit its Scope And on Urgent Prosecution Request for Decision”, 19 June 2008

Prosecutor v. Taylor, SCSL-03-01-T, Trial Transcript, 21 August 2008

Prosecutor v. Taylor, SCSL-01-03-T-650, “Public Prosecution Motion for Admission of Documents of the United Nations & United Nations Bodies”, 29 October 2008

Prosecutor v. Taylor, SCSL-03-01-T-691, “Decision on Public Prosecution Application for Leave to Appeal Decision Regarding the Tender of Documents”, 10 December 2008

Prosecutor v. Brima et al. – Case No. SCSL-04-16

Prosecutor v Brima et al., SCSL-04-16-T-423, “Decision on the Prosecution Motion for Judicial Notice and Admission of Evidence”, 25 October 2005

Prosecutor v. Norman et al. – Case No. SCSL-04-14

Prosecutor v. Norman et al., SCSL-04-14-AR65, “Fofana – Appeal Against Decision Refusing Bail”, 11 March 2005

Prosecutor v. Norman et al., SCSL-04-14-AR73-398, “Fofana – Decision on Appeal Against ‘Decision on Prosecution’s Motion for Judicial Notice and Admission of Evidence’”, 16 May 2005

Prosecutor v. Sesay et al. – Case No. SCSL-04-15

Prosecutor v. Sesay et al., SCSL-04-15-T-620, “Decision on Prosecution Motion to Admit into Evidence a Document Referred to in Cross-Examination”, 2 August 2006

ICTY Cases

Prosecutor v. Kovačević, IT-97-24, Trial Transcript, 6 July 1998
<http://www.un.org/icty/transe24Kovacevic/980706.htm>

Prosecutor v. Blaskić, IT-95-14-T, “Decision on the Defence Motion for Reconsideration of the Ruling to Exclude from Evidence Authentic and Exculpatory Documentary Evidence”, 30 January 1998

Prosecutor v. Taylor, SCSL-03-01-T

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<http://www.un.org/icty/blaskic/trialc1/decisions-e/80130EV113316.htm>

Academic Text

International Criminal Evidence (Transnational Publishers, Inc., New York: 2002), Judge Richard May and Marieke Wierda

(Copy of Chapter 7 provided in previous filing - see Prosecutor v. Taylor, SCSL-03-01-T-510, "Public Prosecution Motion for Admission of Document Pursuant to Rule 89(C)", 19 May 2008)

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ANNEX A

TABLE DESCRIBING EACH BBC CLIP TO BE ADMITTED

ANNEX A

ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
1.	D0000533, Track 1	15.12.98	17:05	02:27 (Clip located at time frame 13:56-16:23 in actual broadcast)	Conflict between Government of Liberia ("GOL") and 2 Liberian newspapers claiming 500 children undergoing basic military training at Schefflin Barracks – children aged between 10-17 could be seen doing combat drills. <u>Liberian Justice Minister states he visited Schefflin and 300 people are undergoing military training – all able-bodied men.</u>	ICR ² : relevant to: Rule 93 evidence, similar pattern of conduct, use of child soldiers; intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; and JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes.	ICR (33, 34)
2.	D0000510, Track 1	20.12.98	17:05	01:58 (clip located at time frame 00:48-	Report on fighting between government forces and their allies in eastern Sierra Leone and AFRC/RUF rebels. Both sides are fighting for	ICR: relevant to JCE including existence of a JCE and plurality of persons.	ICR (33, 34)

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¹ Information is also provided on the clip's time frame as part of the original entire broadcast. Further, the length of the clip does not include the length of the introduction music.
² "ICR" – Individual Criminal Responsibility.

ANNEX A

ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
3.	D0000509, Track 1	21.12.98	17:05	02:45 in actual broadcast)	control of the diamond rich district of Kono. Notes that Rebels overrun Koidu, driving ECOMOG and Kamajors out. ECOMOG says it withdrew from Koidu to limit civilian casualties. Thousands flee.	ICR: relevant to JCE including plurality of persons; and planning.	ICR (33, 34)
				02:00 (clip located at time frame 00:41-02:41 in actual broadcast)	ECOMOG shelling of an AFRC/RUF rebel base in Occra Hills as ECOMOG suspects rebels are planning to infiltrate Freetown. People fleeing.		

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ANNEX A

ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
4.	D0000524, Track 1	22.12.98	15:05	00:35 (clip located at time frame 22:52-23:27 in actual broadcast)	African news segment - reports that Bockarie told the BBC that his men were fighting to force Kabbah to negotiate. Rebels have overtaken key diamond mining town in East of Country, attack on Waterloo.	ICR: relevant to planning JCE including existence of common plan, design or purpose.	ICR (33, 34)

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ANNEX A

ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
5.	D0000523, Track 1	22.12.98	18:30	04:10 (clip located at time frame 00:45-04:55 in actual broadcast)	Report of attacks on Kono, Masiaka, Waterloo. Eyewitness account of rebel attack on Waterloo – about 50 rebels opened fire at 3 a.m., these rebels had been housed by Junta and rebel collaborators there. They burned some houses and killed civilians—they have no agenda. The attack lasted two hours, ECOMOG took control at 5 am. People who fled are now returning—thousands left. Rebels said they are fighting because they want their leader released.	Chapeau requirements of CAH ³ , CA3 ⁴ & OSV ⁵ ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; and JCE including plurality of persons and reasonable foreseeability of crimes; and planning. Crime Base: burning and killings in Waterloo.	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 1 (5, 6, 8), 2, 3 (9, 13)

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³ "CAH" – Crimes Against Humanity.

⁴ "CA3" – Violations of Article 3 Common to the Geneva Conventions and of Additional Protocol II. However, in relation to the chapeau requirements for CA3, it should be noted that Judicially Noticed Fact C states that "There was an armed conflict in Sierra Leone from about March 1991 until about 18 January 2002".

⁵ "OSV" – Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law. See comment in footnote above regarding Judicially Noticed Fact C which is also relevant to the chapeau requirements of OSV.

ANNEX A

ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
6.	D0000523, Track 2	23.12.98	15:05	02:14 (clip located at time frame 05:00-07:14 in actual broadcast)	Interview with Sylvester Rogers regarding attacks by remnants of the AFRC junta and RUF rebels as close to Freetown as Waterloo. Also notes attacks by these rebels close to Magburaka and Makeni, people fleeing. Rogers says ECOMOG told him everything is under control.	ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes and plurality of persons; and planning.	ICR (33, 34)
7.	D0000525, Track 1	24.12.98	18:30	03:54 (clip located at time frame 00:41-04:35 in actual broadcast)	Interview with Milton Teahjay, Liberia's Deputy Info. Minister, reacting to claims that Taylor's government is helping RUF. Also mentions reinforcement of Liberia's border with Sierra Leone with more troops.	ICR: relevant to JCE including plurality of persons and participation in a common, design, plan or purpose; and planning.	ICR (33, 34)
8.	D0000537, Track 2	27.12.98	17:05	00:21 (clip located at	ECOMOG says it controls Makeni but rebels say they have taken the town. Report that	ICR: planning; intent, knowledge, awareness, JCE reasonable	ICR (33, 34)

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ANNEX A

ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
9.	D0000550, Track 1	30.12.98	15:05	35:35-35:56 in actual broadcast)	Bockarie says he will start attacking Freetown if Kabbah does not resign. Report on situation in Kenema district – RUF and AFRC troops suffered heavy casualties at Tongolu village in effort to go through Segbwema to cut off Daru and Kenema. Things getting back to normal in Bo and Kenema.	foreseeability of crimes ICR: relevant to planning; and JCE including plurality of persons.	ICR (33, 34)
10.	D0000550, Track 2	30.12.98	17:05	00:37 (clip located at time fame 35:31-36:08 in original broadcast)	Reports that UN Security Council condemns rebel attacks and calls for countries to stop interfering in Sierra Leone's internal affairs. Notes that UNSC did not name any country in particular but states that correspondents say Liberia has been accused by several regional	ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including participation and reasonable foreseeability of crimes; planning; and aiding and abetting.	ICR (33, 34)

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ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis.

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
11.	D0000549, Track 1	30.12.98	18:30	02:18 (clip located at time frame 01:12-03:30 in actual broadcast)	countries of backing rebels. Rebels are poised to attack Freetown. Reports of attack by the rebel RUF/AFRC junta on Lunsar, now under rebel control. Francis Okelo says half the country is under rebel control.	ICR: JCE including plurality of persons; and planning.	ICR (33, 34)
12.	D0000539, Track 1	31.12.98	17:05	03:20 (clip located at time frame 02:52-06:12 in actual broadcast)	Report about the attack on Segbwema – battle lasted about 8 hours. Over 8,000 people fled to Kenema, people at the displaced camp fled. Kamajors routed the rebels, about 47 killed.	ICR: relevant to planning.	ICR (33, 34)

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ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
13.	D0000528, Track 1	04.01.99	17:05	03:11 (clip located at time frame 00:43-03:54 in actual broadcast)	Report on the attacks made by RUF and AFRC rebels. Notes fighting the night before at Foamex junction, Minister of Information says ECOMOG is on the offensive. Government minister and ECOMOG officers at Calaba Town say ECOMOG controls Hastings-Waterloo but the rebels are on the main roads and in the bushes, and that is where ECOMOG is on the offensive. Little vehicular traffic. News reports say ECOMOG controls Port Loko now after 4 days of fierce battle with the rebels.	ICR: relevant to planning; and JCE including plurality of persons.	ICR (33, 34)
14.	D0000528, Track 2	04.01.99	18:30	03:18 (clip located at	Report from Guinea about the 3,000 Sierra Leonean refugees arriving in Forecariah, fleeing from	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28)

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ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
				time frame 03:46-07:04 in actual broadcast)	the fighting in the northern region of Sierra Leone (Makeni, Lunsar, Port Loko). UN officials told the reporter that the refugees said the rebels looted most of the homes in towns and villages they'd captured, then set fire to the homes. They've carted away young men and women into the bush (to train to fight, according to the reporter, based on their "usual pattern"). A large number have been killed - in Port Loko, the rebels seemed to target government people or SLPP supporters, the paramount chief of Port Loko District was killed.	ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes. Rule 93 evidence: looting, burning, terror, forced military conscription, and killing.	ICR (33, 34)

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ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
15.	D0000513, Track 1	07.01.99	15:05	04:16 (clip located at 00:31-04:47 in actual broadcast)	Daddy K reports from the rebel area that the invaders are a mixture of RUF and SLA but the majority in the center of town are SLA. He says they control the eastern part of the city and along the Pademba Road area. He confirms they are in State House. He reports that people are forced to go out because if they don't the rebels know you aren't in favour of them and they'll burn down the house. They are being forced to say "We want peace" – men, women and children but mostly women and children. He has counted five buildings that have been burned but has heard there are more in the center of the city.	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes and plurality of persons. Crime Base: burnings in Freetown.	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 1 (5, 6, 8)

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ANNEX A

ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
				00:47 (clip located at 21:58-22:45 in actual broadcast)	News report that a combined force of rebels and troops loyal to former military government control large parts of Freetown, including State House. Mention of rebels burning homes in the center, trying to drive people onto the streets where they can be used as human shields.	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes and plurality of persons. Crime Base: burnings in Freetown.	

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ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
16.	D0000514, Track 2	08.01.99	15:05	02:58 (clip located at time frame 07:52-10:50 in actual broadcast)	Interview with Sam Bockarie – Bockarie explains why he is not taking the opportunity to work for peace with Kabbah. Bockarie says Sankoh should be turned over. Bockarie says the men in Freetown are already obeying him – he spoke with Brigadier G, the Task Force Commander, and asked him whether the offensive had started last night and Brigadier G said yes. Bockarie also says Tongo has fallen to them.	ICR: relevant to planning; intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including plurality of persons and reasonable foreseeability of crimes; command structure, superior authority.	ICR (33, 34)
17.	D0000554, Track 1	08.01.99	17:05	01:12 (clip located at time frame 34:18-35:30 in actual broadcast)	African news summary – reports sporadic explosions and gun fire in Freetown despite ceasefire. Reports also that Bockarie states his forces will not stop fighting until Sankoh released.	ICR: relevant to planning; and JCE including plurality of persons.	ICR (33, 34)

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ANNEX A

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TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
18.	D0000555, Track 2	10.01.99	17:05	00:41 (clip located at time frame 35:06-35:47 in actual broadcast)	Reports arrival of Nigerian troops in Freetown for deployment against rebel forces. Notes advance made by ECOMOG against rebels in parts of Freetown. Reports also a rebel commander's threat to set fire to Freetown, a city in which hundreds of thousands of civilians are trapped. Notes regional diplomatic efforts to bring peace to Sierra Leone including the sending of a <u>Liberian delegation to Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo to try to organise a regional summit.</u>	ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including plurality of persons and reasonable foreseeability of crimes.	ICR (33, 34)
19.	D0000515, Track 1	11.01.99	15:05	04:08 (clip located at	Reporter tells about trying to get behind ECOMOG lines – as he walked from the Pademba Road area,	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28)

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ANNEX A

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20.	D0000515, Track 2	11.01.99	17:05	time frame 02:46-06:54 in actual broadcast)	he saw houses that had been burned, saw the RUF setting fires in the middle of town, including to the telephone exchange and City Hall. He describes that people are trapped and just getting by.	ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes. Crime Base: burnings in Freetown.	ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 1 (5, 6, 8)
21.	D0000516,	12.01.99	15:05	00:40 (clip located at time frame 34:39-35:19 in actual broadcast)	News summary - notes witnesses have reported rebels in Freetown have set fire to many buildings and appear to be trying to destroy it, and they are still using civilians as shields against ECOMOG.	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including plurality and of persons and reasonable foreseeability of crimes. Crime Base: burnings in Freetown.	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 1 (5, 6, 8)
	D0000516,	12.01.99	15:05	01:33	Report about a couple that	Chapeau	Counts 1-11 (5;

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	Track 2			(clip located at time frame 00:35-02:08 in actual broadcast)	walked 10km to Cape Sierra Hotel and told the reporter that rebels are burning and destroying everything as they retreat, and they saw a lot of bodies in the streets, both civilian and military.	requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including plurality of persons and reasonable foreseeability of crimes. Crime Base: burnings and unlawful killings in Freetown.	9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 1 (5, 6, 8), 2 & 3 (9, 13)
22.	D0000522, Track 1	16.01.99	17:05	03:32 (clip located at time frame 00:39-04:11 in actual broadcast)	Report on the situation in Freetown. Identifies rebels as AFRC/RUF. Describes an extremely desperate situation for civilians in Freetown: in the east, heavy fighting and destruction, the rebels were ordered to burn everything they could as they retreated, order was	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including plurality of persons and reasonable	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 1 (5, 6, 8)

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ANNEX A

ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

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23.	D0000542, Track 2	18.01.99	15:05	01:47 (clip located at time frame 00:35-02:22 in actual broadcast)	executed and on the previous night it looked like a forest fire was raging. Also describes that some ECOMOG soldiers have been fairly brutal and they have summarily executed well-identified rebels. Report of the humanitarian situation in Freetown since attack 13 days ago, most people struggling with little food, water or medicine, 30-40,000 displaced are squatting at the National Stadium in filthy conditions. Estimates of the number of fighters and civilians killed in the 13 day battle start at 2,000.	foreseeability of crimes. Crime Base: burnings in Freetown.	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 2 & 3 (9, 13)

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ANNEX A

ADMISSION OF BBC MATERIAL PURSUANT TO RULE 89(C) OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, RULES 89(C) & 92bis

TRANSCRIPT # ANNEX B	CLIP NAME (ERN & TRACK #)	DATE OF BROADCAST	TIME OF BROADCAST (GMT)	LENGTH OF CLIP (Min:Sec.) ¹	SUMMARY OF CLIP CONTENT	RELEVANCE	INDICTMENT
24.	D0000542, Track 1	18.01.99	18:30	01:16 (clip located at time frame 02:22-03:38 in actual broadcast)	Tongeh Town attacked last night by RUF soldiers as they retreated from Njaima Sewafe – rebels gunned down civilians, including women and children, burned down houses and looted property. Reports that people also killed by rebels in Mondema and Peyama.	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes.	Counts 1-11 (5); 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34)
				05:35 (clip located at time frame 00:40-06:15 in actual broadcast)	Report about whether the ceasefire is actually in effect on the ground or not – reporter still hears firing...there was quite heavy fighting in Kissy overnight. The HMS Norfolk has not opened fire – it is there on a humanitarian mission and to show that the British government backs ECOMOG and Kabbah. Nobody is taking any	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including plurality of persons and reasonable foreseeability of crimes.	

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25.	D0000507, Track 2	22.01.99	17:05	03:11 (clip located at time frame 11:28-14:39 in actual broadcast)	chances though, so the supplies have not been brought in to Freetown. Reporter describes the level of devastation including the rebels' burning buildings. Report by reporter who travels to Kissy with ECOMOG. In Kissy, they are told the rebels were further down the road burning houses and cutting the hands of civilians. The ECOMOG men then engaged in battle with the rebels up in the hills. They captured a large gun and rescued some Catholic priests. Rebels have called the BBC to deny they are committing atrocities - it's the Kamajors doing it.	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including plurality of persons and reasonable foreseeability of crimes. Crime Base: burnings and amputations in Freetown.	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 1 (5, 6, 8), 7 & 8 (18, 21)

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26.	D0000508, Track 1	23.01.99	17:05	03:02 (clip located at time frame 10:06-13:08 in actual broadcast)	Report on the situation in Kissy. Reporter sees thousands of people on the roads trying to enter Freetown – sees thick smoke, which he understands is caused by rebels burning houses as they move to Wellington and Calaba Town. Children who have lost their parents are crying, old people are being carried, there are a lot of young men who are confused.	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes. Crime Base: burnings in Freetown.	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 1 (5, 6, 8)
27.	D0000519, Track 1	26.01.99	17:05	02:39 (clip located at time frame 16:10-18:49 in actual broadcast)	Report that in talks with Francis Okelo, Jerry Rawlings of Ghana expressed outrage at the atrocities committed by the rebels. He admitted he was not a great admirer of Kabbah, but he would have nothing to do with people whose	Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; aiding and abetting; and JCE including reasonable	Counts 1-11 (5; 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34)

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28.	D0000532, Track 1	28.01.99	18:30	01:22 (clip located at time frame 18:02-20:24 in actual broadcast)	military and political strategy was to cut innocent women and children into pieces. Rawlings also lambasted the Accused for his alleged support for the rebels in Sierra Leone. Three Sierra Leonean journalists killed by rebels, four more missing and feared dead. One was killed with his family after the rebels set fire to their house and sprayed it with gunshots in Wellington-Calaba Town area. One was being taken from his house to the State House by RUF rebels and was shot in the head in front of his fiancée. Journalist Mustapha Sesay said rebels armed with cutlasses pulled out his	foreseeability of crimes. Chapeau requirements of CAH, CA3 & OSV ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes. Crime base: burning and unlawful killing in Wellington; unlawful killing at State House, Freetown and	Counts 1-11 (5, 9; 14; 18; 22; 23; 28) ICR (33, 34) Specific Counts 1 (5, 6, 8), 2, 3 (9, 13), 7 & 8 (18, 21)

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29.	D0000545, Track 3	01.02.99	15:05	03:26 (clip located at time frame 12:28-15:54 in actual broadcast)	right eye with a cutlass. "A new breed of killer is appearing – one who knows no restraint and who is on the brink of denying to himself and others the very notion of humanity."	physical violence in Freetown.	
					Medical conditions at the maternity hospital in Freetown after the invasion – no doctors and a few nurses are working but have trouble getting to the hospital. Corpses are abandoned because the mortuary isn't working, the porters aren't reporting, the hospital is dirty, there's no food. Three women at the hospital today had stillbirths and died.	ICR: relevant to intent, knowledge, awareness of Accused; JCE including reasonable foreseeability of crimes.	ICR (33, 34)

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ANNEX B

BBC TRANSCRIPTS

D0000533
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 15/12/98

TRACK 1

Bickerton: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 13:56

Bickerton: A confrontation has erupted in Liberia between the government and two independent newspapers, *The Enquirer* and *The News*. It's over claims in the newspapers that a massive military recruitment and training program is underway by the government of hundreds of teenagers. It's supposed to be going on at a barracks just outside Monrovia from where Jonathan Paye-Layley telexed this report.

Paye-Layley: The confrontation started yesterday when the two papers came out with reports that over five hundred children were undergoing basic military training at the Schefflin Barracks just 16 kilometers outside of Monrovia. The two dailies based their reports on a statement issued by the head of the child advocacy group, Mr. Kimmie Weeks, which alleged that the government was not fulfilling its promise to refrain from involving children in military activities. The story published by *The Enquirer* quoted a group known as *The Children Information Bureau* as saying that the children between the ages of 10 and 17 could be seen in the barracks doing regular combat drills.

Mr. Weeks told *The Enquirer* that the children he saw at the Schefflin Barracks were carrying sticks strapped across their chests and backs in imitation of real weapons of war. He further claimed that while at Schefflin, he attempted to talk to the child trainees and their trainers, but he was prevented from doing so on the ground that he was not properly identified as a child rights advocate.

Weeks, himself a teenager, reminded the Liberian government that recruitment of children into armed forces was a violation of the Convention on the Rights of Children in the African Charter on Human Rights, which Liberia has recently ratified.

The media reports have prompted a visit to the Schefflin Barracks by a joint delegation of Defence and Justice Ministries aimed at ascertaining the situation. In a statement issued after his visit, Justice Minister Eddington Varmah, said the allegations of child recruitment in the armed forces were unfounded and calculated to undermine the government. He said there were 300 people undergoing military training, all of whom he described as able-bodied men.

Bickerton: A telexed report from Jonathan Paye-Layley in Monrovia.

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OTP Unofficial Transcript

TIME: 16:23

D0000510
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 20/12/98

TRACK 1

Mensah: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:48

Mensah: There has been a major development tonight in the war between government forces and their allies in eastern Sierra Leone and AFRC/RUF rebels who are fighting for control of the diamond rich district of Kono. According to witnesses of a battle for Kono's main town, Koidu, yesterday, pro-government ECOMOG forces and the Kamajor militia fighting alongside them have been driven out. From Freetown, Allieu Ibrahim Kamara of Reuters News Agency filed this dispatch.

Kamara: Rebels have overrun the town of Koidu after fierce fighting, according to survivors and aid workers who say ECOMOG forces have now withdrawn from the town. The rebels launched their attack on Wednesday but were initially beaten back by ECOMOG troops supported by Kamajor militia. According to a diamond miner, Alpha Jalloh, who spoke to me in Freetown, the battle for the town continued until early yesterday when the ECOMOG troops and the Kamajor militias pulled back to the outskirts of the town and the rebels took over. Alpha Jalloh had been hit by a bullet in the leg during the fighting and had been brought to Freetown in a military helicopter with other wounded people.

ECOMOG officers in Freetown admitted they had withdrawn from Koidu in order to limit civilian casualties. They said they would give the civilians a few days to leave the town and then strike again to crush the rebels. Survivors of the fighting said there were numerous bodies lying in the streets of Koidu, many of them apparently those of rebels. Aid workers said thousands of civilians had fled the town, many traveling by foot to Makeni more than 150 kilometers away. Medical sources said dozens of wounded civilians had reached Makeni hospital. The foil of ku...I'm sorry...the fall of Koidu comes only days after the government announced it was, for the first time, supplying the Kamajors and other militias with modern weapons.

Mensah: Allieu Ibrahim Kamara filed that dispatch from Freetown.

TIME: 02:45

D0000509
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 21/12/98

TRACK 1

Mensah: BBC World Service at 17.05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:41

Mensah: ECOMOG troops supporting the Sierra Leonean government have been shelling an RUF AFRC rebel base in the Occra Hills, just 35 miles from the capital. It's causing a big movement of civilians desperate to escape the fighting. The displaced are heading for Waterloo, about 20 miles from Freetown where ECOMOG has a base. And today, ECOMOG officials have been talking to the press to explain what's happening at the front. Our correspondent, Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay, reports:

Macaulay: Speaking to journalists today, the ECOMOG Chief Information Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Jimu Okunola, revealed that the essence of the heavy bombardment for the past few days is because ECOMOG suspects that the rebels are planning to infiltrate Freetown. He said, "These people cannot come into Freetown because ECOMOG is on red alert." The Colonel disclosed that from intelligence reports, it is founded that the rebels want to come to Freetown. Pressed further by journalists, he said, "We know because of letters, telephone calls and some arrests made by ECOMOG and other security agencies."

At the Waterloo displaced camp, a senior official of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency, ADRA, told journalists that over eight thousand displaced persons, including amputees, have fled the camp. He pointed out that the newly refurbished and equipped hospital has been closed down and expressed concern for the safety of the building and equipment.

And as the bombardment continued, yesterday residents from surrounding villages from Waterloo to Songo moved on foot to Devil Hole, about 16 miles to Freetown. And with no transport, many have been sleeping on the roadside as they travel from one village to another along the Freetown-Waterloo highway. Lieutenant Okunola said the movement of people is one of their major concerns. He said, "While there is no need to panic, because of peoples' past experiences with the rebels, we cannot tell them not to flee when they heard heavy bombardment in their areas."

Mensah: Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay reporting from Freetown.

TIME: 02:41

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OTP Unofficial Transcript

D0000524
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 22/12/98

TRACK 1

Mensah: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 22:52

Anderson: Rebels loyal to the ousted military regime in Sierra Leone say they're targeting the capital, Freetown, in their latest offensive. A rebel leader, Sam Bockarie, told the BBC his men were fighting to force the government of President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah to the negotiating table. In recent fighting, rebels have overrun a key diamond mining town in the east of the country and pushed units of men within 60 kilometers of Freetown. And as you heard earlier in the program, the rebels early this morning attacked the town of Waterloo, twenty-five kilometers from Freetown.

TIME: 23:27

D0000523
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 22/12/98

TRACK 1

Mensah: BBC World Service at 18:30 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:45

Mensah: The commander of Nigerian-led ECOMOG forces in Sierra Leone has confirmed tonight that there have been rebel attacks on Kono, on Masiaka, and on Waterloo, which is a main junction about 20 miles from the capital, Freetown. General Shelpidi appealed to Sierra Leoneans to be calm, saying that ECOMOG is engaged in destroying the RUF rebels wherever they are. But the attack on Waterloo in the early hours of this morning obviously caused some panic, and troops have been deployed along the road to Freetown in an attempt to discourage displaced people from heading for the city.

Abubakar Sesay is the forest guard for Waterloo district, and he told Tom Porteous this evening that he knows what really happened during the attack.

Sesay: What happened is this. Waterloo has an extension called Lumpa, and in Lumpa, about sixty-five percent of the people living there are junta and rebel collaborators. We also have some of them in Waterloo. They brought these people in two nights ago and kept them in their houses. So they were in their houses, they did not...tell ECOMOG about this movement. So at about 3 a.m., these rebels just opened fire.

Porteous: Was there a lot of shooting?

Sesay: Well yes, there was a lot of shooting, but their number was, they were numbered about 50, and not all of them were armed. There was a lot of shooting in the air, and I'm living in the remotest part of Waterloo, so we didn't know that they were causing havoc in the other part of Waterloo, that's across Calmont Road and the highway. They burnt some houses and killed some civilians. They even killed the secretary-general for YWCA, Mr. Whenzle (ph).

Porteous: Why did they kill him?

Sesay: Well, you see, these people, they are [a] heartless bunch of hooligans. You see, we cannot actually comprehend why they are behaving in such a way. They have no agenda, they have no agenda to keep killing people. They told us that they are fighting because they want their leader released. This is the term they are fighting for.

Porteous: So how long did the attack on Waterloo take?

- Sesay:** It took about two hours, just two hours. You see, when they started firing and giving ambush, ECOMOG had no alternative but to pull out. They went to their nearby garrison at Rokel, they got their ammo tanks, they came in, after two hours, and they drove them out. So by 6 a.m. this morning when we woke up, there was no rebel in Waterloo.
- Porteous:** What is the situation in Waterloo at the moment?
- Sesay:** The situation in Waterloo at the moment is: Waterloo came under the control of ECOMOG at 5 a.m. this morning, and up to the time I am talking, they are in control of Waterloo, in control of the Benguema garrison, that's the Benguema tennis center. And they are also in control of Tumbo, a nearby fishing village—a very large fishing village.
- Porteous:** But have any of the residents who fled from Waterloo returned?
- Sesay:** Some of them are returning, yes. While we were coming along the highway, some of the residents were returning to Waterloo, and vehicles are even running to Waterloo. Transport has resumed, they are running to Waterloo. I was there with my family, I fled on foot from Waterloo this afternoon, to...to Rokel.
- Porteous:** So you fled from Waterloo? So you fled from Waterloo?
- Sesay:** Yes, I fled from Waterloo.
- Porteous:** How many other people fled with you?
- Sesay:** Thousands of people left the village this morning, and up to this afternoon, they were still trekking out of Waterloo. But there was no rebel in Waterloo. ECOMOG is on top of [the] situation. They're in control of everything. You see, Mr. Porteous, what you should know that is, what you should know is that ECOMOG is a multi-national force. They have the capability, the manpower, the...you know, everything you, you think about. These rebels are just bandits, going around villages, stealing people's goods, and you know, killing innocent people. They cannot stand the firepower of ECOMOG. When that tank entered into Waterloo, they all ran away because they cannot stand the, the tank. Their target is, you know, civilian targets—that's what they do.
- Mensah:** Abubakar Sesay, who is the forest guard in Waterloo district in Western Sierra Leone.

TIME: 04:55

D0000523
BBC Focus on Africa
Track 2: 23/12/98

TRACK 2

Bickerton: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 05:00

- Bickerton:** The remnants of the AFRC junta and RUF rebels in Sierra Leone seem to have gained a new lease of life in the past couple of weeks. They've been launching attacks as close to Freetown as Waterloo, and now there are reports of rebel activity close to the northern town of Makeni, with people taking to their heels and fleeing the town. A few minutes ago on a poor line to Makeni, Tom Porteous asked our correspondent, Sylvester Rogers, what the people were fleeing from.
- Rogers:** Well, there was a report about rebel skirmishes eleven miles of Makeni. Because of fear, the people fled the town and went and slept in the...in nearby bushes. Well this morning again, they started returning, but the exodus has begun again following a report of rebel attacks close to Magburaka, which is the Tonkolili District headquarter town.
- Porteous:** Where are these reports coming from?
- Rogers:** I have been speaking here to ECOMOG. They themselves told me there was rebel scavengers, some eleven miles of Makeni, but they dealt with that and that everything was under control.
- Porteous:** What else did ECOMOG tell you about the situation in the Makeni area?
- Rogers:** ECOMOG is saying they are doing everything in their power to protect this town. But the people don't seem to believe that because they are still pulling out as I speak to you now.
- Porteous:** These skirmishes that people are talking about and that ECOMOG has been talking about, can you hear anything of this fighting, or is it too far away?
- Rogers:** It is not too far away. I have been hearing bombardment myself. In fact, as soon as I finish speaking to you, I will be leaving also, because everybody is pulling out.
- Porteous:** What about the United Nations Observer Mission? Are they still there, or have they left too?

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OTP Unofficial Transcript

Rogers: They all left. They all left yesterday, and even the Catholic bishop here, of Makeni, has fled.

Bickerton: Sylvester Rogers on a very poor line from Makeni, Sierra Leone just a few minutes ago.

TIME 07:14

D0000525
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 24/12/98

TRACK 1

Bickerton: BBC World Service, it's almost 18:30 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:41

Bickerton: The recent upsurge in rebel activity in Sierra Leone and the security scares in Freetown and elsewhere, while unjustified according to the authorities, sparked a fresh round of allegations that President Taylor's government in Liberia is helping Foday Sankoh's RUF rebels. That, the argument goes, would explain the sudden new lease of life the rebels seem to have been given. Farai Sevenzo asked Liberia's Deputy Information Minister, Milton Teahjay, how they reacted to those new claims.

Teahjay: President Taylor has been working all along closely with President Kabbah to bring peace to Sierra Leone, so we see these latest allegations as only an attempt to sever the two leaders so that the war there will continue and those who are in government in Freetown, for them to benefit at the expense of the Sierra Leonean people. That's how we see it.

Sevenzo: Alright, Mr. Teahjay, but at the same time, you have reinforced your troops on the border with Sierra Leone, is that not true?

Teahjay: Yeah, that's true, and that's in an attempt to ensure that individuals will not be allowed to...to do hit and run into Freetown. We don't want anybody fighting to free Sierra Leone, then coming back into Liberia and regrouping, then going back in there. We don't want to be a party to the conflict in Sierra Leone. That's precisely why we are reinforcing our borders—to make sure that there is not a spillover of the conflict from Freetown to Liberia.

Sevenzo: Well what's the next step then? Why don't you just call up Mr. Kabbah and tell him, "Look, we're not involved" and why don't you remove your troops from the border?

Teahjay: Well, our troops are not on Sierra Leonean territory—they are on our side of the Liberian border. That is normal in the conduct of domestic policy and international policies. If there is a conflict in the neighboring country, it is incumbent upon the country nearby to make sure that their borders are not used for hit and run tactics on the other side of the border.

- Sevenzo:** Very well, sir. What do you think can be done to patch up relations with your...with your neighbors at the moment?
- Teahjay:** Well I think the leaders of Sierra Leone have to begin to approach this issue with pragmatism. The issue of Foday Sankoh is an important factor that we have to address in a collective way. What that means is the man who is a part of the problem must be given an opportunity to be a part of the solution, and this is what we have constantly said. President Kabbah and President Taylor have been talking on this very issue and we believe that that, plus many other approaches from the Liberian experience could be exploited to be utilized in the process of bringing peace to Sierra Leone—finger-pointing is not going to do it. President Taylor has won the presidency here, he won the elections here, he has no interest in ensuring the conflict in Freetown—or in Sierra Leone for that matter. What does that benefit him? He does not want to be president of Freetown or Sierra Leone. He wants to be president of Liberia; he's President of Liberia already. So he has no need to bring conflict in other peoples' country.
- Sevenzo:** At the same time sir, it doesn't really sound impartial of you to mention Mr. Foday Sankoh—and don't you feel that this is directly interfering in another country's internal politics?
- Teahjay:** Well, it would be directly interfering if we were not invited. ECOWAS invited Liberia to be a part of the solution of the problem in Freetown, in Sierra Leone. It is on the basis of that that we are playing with a wide range of options that will be utilized in bringing solutions.
- Sevenzo:** Okay, so one more final question. You would assure the whole world tonight that there are no Liberian troops on Sierra Leonean soil?
- Teahjay:** Categorically. We deny categorically the presence of Liberian troops in Free...in Sierra Leone. We don't have any soldiers in Sierra Leone now. We cannot, cannot say for sure that some people may be going into Sierra Leone to fight or posing to be Liberian soldiers. We can't say that for a fact, but no member of the Armed Forces of Liberia or any of the paramilitary units in Liberia will ever and has ever gone into Sierra Leone to fight war on behalf of any of the factions. Our interest is to resolve the conflict diplomatically.
- Bickerton:** Liberia's Deputy Information Minister, Milton Teahjay.

TIME: 04:35

23596

OTP Unofficial Transcript

D0000537
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 2: 27/12/98

TRACK 2

Mensah: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 35:35

Jenkinson: The West African intervention force, ECOMOG, which is supporting Sierra Leone's government, says it is in control of the key northern town of Makeni. The rebels say *they* have taken the town. One of the rebel leaders, Sam Bockarie, says they will start to attack Freetown if the country's President, Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, does not resign.

TIME: 35:56

D0000550
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 30/12/1998

TRACK 1

Mensah: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 17:28

- Mensah:** The Sierra Leonean rebels have scored a string of military successes in the past ten days, taking the northern town of Makeni and attacking positions of the West African peacekeeping force, ECOMOG, near the capital, Freetown. They've also been trying to mount an offensive in the eastern district of Kenema. On a satellite phone to Kenema, Tom Porteous asked our correspondent, Prince Braima, about the latest developments.
- Braima:** Just yesterday, the RUF and AFRC troops in a bid yesterday to attack ECOMOG and Kamajor positions at Daru in eastern Sierra Leone, suffered heavy casualties at Tongolu village. That is a village about nine miles to Segbwema. During the battle that lasted for two hours, 61 RUF troops were killed while six were captured. That is what has caused the entire Kenema populace now jubilating, they are now jubilating at this moment.
- Porteous:** So the RUF were trying to attack this ECOMOG garrison at Daru, and they were defeated?
- Braima:** That is precisely what they were trying to do. They were trying to go through Segbwema and cut off Daru and Kenema—that is the supply route—so that they would be able to penetrate into Kenema District.
- Porteous:** And were any Kamajor militiamen involved in this fighting?
- Braima:** Definitely so. Kamajor militiamen as usual, they are fighting alongside with their allies. In fact, the six people who were captured alive were captured by the Kamajor militiamen.
- Porteous:** So does Kenema feel secure at the moment?
- Braima:** At the moment, everything in Kenema is calm, and the only thing is that in another related development, the ECOMOG troops and the Kamajors also yesterday destroyed one of the largest RUF bases at Tanema in the Kailahun District, with 62 rebels killed and of course, [a] large cache of arms and ammunition captured from there.

23598

OTP Unofficial Transcript

- Porteous:** And what about communications between Freetown and Kenema and Bo? Is the road, that road from Freetown to Bo and on to Kenema, is that open, is it safe?
- Braima:** Definitely everything is open, businesses are going as normal. In fact, there were thousands of people who were cheering when vehicles were arriving in Bo and Kenema yesterday. The most important one was when the Road Transport Corporation buses loaded with people – about four Road Transport Corporation buses arrived in Bo and Kenema yesterday, and people were so happy that things are going [back to] normal.
- Mensah:** Prince Braima speaking on a satellite phone from Kenema in eastern Sierra Leone.

TIME: 20:09

23599

OTP Unofficial Transcript

D0000550
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 2: 30/12/1998

TRACK 2

Mensah: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 35:31

Leonard: The United Nations Security Council has condemned the upsurge of attacks by rebels in Sierra Leone. A statement adopted by the Council also called on countries supporting the rebels to stop interfering in Sierra Leone's internal affairs. It didn't name any country in particular, but correspondents say Liberia has been accused by several regional countries of backing the rebels fighting to overthrow the democratically elected government of President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah. Following a series of recent advances, the rebels have said they are poised to attack the capital, Freetown, which is defended by a Nigerian-led West African intervention force.

TIME: 36:08

D0000549
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 30/12/1998

TRACK 1

BBC: BBC World Service. This is a message from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for British nationals in Sierra Leone: "The British High Commissioner is temporarily absent and the British High Commission remains closed. There are no plans for British military aircraft to undertake further evacuations. British nationals are strongly advised to leave immediately while commercial means to do so are still available." That's the end of the message from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Mensah: BBC World Service at 18:30 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 01:12

Mensah: There have been unconfirmed reports coming out of Sierra Leone today that elements of the rebel RUF/AFRC junta have attacked the town of Lunsar, about a hundred kilometers from Freetown. Travelers from the area have been arriving in the capital with eyewitness accounts of what's happening in Lunsar, and if the fall of the town is confirmed, it will take them a step closer to their threatened objective just days after the rebels' capture of Makeni.

In Freetown, our West Africa correspondent, Mark Doyle, has been talking to the UN Special Envoy to Sierra Leone, Francis Okelo, and he asked him for his assessment of the military situation.

Okelo: Well, the situation appears quite serious at the moment, and the constitutional order and the democratic leadership for which the United Nations and international community has worked for some time to build appears to be threatened. Militarily, I'm informed that the northern half of the country is in one form or another under the control of the rebels, beginning of course with the fall of Koidu and Makeni recently, and Lunsar a few days ago.

Doyle: Have the rebels advanced any further from Lunsar? You say that ECOMOG has pulled out of Lunsar, but have they advanced further towards Freetown?

Okelo: I don't have that precise information. We are trying to ascertain that now, but I think ECOMOG is still holding the situation south of Lunsar.

Doyle: Can you tell me a bit more about what happened in Lunsar and why ECOMOG had to pull out from there?

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Okelo: I do not have precise information on that. I don't know whether it was a tactical withdrawal in order to put ECOMOG in a better position to launch an attack, or what. I don't have precise information on that, but it appears to be that way.

Doyle: But ECOMOG has certainly pulled out of Lunsar?

Okelo: It appears to be that way, most probably to regroup and launch a more coordinated and effective offense against the rebels.

Doyle: So does that mean you think there will be a counteroffensive from ECOMOG?

Okelo: I do believe so. ECOMOG is receiving considerable reinforcements; I think several battalions have already arrived in the last week or so.

Mensah: The UN Special Envoy to Sierra Leone, Francis Okelo.

TIME: 03:30

D0000539
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 31/12/1998

TRACK 1

Wells: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Rick Wells with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 02:52

Wells: Meanwhile, in the east of the country where much of the rebel activity has been taking place, there are reports of increased tension in the Kenema region. This time, the rebel target was the town of Segbwema, but apparently their attempts to take it were thwarted. On the line to Kenema, Laura Melo asked our reporter, Prince Braima, what exactly had happened.

Braima: Just yesterday again, the RUF and the AFRC rebels attacked Segbwema town, 29 miles to Kenema. This was about 6:20 a.m. The town was attacked from three flanks, and of course, as usual, a battle ensued in the center of the town that lasted for about eight hours, in which ECOMOG and the Kamajors were able to repel the rebels, with 47 killed.

Melo: What's the importance of this town of Segbwema?

Braima: Well, you know, Segbwema is an area, is a distance from 7 miles to Daru Barracks, and apparently, I believe these rebels...because the last time, just about two days ago, attacked Tongolu village where they suffered heavy casualties, and the whole idea is to cut off the ECOMOG forces at Daru from their supply route from Kenema to Daru.

Melo: But the ECOMOG has been able to repel the rebels?

Braima: Definitely so. They have been able to repel the rebels, and as I told you earlier, with 47 killed. Another thing that also occurred during this battle was that 26 people—these were civilians—sustained *INDISCERNIBLE* gun shot wounds were last evening taken to Kenema Government Hospital.

Melo: But I understand that also a lot of people from Segbwema – they fled to the town of Kenema, didn't they?

Braima: Yes, last evening I saw over eight thousand people who have already arrived at Kenema and these people are now being, are now taking refuge at the Technical Institute in Kenema. You know at Segbwema, there was a displaced camp with 13, 527 displaced people, including 117 children who—these people have been in transit camp—and during the attack, all these people fled in different directions, some running into the

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bush, and most of them have been fortunate to have resurfaced in Kenema. And even this morning, more are still arriving in Kenema town.

Melo: But if the rebels are trying to cut ECOMOG's supply route, is it likely that they will try again to attack the town?

Braima: Well, yes, that is why the Kamajors have been sent to the area—more reinforcements to pursue these rebels, because definitely if they are not pursued finally, they will try to attack the area again.

Wells: Prince Braima in Kenema.

TIME: 06:12

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23604

OTP Unofficial Transcript

D0000528
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 04/01/99

TRACK 1

Mensah: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:43

Mensah: The latest round of fighting in Sierra Leone is reported to be happening around Hastings, which lies close to the capital and has a strategic airport. The RUF and AFRC rebels have launched a wave of attacks on Nigerian-led ECOMOG forces over the last few weeks, and ECOMOG often needed support from the Civil Defence Force, or CDF militia, who support the elected government of President Kabbah. Our Freetown correspondent, Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay, has just been up to the front line, and on the line, Robin White asked him what the latest was.

Macaulay: Well, details are very hard to come by from ECOMOG, but when I drove down to Calaba Town this afternoon, which is now the front line, I was told by both eyewitnesses and police officers that the fighting started around about 10 p.m. last night, and that as they were talking to me, General Khobe and some ECOMOG officers and CDF fighters had just left that particular junction, which is Foamex junction, about ten miles to Freetown.

White: So was this another attack by the rebels on the Hastings airstrip, was it?

Macaulay: Well, when I contacted ECOMOG and the Minister of Information when I returned back to Freetown, I was told that ECOMOG and the Civil Defence Forces are on the offensive at Paw Paw Valley (ph), which is 16 miles to Freetown, and also at Miami Hills (ph), another location very close to Hastings. They say that ECOMOG is on the offensive.

White: And is ECOMOG in control of the Hastings airstrip?

Macaulay: Yes, that is what government is saying, [the] government minister and ECOMOG officers I spoke to at Calaba Town are saying that ECOMOG is in control of Hastings-Waterloo, but that the rebels are off the main roads—they are in the bushes, and that is where ECOMOG is on the offensive.

White: Now when you went up towards the front line, what happened—what's the atmosphere like there?

- Macaulay:** Deadly silence. Very, very few vehicles. In fact, by the time I got to Calaba Town, it was my own vehicle was the only vehicle on the highway apart from three other vehicles being used by the CDF and ECOMOG—sorry, a defence headquarter truck parked by the roadside. There was no vehicular traffic and people, very few people seem to be sitting down, others were parking, but in very small numbers.
- White:** Now what about Port Loko, where there also seems to have been a good deal of confusion. Who now controls Port Loko?
- Macaulay:** Well, reports coming to Freetown last night indicate that ECOMOG has taken over Port Loko after four days fierce battle with the rebels. That is as far as we know since last night.
- White:** So who's on the offensive and who's on the retreat at the moment, in general?
- Macaulay:** Well after the Waterloo attack about a week or so ago, forces commander General Timothy Shelpidi actually came out saying that ECOMOG is now going on the offensive and by all indication, ECOMOG is now on the offensive chasing the rebels wherever they are, or wherever they suspect they might be.
- Mensah:** Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay speaking on the line from Freetown.

TIME: 03:54

D0000528
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 2: 04/01/99

TRACK 2

Mensah: BBC World Service at 18:30 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 03:46

Mensah: Meanwhile, the first Sierra Leonean refugees have begun arriving in Guinea in the wake of the rebel offensive on the northern town of Makeni. Since it fell, as you've just heard, the rebels have moved on to attack Port Loko, just 30 miles from Freetown. On the line to Conakry, Joseph Warungu asked our reporter, Al Hassan Cillah, how many people had arrived so far.

Cillah: UNHCR officials in Guinea say about three thousand Sierra Leonean refugees have been arriving in the district of Forecariah just across the Guinean border town of Pamelap, into that district, and all of these are being put into camps. These are refugees fleeing the upsurge of fighting between Sierra Leone's RUF and Junta forces, and ECOMOG and Kamajors in the northern region of Sierra Leone.

Warungu: What areas have they fled?

Cillah: Well, they have spread in particular according to the UNHCR, they fled areas of Makeni, Lunsar and Port Loko. All of these towns are situated in the north of the country, and these are the very towns that intense fighting has been going on over the past few days between the rebels and the ECOMOG forces.

Warungu: What sort of condition are they in?

Cillah: Well indeed, UNHCR officials say—I mean—most of these refugees, particularly the elderly ones, I mean, they're in very large numbers. They say they look extremely tired, and once they arrive at the border point where they are being collected by the UNHCR officials, they are taken straight into clinics, I mean, where they're giving treatment and sustain treatment just to get them relaxed and refreshed.

Warungu: And do they describe the fighting, the kind of things that are going on in Sierra Leone at the moment, what do they say?

Cillah: Well yes indeed, UN officials here tell me that the refugees say for most of the time, the rebels loot most of the homes in towns and villages they've captured so far, and after which, they set on fire most of these homes. And I'm also told that they've carted away quite a number of young men and women into the bushes. I mean, these obviously are

going to be retrained to fight on the side of the rebels. I mean, this has been their usual pattern.

Warungu: What about people who may have been killed in these attacks, do they talk about that?

Cillah: Well yes indeed, they say quite a number of people, a large number of people have been killed, and it would appear that particularly in Port Loko, these rebels, they targeted senior functionaries of government or otherwise supporters of the ruling SLPP party. And one very prominent person that is reported to have been killed is the paramount chief of Port Loko district, Chief Alie Kalimodo. He's been in that role for something like 30-40 years now and they said the rebels murdered him in cold blood when they overran Port Loko.

Warungu: And are people still fleeing Sierra Leone into Guinea?

Cillah: Yes, I put the same question to the UNHCR officials I spoke to this afternoon and they said yes – people are still coming into Guinean territory although the flow of the last few days has turned into a trickle. This is understandable because, already, people in those areas are getting encouraging results—namely, for example, that ECOMOG forces have retaken Port Loko and there is an ongoing offensive in areas of Lunsar. So it would appear that these refugees are now stopping at the last Sierra Leonean town of Kambia and adopting a wait-and-see attitude as to whether they should come into Guinean territory or go back to their homes.

Mensah: Al Hassan Cillah speaking on the line from Conakry.

TIME: 07:04

D0000513
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 07/01/1999

TRACK 1

Bickerton: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:31

Bickerton: Freetown, the Sierra Leone capital, is a divided city today. Yesterday morning, rebel forces invaded the city from the east, taking over a large part of the city, releasing prisoners from Pademba Road jail, and claiming to control State House. The ECOMOG force put up little resistance and now occupies the west of Freetown. Today, the invaders have been urging local people to come out of their houses and show their support for them. Journalist Daddy K is in the rebel-held area. On the line this morning, Robin White asked him who the invaders were: AFRC junta soldiers or RUF rebels.

Daddy K: Well, it's a mixture of the RUF and the, the Sierra Leone National, the disbanded Sierra Leone Army, but the majority of them in the center of town is the Sierra Leone Army. According to them, they say when they were driven out of Freetown, they went to Burkina Faso and they were trained in guerrilla warfare and they are back. And they were displaying some of their...their...their weapons and they were even telling people, say, "Are you seeing any foreign nationals among us?" Say, "We are all Sierra Leoneans, members of Sierra Leone, but we went to Burkina Faso for special training and we are back."

White: And how much of the town do they, do they control?

Daddy K: Well, they from...the entire eastern part of the city and even part of the west because they have crossed the State House and they are along Pademba Road area because they have freed all the prisoners. I mean, the surrendered soldiers, the rebels who were in prison, all, they are all out. Some of them are even armed now.

White: They're armed?

Daddy K: Yes. That's the fact that made it, the situation very dangerous.

White: But, uh, do they control State House for sure?

Daddy K: Yeah, they are in State House. Just now, I was talking to one of the commanders, he called himself Ranger. He said he is going to the battle front; he is going to State House and regroup his men. But they are...they are in control of State House.

White: And, uh, what about Wilberforce Barracks?

Daddy K: No. They have not taken Wilberforce Barracks. The battle is still on for Wilberforce Barracks. Because he told me he was going to the barracks to fight.

TIME: 02:19

White: And uh...Do ECOMOG still control any of Freetown?

Daddy K: Yeah, ECOMOG is still controlling the western part of the city and the Wilberforce Barracks. They are still in control of that, those areas. And as of now, they have not made any move to counter the rebels, but everybody suspects that they are regrouping to come and take the city back. This is why in fact they are shooting, burning down houses, so in fact everybody is out on the street shouting with white pieces of cloth, shouting, "We want peace. We want peace." So, the civilians because they are suffer[ing], right now there is no food, people can't go to the market, so they are calling on the government to talk to the rebels to lay down their arms so they can talk peace.

White: How many people are out on the streets?

Daddy K: There are so many—a whole group. So many, their number is so large. You are forced to do it because, according to them, if you don't go, go out they know you are not in favor of them, they will burn down your house. So everybody is out.

White: They're pleading with ECOMOG or pleading with the rebels?

Daddy K: Well, where they are is controlled by the rebels, so they are shouting, "We want peace." Whether it's to the rebels or to the government now is a big question because they are out there, they are being forced to do it—if you don't want to do it, you just have to do it. Everybody is out. And these are areas controlled by the rebels.

White: Yes, I can just hear them shouting outside. Is that...how far away are they from you?

Daddy K: They are just about twenty yards. They are...but the house, the place I'm calling from is very close to the street. The other group has gone to the central part of the city.

White: They...they sound like women and children.

Daddy K: Women, children, men as well, but mostly women and children because the men are afraid.

White: Where you are, how many buildings have been attacked and burned?

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Daddy K: Well where I am, I've counted about five. Although other people say there are more buildings that have been burned down in some other parts of the city because in fact it is not easy to penetrate certain areas. You meet certain rebels, they are compromised, they will let you go. There are some that will tell you to go back. This, this has even made the situation worse. So if I want to go out, I have to either walk with one of them or I stay back.

White: And when you speak to rebels, how do they treat you?

Daddy K: Well, some...some of them are members of the Sierra Leone former National Army and I know them personally, they talk to me nicely. In fact, I was surprised one of them called me. I was in fact trying to hide my identity, but most of them knew me when they...and they called me. So that gave me the courage.

Bickerton: Daddy K in rebel-held eastern Freetown.

TIME: 04:47

23611

OTP Unofficial Transcript

D0000513
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 07/01/1999

TRACK 1

Bickerton: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 21:58

Bickerton: Now a summary of the African news from Mary Small.

Small: Latest reports from Sierra Leone suggest that a combined force of rebels and troops loyal to the former military government control large parts of the east and central areas of the capital, Freetown. Witnesses say they hold a number of strategic points, including State House, although not the main barracks. The government and ECOMOG insist they're in complete control.

Journalists say the rebels are burning down homes in the center, trying to drive people into the streets where they can be used as human shields. One reporter told the BBC that many of them have been chanting out loud, calling for peace. He said they were desperately short of food. Meanwhile, at least seventeen people are reported to have been killed when Nigerian fighter jets bombed a rebel-held street in the center of the city.

TIME: 22:45

D0000514
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 2: 08/01/99

TRACK 2

Bickerton: BBC World Service. Sorry about the delay. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 07:52

Bickerton: So the fly in the ceasefire ointment in Sierra Leone seems to be Sam Bockarie, alias Mosquito. He's urging his rebels to go on the offensive. We called him up and Robin White asked him why he wasn't taking this opportunity to work for peace with the President Kabbah government.

Bockarie: Their chances were here when Kabbah was in power, but he failed to do that, he said he was not going to talk to us, we are thieves and bandits, and that he was going to kill all of us at the end of this year, and he never succeeded. That's why God has given us the upper hand to have overrun him and now he's gone.

White: But isn't this a golden opportunity for a peaceful solution?

Bockarie: There's an opportunity, if they are ready.

White: But they say they're ready.

Bockarie: If they are ready, our leader can not be under duress there, being, I mean, humiliated, molested, and then people asking us to cease fire. We are trying to do everything possible that will secure his release.

White: Now I've just spoken to the Information Minister. He says that if you want to see your leader, Foday Sankoh, face to face, he's sure that that can be arranged.

Bockarie: Ah, if he can do that, then let him arrange that. *[sounds of gunfire and shouting]* I'm sorry, Robin, my men are coming around me. I don't want any bush to shake around me.

White: So what are they doing?

Bockarie: They are combing the bush, I don't want any bush to shake. Any bush shake, we gonna come there.

White: But I mean, is anybody trying to attack you?

- Bockarie:** Yes, maybe somebody [*indiscernible*] attacking me...
- White:** Anyway, you were saying about the possibility of you going to see Foday Sankoh face to face, you're game for that, are you?
- Bockarie:** If he says he's ready to do that, then we are looking up to them, but all we want [is] an immediate release of Corporal Sankoh, and to be turned over to us or to a neutral ground where we have suggested, through the OAU Chairman.
- White:** You have called for, you know, a general offensive. Do you think your men are going to obey you?
- Bockarie:** It is happening now, they are obeying me. This morning I got on the air and asked if the offensive started last night, and all of them answered me, yes. And as I am speaking to you, Tongo has fallen to us.
- White:** Where is that?
- Bockarie:** Tongo is an, another diamond, rich diamond mining area.
- White:** But what about the people in Freetown, are they going to obey you?
- Bockarie:** I tell you, I spoke, they were the first people that I spoke to. I called the Task Force commander on the air and I spoke to him, who is Brigadier, uh, Brigadier G, who is nick...commonly called as Gullit. He's there. I told him that, I asked him whether the offensive started since last night. He told me yes.
- Bickerton:** RUF rebel commander Sam Bockarie.

TIME: 10:50

23614

OTP Unofficial Transcript

D0000554
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 08/01/99

TRACK 1

Bickerton: BBC World Service, it's 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 34:18

Bickerton: Now over to Jackie Leonard for the African News.

Leonard: Sporadic explosions and gunfire have continued in the Sierra Leonean capital, Freetown, despite the announcement yesterday of a temporary ceasefire between the Nigerian-led intervention force and rebels loyal to the ousted military regime. One rebel commander, Sam Bockarie, said his forces would only stop fighting if the jailed rebel leader, Foday Sankoh, who made the ceasefire deal with the government, was freed. The government's Information Minister, Julius Spencer, told the BBC the rebels had attacked positions held by the intervention force and set fire to parts of Freetown center. The Information Minister also said he thought it would be possible to arrange a meeting between Mr. Bockarie and Mr. Sankoh, but in a BBC interview, Mr. Bockarie insisted that Mr. Sankoh be handed over to the rebels, or sent to neutral territory.

The Organisation of African Unity Secretariat has been meeting in emergency session to discuss the situation. Speaking afterwards, the OAU Secretary, Salim Ahmed Salim, told the BBC the Organisation supported the elected government but wanted the crisis to be resolved through dialogue.

TIME: 35:30

23615

OTP Unofficial Transcript

D0000555
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 2: 10/01/99

TRACK 2

Wells: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Rick Wells with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 35:06

Maude: Hundreds of Nigerian troops have arrived in the Sierra Leone capital, Freetown, for deployment against rebel forces. Reports say the Nigerians, who are leading the ECOMOG forces backing the civilian government, have advanced against rebels in densely populated districts of Freetown. A rebel commander has threatened to set fire to the city. With hundreds of thousands of civilians trapped by the fighting and running short of food and water, intensive diplomatic efforts are being made to try to resolve the crisis. The foreign ministers of Togo and Ivory Coast are on their way to Freetown, while Liberia says it's sending a delegation to Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria, and Togo to try to organize a regional summit.

TIME: 35:47

D0000515
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 11/01/99

TRACK 1

Wells: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Rick Wells with Focus on Africa.

Music plays

TIME: 02:46

Wells: Well obviously it's a terrifying time for the thousands of civilians trapped in Freetown at the moment. They've been told to stay in their houses, but they desperately need food and water and many have already been caught up in the violence. One of them, Olu Awuna Gordon, who is political editor of the *For Di People* newspaper, has just called us up from Hill Station in the west of the city. Josephine Hazley asked him where he'd been.

Gordon: I've been at the Dundas Street area, Pademba Road, and in my way trying to get behind ECOMOG lines, I also came through the Brookfields area before ECOMOG launched offensive this morning.

Hazley: Who were you traveling with?

Gordon: I traveled with a friend, a business man—James—and we walked, walked on foot through these areas to get behind ECOMOG lines.

Hazley: You walked on foot?

Gordon: Yes, yes.

Hazley: Without any protection...*[overlapping speakers]*...you walked on foot without any protection from ECOMOG?

Gordon: That's correct. We came through the Tengbeh Town area and finally got to Congo Cross this morning, which is behind ECOMOG lines.

Hazley: Now what did you actually see?

Gordon: They set fire to houses and even my own house was burned along Dundas Street, and about 15 houses were burnt on that street. And they also set fires in the Brookfields area and now, when I came, when we came up the Tengbeh Town area which is a hilly area, we saw them setting fires in the middle of town.

- Hazley:** When you say they, who...who's been setting fire?
- Gordon:** The rebels, the RUF...the RUF.
- Hazley:** But I thought they've been moved out of those areas in, in Brookfields area, the western part of the city.
- Gordon:** That's right. The offensives started this morning, but the fires started last night. And they've been going on until this morning in New England, in the center of town and also in the areas I mentioned earlier—Pademba Road and Dundas Street—those were actually burnt on Wednesday, my own house included.
- Hazley:** What other signs of destruction did you see?
- Gordon:** I haven't been to the center of town. I have, you know, no intention of going there until ECOMOG re-establishes total control, but there is a thick smoke, a thick cloud of smoke over the city—it's almost impossible to see any of the buildings from the fires raging [in the] center of town. I mean, from where I'm standing, I can certainly identify that this area around the main telephone exchange is burning and the City Hall, also, I can see on fire. These are quite, you know, imposing structures you can see from here. They are on fire. And yesterday night, there was a fire in New England, although I'm not quite sure where it is—I suspect it's near the ministerial quarters there in New England.
- Hazley:** Now have you seen anything of life or people in the areas that you visited? What, what's happening? How are people coping, what are they eating?
- Gordon:** People are...people are just getting by. I mean, they've been trapped, a lot of people have been trapped in their houses for up to three or four days and they, um, beg or borrow food from neighbors if they have none themselves. And in the morning, they are able to go out and scrounge a little bit of firewood to get fires started for cooking, but generally the situation is very bad for most people in Freetown at the moment.
- Hazley:** And...and people of the areas visited, are they all indoors or...or...are they out and about trying to get what little they can, and then run back home again? You know, wha...what's...
- Gordon:** The only movement that's taking place is within ...you know, with in between houses. You know, one neighbor will call over to another neighbor on the fence and maybe venture a few doors down to go and get some items of food, but there is no movement on the main streets at all. When we were coming this morning, the streets were empty; ECOMOG was there, ECOMOG was pushing into town, but there is no movement in where, where I was coming from this morning.
- Hazley:** And your own house you say was burnt down?
- Gordon:** Yeah, it was burned, it was burned on Wednesday. I live on Dundas Street. It was burned on Wednesday and the house that stands just behind the prison. And on Thursday they pulled us out to march us up and down the streets to cry for peace—really

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use us as human shields because ECOMOG was coming to attack them. So I managed to escape from that area because I'm quite well known by a lot of the detainees, and I tried to get out of that area and away from, you know, the rebel group, the main rebel group there.

Wells: That's Olu Awuna Gordon on the line from Hill Station in Freetown

TIME: 06:54

D0000515
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 2: 11/01/99

TRACK 2

Music plays

Wells: The struggle for Freetown continues as Nigerian reinforcements boost ECOMOG's positions; a protest by Sierra Leonean and Liberian refugees in the Senegalese capital, Dakar; Namibia reacts to allegations of harassment by security forces in the Caprivi Strip, and how Nigerians feel about the outcome of the latest elections. Tonight in Focus.

Music plays

TIME: 34:39

Wells: Thanks Jenny, now for a bulletin of Africa News, here's Sandy Walsh.

Walsh: Eye witnesses in the capital of Sierra Leone, Freetown, have reported that rebels in the city have set fire to many buildings, including the telephone exchange and the City Hall. The BBC correspondent there said the rebels appear to be trying to destroy the city. He also said they were continuing to use civilians as shields against the Nigerian-led ECOMOG troops who are trying to drive them out of Freetown. The Nigerian commander of the ECOMOG forces said they have made progress against the rebels who brought their offensive into the streets of Freetown nearly a week ago.

TIME: 35:19

D0000516
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 2: 12/01/99

TRACK 2

Wells: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Rick Wells with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:35

Wells: It appears the struggle for the Sierra Leonean capital, Freetown, is continuing. And with all phone lines still down, it's very difficult to get a true picture of the situation. Most civilians remain trapped in their houses, critically short of food and water, and aid agencies have warned of an even greater humanitarian disaster. Well this morning, two people did manage to cross the lines from the rebel-held east of the city to the relative safety of the west under ECOMOG control. They've been speaking to Reuters correspondent in Freetown, Jeff Koinange, who filed this report.

Koinange: The couple walked some ten kilometers to reach the Cape Sierra Hotel last night. They said rebels are burning and destroying everything in sight as they retreat: cars, buildings, everything. As they were walking back, they saw lots of bodies in the streets, both civilian and military. It was bad, very bad. For several days, there was nothing to eat or drink. The couple said their relatives were still in eastern Freetown, and they were very worried about them because the situation was getting desperate and people need to go out and get food. They said they saw hundreds of ECOMOG troops mopping up from house to house as they made their way to the east of the capital. Today, columns of smoke could be seen billowing up on the eastern horizon, and the sound of sporadic artillery fire was hard. Civilians continued to be trapped and unable to move out of their houses, let alone move out of the capital itself.

Wells: That report from Jeff Koinange in Freetown.

TIME: 02:08

D0000522
BBC Focus on Africa
Track 1: 16/01/99 (39:08)

TRACK 1

TIME: 00:00

Bickerton: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:39

Bickerton: It's been another terrible week in Freetown, the Sierra Leone capital. While the AFRC/RUF rebels, the Liberian government, and President Kabbah have been arguing the fine points of a ceasefire and the release of RUF rebel leader Foday Sankoh, carnage has continued. ECOMOG forces have kept up the pressure on the insurgents in the center and east of the city in what they describe as a mopping up operation. But as always, the civilian population has been suffering most. Sam Kiley of the *London Times* newspaper is in Freetown. Rachel Rawlings asked him what the situation was today.

Kiley: Well for the first time in about nine days, or ten days it is now, of really terrible fighting, people have been encouraged to come out onto the streets and are moving in the western part of the town and the western edge of downtown, to go and get food and water and so on. They were ordered to be off the streets by 3 o'clock local time on pain of being shot, on suspicion of being a rebel, but...so the curfew is now between 9 a.m. and three in the afternoon. But in general, the situation is extremely desperate. The whole east of the city is still very much an area of heavy fighting and destruction. The rebels in retreat were ordered to burn everything they could as they left, and they've made good on that. Last night, it looked as if there was a forest fire raging through the wooden buildings that are so characteristic of Freetown. And so I think that the situation there, when it becomes safe enough to go into—ECOMOG is still mopping up—there...there will be scenes of quite unimaginable carnage.

Rawlings: So, still fighting going on in the east end of town, but you say the rebels are in retreat. Is it possible for you to give a sort of percentage of the town that's controlled by ECOMOG?

Kiley: I would guess that they, they're, they've...ECOMOG is certainly in control of most of the city, although, of course, there remain pockets of rebels around the place and the ever-present danger of infiltration and sniper fire. But they certainly never lost control of the west of the city. State House, the downtown area, the Parliament buildings and so on, are in government control. But then, as you go out towards Kissy and Hastings Airport and so on, it's still an area of quite heavy fighting, and they insist that whatever

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the rebels' offers of ceasefire terms may or may not be, they certainly are going to press on with their counteroffensive.

Rawlings: Now, you have spoken of the RUF destroying things in their wake. There have been reports from some aid workers that ECOMOG fighters themselves haven't exactly been behaving gently. Have you got any evidence of this yourself?

Kiley: The areas that they've captured recently and set up some roadblocks to weed out rebels or suspected rebels, some of the soldiers on the ground have been fairly brutal, and there have been a few summary executions of well-identified rebels. I myself have seen a few of those bodies. But that's certainly not a policy of ECOMOG, who insists very hotly that they are going to stay very much on the side of the law.

TIME: 04:11

D0000542
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 2: 18/01/99

TRACK 2

Mensah: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:35

Mensah: The Nigerian-led ECOMOG force supporting Ahmad Tejan Kabbah's embattled government in Sierra Leone say they're steadily regaining control of the capital. Freetown was infiltrated by RUF rebels thirteen days ago, and in that time, hundreds have died and there's been widespread destruction and looting. A week-long unilateral ceasefire declared by the rebels was supposed to have come into effect last night, but ECOMOG seemed to be ignoring it. From Freetown, Jeff Koinange of Reuters News Agency filed this dispatch.

Koinange: ECOMOG today claimed that they controlled Freetown's Kissy port area. If true, this would greatly ease access to the city for ships bringing food. Most people have struggled with little food, water or medicines since the rebels surged into the city on January the 6th. Some thirty to forty thousand displaced residents are squatting in and around Freetown's main soccer stadium in filthy conditions, sparking fears of an imminent cholera outbreak. Estimates of the number of fighters and civilians killed in thirteen days of battle start at two thousand.

The rebel ceasefire is symbolic and probably meaningless because neither President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah nor the Nigerian-led force supporting him is ready to stop fighting. ECOMOG plan to take foreign journalists in Freetown to Kissy this afternoon. Officers said that they had cleared the area in the far east of the capital and were pushing the RUF away from the city. When I asked one ECOMOG soldier for his response to the rebel ceasefire offer, he told me, "It is business as usual." Regional and UN mediation for political negotiations seem to have come to a full stop.

Mensah: Jeff Koinange filed that dispatch from Freetown.

TIME: 02:22

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D0000542
BBC Focus on Africa
Track 2: 18/01/99

TRACK 2

Mensah: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 02:22

Mensah: Now in eastern Sierra Leone's Kenema District, the RUF's unilateral ceasefire appears to have been broken almost as soon as it came into force. Tongeh town (ph) came under rebel attack last night, as Prince Braima reports in this telex from Bo.

Braima: According to people fleeing the area, the attack by retreating RUF soldiers took residents of Tongeh town (ph) unawares. Those who managed to escape to Njala Convoya Town in southern Sierra Leone said that the rebels gunned down civilians, including women and children, burnt down houses, and looted property. The RUF wrought destruction on the town as they retreated from Njaima Sewafe, where they were trounced by Kamajor militiamen at the weekend.

Francis Alpha, a school teacher from Tongeh town (ph), arrived in Bo this morning and told me that an unspecified number of people were also killed by the rebels in the towns of Mondema and Peyama. The teacher said that when he fled Tongeh (ph), a fierce battle was still raging between the rebels and the Kamajors in the center of town. More Kamajor militias from Kenema have now been dispatched to the area. Meanwhile, thousands of people who fled from the fighting in Tongeh (ph) are now taking refuge in Njala Convoya.

Mensah: That telexed report came from Prince Braima in Bo, southern Sierra Leone.

TIME: 03:38

D0000542
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 18/01/99

TRACK 1

Mensah: BBC World Service at 18:30 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 00:40

Mensah: If the Sierra Leonean rebels have kept to their word, the guns should have fallen silent in Freetown just over half an hour ago after almost two weeks of bloody fighting between the rebels and pro-government ECOMOG forces. RUF field commander Sam Bockarie has ordered his men to cease fire for a week, but he's also been angered by the arrival off the Sierra Leonean coast yesterday of a British war ship. The government here says it's on a purely humanitarian mission, but the rebels claim the ship's been shelling their positions. On the line now from Freetown is Sam Kiley of the *London Times* newspaper. Sam, have the guns really fallen silent tonight?

Kiley: About two, three minutes ago, I heard a tank firing from the east of the city, so not from the ECOMOG point of view. I can't vouch for the rebels, although there have been sketchy reports of, of fighting to the west of the peninsula. There doesn't yet certainly seem to be a ceasefire, certainly from the government/ECOMOG point of view.

Mensah: What's the atmosphere been like in the city today? Did it start off the way it started off yesterday with sporadic gunfire?

Kiley: Yes, well, yes, the evening and indeed, overnight, there was quite heavy fighting in the Kissy area once again. The entire night was broken by the sound of heavy weapons fire, and I understand that the rebels attempted a counterattack and pushed a little bit way in towards the center of town and have since been repulsed. This created considerable tension, certainly in the morning, among ECOMOG troops.

Mensah: Now, sir, I gather you've been on board this British war ship, *HMS Norfolk*. What was that like?

Kiley: Well, I can assure you that I'm afraid Mr. Bockarie has been misinformed—it certainly has not opened fire. The ship is here to bring Brigadier David Richards from Britain to do a reconnaissance—to investigate what the British government and indeed the British armed forces can do first of all, to help with the humanitarian situation, and then to examine what limited help they may be to the ECOMOG forces.

Mensah: So is it actually carrying humanitarian supplies, food and that kind of thing?

- Kiley:** Yes, they've got some food which they're going to deliver to ECOMOG, and the British government yesterday or rather, the day before yesterday, sent in three and a half tons of medical supplies by air, which were then airlifted from Lungi Airport into Freetown proper by the links that are based on the *Norfolk*. Although really this mission, it's been stressed to me, is a reconnoiter of the situation and also an attempt to show the flag, as the Brigadier put it to me, that the British government are backing ECOMOG and support the policies of President Kabbah.
- Mensah:** But presumably Freetown's still too dangerous for them to actually distribute any supplies they may have brought?
- Kiley:** Yes, the distribution of supplies—ECOMOG is not a particular challenge—the issue of the humanitarian aid in the west of the city is very badly needed and it could probably be fairly safely brought in, but a guerrilla war is extremely fluid, and whoever is doing the thinking on the rebel side has gone through quite a crash course in tactical skills, they're considerably more skilled tactically than we've seen in the past. So nobody's taking any chances.
- Mensah:** I've been away for the last week or so, is Freetown really, you know, destroyed totally, or are there still a number of buildings standing?
- Kiley:** Well, the western suburbs are practically untouched, and then as one goes further east, the level of devastation increases with, literally as one travels east along a compass line, so that by the time one gets to State House and the famous cotton tree in the absolute center of town, there's been an enormous amount of destruction. The whole of Pademba Road practically, which is next to the prison where the rebels were being held, has been burned to the ground, and a lot of important buildings actually downtown, and then, one expects that in the Kissy area, if and when the ECOMOG forces do indeed retake that, that there will be quite, quite horrifying levels of carnage. The rebels have been burning buildings and people coming out say that they're, at least along the two main arteries, there's practically no buildings intact, and that's certainly backed up by what one can see from the air and, indeed, the pall of smoke that greets us every morning.
- Mensah:** And briefly Sam, has ECOMOG or the government said anything about the military situation and what they're doing?
- Kiley:** Well, not today, but they have made it clear that they intend to maintain the initiative, and they simply don't trust Mr. Bockarie and whoever's behind him to come up with a sensible ceasefire, as one officer put it to me.
- Mensah:** Sam, thanks very much. That was Sam Kiley speaking on a satellite link from Freetown.

TIME: 06:15

D0000507
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 2: 22/01/99

TRACK 2

Bickerton: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 11:28

Bickerton: All week, the ECOMOG force in Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, has been putting increasing pressure on the AFRC/RUF rebels, pushing them further east and pinning them down. There are reports that rebels have been committing atrocities as they've been retreating. Our correspondent, Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay, has been out and about with ECOMOG today. Joseph Warungu asked him what he'd seen.

Macaulay: This morning, I was actually taken from my house by ECOMOG officer in the name of Major Tanko, who is one of the commanding officers involved in the battle to rescue Freetown and dislodge rebels. We went as far as Kissy, which is about five miles from Freetown, and when we got there, we were told the rebels were actually further down the road and that they were actually burning houses and cutting hands of civilians. At this point, the major, Major Tanko, then gathered some of his men and we moved right into Kissy. When we got into Kissy, the ECOMOG soldiers and Major Tanko and Major Paul actually got involved in a battle with the rebels who were actually up in the hills.

Warungu: So there is still fighting going on in...in the Kissy area of Freetown?

Macaulay: Well, what happened in front of me was there was fighting going, up to the time we were leaving, the rebels were sort of retreated up to the hills. But before they retreated up to the hills, the ECOMOG officers managed to capture an AA gun mounted on a World Food Programme truck, and they were also able to rescue Bishop Ganda and Father Mario Guerra, who was captured almost two or three months ago, and four other Catholic priests.

Warungu: And what's the situation like in Kissy?

Macaulay: Kissy is a deserted town. Virtually all the residents of Kissy have moved out of Kissy. And when we...on our way back to Freetown, because of the massive crowd, and the ECOMOG intelligence officer realized that some of the rebels were infiltrating with civilians fleeing the fighting. In fact, right in front of me, I saw four rebels who were actually called...pulled out from the crowds and were killed. Kissy of itself is a deserted town.

Warungu: But ECOMOG has yet to gain full control of Kissy?

Macaulay: ECOMOG has got control of the main road at Kissy and some parts of Kissy, whilst the rebels are up the hills. Kissy Town of itself is in full control of ECOMOG. What the rebels are doing, they are going up to the hills and from the hills, launching attacks. The rebels have reverted to their terror campaign of amputating civilians. In fact, on our way back to Freetown, we brought about five civilians who were amputated.

Bickerton: Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay, our correspondent in Freetown.

Well the rebels called us to deny that they are committing the atrocities. They say the people with amputated limbs are in fact captured rebels who'd had their hands chopped off by Kamajor militiamen.

TIME: 14:39

D0000508
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 23/01/99

TRACK 1

Bickerton: BBC World Service. It's 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Chris Bickerton with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 10:06

Bickerton: The ECOMOG force in Freetown, the Sierra Leone capital, now seems to have most of the city center under its control. The AFRC/RUF rebels have been driven back out to the east through Kissy suburb towards Wellington. They're apparently leaving a trail of destruction behind them. And as they depart, so are massive civilians from the outlying areas who's trying to find safe haven in Freetown. Our correspondent, Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay, has been with ECOMOG to the front line. On his way, he came across the displaced people and Josephine Hazley asked him what he'd seen.

Macaulay: As we approached Blackhall Road, which is just after Kissy Road, I noticed thousands, thousands and thousands of people on both sides of the road, very wide roads—men, women and children with bundles on their heads trying to enter the city center. And as we go further, I can see thick smoke right up, and this I understand is that the rebels are now burning houses as they moved from where they were last night to Wellington and Calaba Town, which is nine miles to Freetown.

Hazley: I understand you went as far as Calaba Town and Wellington?

Macaulay: Yes, we drove as far as the Wellington industrial estate. And as we approached that area, I saw the Shell oil refinery which is now called Cisco on fire. It is on fire and it's actually burning because there's plenty of oil in that particular installation. Also, further down the road, I noticed lots of ECOMOG and SSD paramilitary police officials, well-armed, waiting for further instructions from the high command.

Hazley: Further instructions to do what?

Macaulay: Well, to advance towards Wellington and Calaba Town, because my understanding is that the rebels have been...are now trapped between Wellington and Calaba Town, as ECOMOG is also based at Kossoh Town.

Hazley: So what's the atmosphere like in those areas for the people that you came across?

Macaulay: Well, it is really, it's really tragic because there are lots of particularly women and children, in fact some children have lost their parents and they're looking for their

parents, crying, and lots of old people are being carried along because they cannot walk and there were lots of men, young men, who are just simply standing by confused, not knowing what was happening. I mean the whole situation is very tragic and there are lots of people just standing there because ECOMOG has stopped them from entering the city because of the large crowd. And this is all done by the commanding official, Major Tanko.

Bickerton: Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay, our correspondent in Freetown.

Well, during their operations, the rebels have been taking hostages. Most of them church people, including an archbishop. Some have been freed or made their getaway, many are still in rebel hands, and there have been reports that one Roman Catholic nun has been killed by the rebels.

TIME: 13:08

D0000519
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 26/01/99

TRACK 1

Mensah: BBC World Service at 17:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 16:10

Mensah: Now, meanwhile, regional diplomatic efforts to bring peace to Sierra Leone have dragged on for several weeks. There's been almost no progress at all even though the UN envoy to Sierra Leone, Francis Okelo, has been traveling around the West African sub-region consulting with various heads of state. Yesterday he was in Accra for talks with Jerry Rawlings of Ghana. The Ghana army supplies a contingent to the ECOMOG force. And President Rawlings didn't mince his words when talking about Ahmad Tejan Kabbah's government or about the Sierra Leonean rebels. Kwaku Sakyi Addo reports.

Reporter: President Jerry Rawlings expressed outrage about the atrocities being committed by the rebels and said Ghana will support dialogue between them and the Sierra Leonean government, only if the rebels put an end to their acts of terror. In remarks that have received front page lead treatment in both of Ghana's daily newspapers today, President Rawlings told the UN Special Envoy that he, Rawlings, is in fact, not a great admirer of Mr. Tejan Kabbah. But he said he would have nothing to do with people whose military and political strategy is to cut up innocent women and children into pieces. *The Ghanaian Times* quotes Rawlings as saying that "so long as they continue to brutalize the people and indulge in atrocities, we will not talk to them."

Recently, President Rawlings lambasted Liberian president, Charles Taylor, for his alleged support for the rebels in Sierra Leone. Despite remarks by Rawlings on December 31 that Ghana would not send a single soldier to Sierra Leone, his government has sent several hundred troops there. Some of the soldiers were originally part of ECOMOG contingents in Liberia, but foreign ministry officials say Ghana is not shutting down its military presence in Liberia. Rawlings says that given the role that ECOMOG played to end the war in Liberia, Taylor's alleged backing for the Sierra Leonean rebels who are now fighting ECOMOG feels like a stab in the back.

Historically, Rawlings had been against the holding of the elections in Sierra Leone which brought President Kabbah to power. He had argued that dialogue with RUF rebels and their return to normalcy should precede democratic elections in order to maintain long-term stability. The insecurity of the Kabbah government since it was elected seems to lend credence to that position. Indeed, Rawlings said yesterday that

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the rebels may have legitimate concerns, except that they are seeking redress through unacceptable methods.

Mensah: That was Kwaku Sakyi Addo reporting from Accra.

TIME: 18:49

D0000532
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 1: 28/01/1999

TRACK 1

Wells: BBC World Service at 18:30 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Rick Wells with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 18:02

Wells: In the bloody battle for Sierra Leone's capital, Freetown, the main casualty has been the civilian population. Caught in the cross-fire or the victims of rebel atrocities, many hundreds have lost their lives. Among them have been a number of journalists, apparently deliberately targeted by the rebels. From Freetown, Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay reports.

Macaulay: According to the Secretary General of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists 'SLAJ', three Sierra Leonean journalists have been killed by the rebels and that at least four more are missing and feared dead. The three journalists killed are radio broadcaster Jenner Cole and Mohammed Kamara whilst Paul Mansaray of the *Standard Times* was killed with his family after the rebels set fire to their house and sprayed it with gunshots at the Wellington-Calaba Town area in the east end of Freetown.

Eyewitnesses told *SLAJ* Secretary General that the radio journalist Jenner Cole was abducted by RUF rebels from his house in the city center and was being taken to the State House when an ECOMOG alpha jet flew past the area, forcing the rebels to flee. However, before the rebels fled, Jenner Cole was summarily shot in the head by the rebels in front of his fiancée. Missing and feared dead is Nigerian-born James Oguoguo of the Freetown leading tabloid newspaper, the *Concord Times*, with three other journalists including Sylvester Rogers, the Makeni correspondent for the BBC Africa Service.

SLAJ Secretary General, Mr. David Tam-Baryoh told me today that the only journalists who have been fortunate to survive a physical attack to date is Mustapha Sesay, who is presently admitted at the government Connaught Hospital in Freetown. And from his hospital bed, Mr. Sesay told me that the rebels, armed with cutlasses, pulled out his right eye with a cutlass while he was begging for his life. Reacting to these atrocities and killing of journalists by the rebels, a veteran journalist said, "A new breed of killer is appearing—one who knows no restraint and who is on the brink of denying to himself and others the very notion of humanity." He concluded by saying, "Should he prevail, the world would not be a fit place to live." Meanwhile, several newspaper publishers and editors I spoke to today said they will not be publishing in the near future because of the security situation in the country.

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Wells: Winston Ojukutu-Macaulay in Freetown.

TIME: 20:24

D0000545
BBC Focus on Africa
Clip from Track 3: 01/02/99

TRACK 3

Mensah: BBC World Service at 15:05 Greenwich Mean Time. This is Kwabena Mensah with Focus on Africa.

Music plays.

TIME: 12:28

Mensah: Medical facilities in the Sierra Leonean capital have all but collapsed since RUF rebels attacked the city three weeks ago. The main public hospital in Freetown, the Connaught, has barely been able to keep functioning, given the heavy number of casualties. Apparently things are just as bad at the Cottage Hospital, the main public maternity hospital in Freetown. Journalist Idriss Conteh has been to the Cottage Hospital today, and on the line to Freetown, Josephine Hazley asked him what conditions were like for the patients.

Conteh: The situation at the maternity hospital is terrible in the east end of the capital. There are no doctors, and there are only very few nurses. So I don't know. There were precisely three pregnant women who had stillbirths, they couldn't deliver. And their husbands and relatives were moving up and down the streets in search of surgeons. They couldn't get any doctors to perform the Caesarian operation. The three pregnant women died.

Hazley: The three pregnant women died with their babies?

Conteh: Yes, they died with their babies.

Hazley: I mean, is that a situation that is an every day occurrence? Did you try to find out?

Conteh: Yes, I tried to find out. Even before night was even more terrible because there were no doctors at all, you know. The security situation doesn't allow people to work and the very few doctors that were around have left the country, so it's a very serious situation now, and most pregnant women are so worried now because they cannot predict their fate.

Hazley: And what else do the pregnant women and their partners say to you about their plight?

Conteh: Well, they are appealing to government not to discourage NGOs to pull out like, Médecins du Monde. They want the support to stay because they, I think they've been asked to leave, so they want the support to stay. They want government to encourage other NGOs to bring in more doctors because of the seriousness of the present health situation.

- Hazley:** What about the nurses? You said there are very few of them working, did you talk to them about the pressure that they are under?
- Conteh:** Yes. Well the nurses, even those that are making effort to work now, they find it difficult to move from one end of the capital to the other because of the rigorous checking, and you have to go through a lot of screening exercises. There are no commercial vehicles plying the streets, so it is very difficult for them to go to work, you see. And most of them have got their homes burnt down—they haven't got even uniforms, they're in civilian clothes.
- Hazley:** What about the general state of the hospital? Were you able to move around the rest of the hospital and see in terms of cleanliness, et cetera?
- Conteh:** Even the mortuary is not working, so you've got corpses that are just abandoned like that, and even the porters have not been reporting for duty, so the entire compound is not cleaned. It's so dirty, you see, it's stinking. As you come from a distance, you begin to smell bad odor, you know? And the toilets have not been attended to, you know? The water supply is poor. People just squat around, and even the patients that are there, they haven't got food, you see? And you see relatives, they move here and there, here and there in search of drugs, in search of doctors, nurses to help their patient.
- Mensah:** Sierra Leonean journalist Idriss Conteh speaking on the line from Freetown.

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