

**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE**  
PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

**PRESS CLIPPINGS**

**Enclosed are clippings of the latest local and international press on the Special Court and related issues obtained by the Press and Public Affairs Office as of:**

Thursday, April 22, 2004

The press clips are produced Monday to Friday.  
If you are aware of omissions or have any comments or suggestions please contact  
Ibrahim Tommy  
Ext 7248  
MOBILE: 232 76 645 914

Thursday April 22, 2004

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Special Court joins the music scene

Just as Daddy Saj took the music scene by storm with Corruption, highlighting the Anti-Corruption Commission's mandate, so now 'Skinnerman' - Samuel Ngagba and Julia Sesay have taken up the 'Special Court mandate for crimes against humanity' to splash their 10-tracker album. The duo believes that the war experience in Sierra Leone should be a point of teaching others a lesson not to involve in such brutality against mankind. "We decided to use music as an instrument of international medium to appeal to all to stop the barbaric acts being perpetrated. Skinnerman, who revealed to *Awoko* that he composed the songs in 2003 when the Special Court started operations, said the inspiration was

from this experience. He revealed that his brother-in-law was killed as well as another brother of his. "I felt bad and decided to go to Forensic Studio with the aid of my friends and managed to record two songs." The first "Crimes against humanity" and the other "Uman dem fine" which he hopes to release soon. Now the young man is trusting to God and peace loving citizens to assist him to complete the whole album. The mainly reggae sound with a few African beat portrays the raping, loot-



ing and other crimes against humanity which the Special Court is trying to prosecute. "The bad habits that leads to these must stop," he sings. The artist is also appealing to the Special Court to be an impartial judge that will render justice for all. The songs also highlight the realities of the Court and how it intends to right the wrongs committed during the war. Now recording at Bodyguard Studios, Cannon Street in the West end of Freetown, Kingfisher will complete the al-

bum in the same studio. Other songs in the album include a gospel "Be a born-again", "Police", "Uman dem fine", "Good News", "Love is not for money", Revolution, Peace treaty, Church Bell (another gospel) and "Girl hold tight". His main back-up singer is 19-year-old Julia Sesay daughter of a female prison Officer. She is now in SS3 and says "music does not interfere with my education." For her everything has its time and the two is separated under the guidance of her parents.

The New Storm

Thursday April 22, 2004

# Judge Orders Norman's Bank Account Unfrozen

Sam Hinga Norman's bank account has been ordered unfrozen, following a ruling on Monday by Judge Bankole Thompson of the Special Court's Trial Chamber.

A provisional order to freeze Chief Norman's assets, including his Union Trust bank account, was included in the arrest warrant signed by Judge Thompson on 7 March 2003.

Earlier this month, following reports that the bank had unilaterally unfrozen the account, prosecutors filed an ex parte

motion seeking that the account, and any other accounts belonging to



Hinga Norman

Norman, be ordered frozen on an interim basis until the matter could be finally determined by the Court.

Judge Thompson issued the interim order on 2 April, but also scheduled a closed-door hearing to include both prosecution and defence. That hearing took place on 13 April.

Prosecutors argue that funds in the account may have been transferred illegally by the CDF. Judge Thompson, while acknowledging that national and international jurispru-

dence on the issue of freezing the assets of an accused person is unclear, held that the applicable standard is "whether there is clear and convincing evidence that the targeted assets have a nexus with criminal conduct or were otherwise illegally acquired."

Judge Thompson ruled that prosecutors had failed to produce evidence that the property was connected with criminal conduct or illegally acquired. Consequently, he ordered the account unfrozen.

# U.N. WIRE

UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION National Journal

## War Crimes Reparations Board Holds First Meeting

Close Window

Nobel laureate Desmond Tutu, Queen Rania of Jordan and three other distinguished leaders gathered yesterday for the first board meeting of the Victims Trust Fund, which seeks to provide reparations to victims of war crimes under a provision of the International Criminal Court.

The fund, one of the first to develop alongside a court, will help the ICC distribute compensation to victims of crimes against humanity in order to help restore their dignity, according to the Rome Statute, which created the court and the fund. It will also work to provide reparations in cases in which the perpetrator has no money — or is still at large, which means compensation is not linked to prosecution at the court.

In September the five board members were selected to serve for three years by the 92 nations that ratified the Rome Statute. They are: Queen Rania, Tutu, Nobel laureate and former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez, former Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki and former European Parliament President Simone Veil.

The board's first task will be to set criteria for the recipients and awards. Those will need the approval of the ICC governing board before the fund can begin distributing reparations (*Jordan Times*, April 21).

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# International Criminal Court

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[Home](#) > [Victims Issues](#)
[The ICC at a glance](#)
[News Point](#)
[Basic Documents](#)
[Cases](#)
[Victims issues](#)
[Witness protection](#)
[Presidency](#)
[Chambers](#)
[Office of the](#)
[Prosecutor](#)
[Registry](#)
[Defence](#)
[States Parties](#)

## Victims Trust Fund

The International Criminal Court examines the most serious crimes. Consequently, its trials involve victims who have often been damaged in the most severe manner. Providing justice to these victims is important. But so too is providing them with help and compensation to enable them to rebuild lives often shattered by war. The Victims Trust Fund aims to help meet that need.

Victims can include child soldiers - minors pressed into military service who may have suffered great ordeals as a result of being forced into front line service. Or a victim may be the result of a case of rape, needing help not just for the material loss in a war, but for trauma counselling. Other victims may have seen their property and livelihood destroyed. In other cases, a village may have been destroyed in fighting, and money will be needed to rebuild it.

The Fund was established by the Court, and is administered by the Registry, but it is also supervised by an independent Board of Directors. The purpose of the fund is to channel money to victims. Sometimes this will be money that the court orders an offender to pay as compensation. Under Article 75, paragraph Two of the Rome Statute, the Court may order a convicted person to pay money for compensation, restitution or rehabilitation.


The funds can be allocated either to individuals or to a collectivity. The fund may make payments directly to victims or to other bodies, such as an aid organisation. A convict might not have the necessary funds to pay the compensation sum imposed by the Court, external sources can be involved. These include grants from governments, international organisations or individuals.

Voluntary contributions by outside entities to the fund must first be approved by the funds Board of Directors.

The Board is made up of five members, each elected for three years term by the States Parties among persons of high moral character. They can be re-elected once only.

The board meets at least once a year at the ICC headquarters.

[Victims Trust Fund](#)
[Campaigns](#)
[Participation of victims  
in proceedings and  
reparation](#)
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[Contact](#)
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## Judging Criminal Leaders

### The Slow Erosion of Impunity

 by  
**Yves Beigbeder**

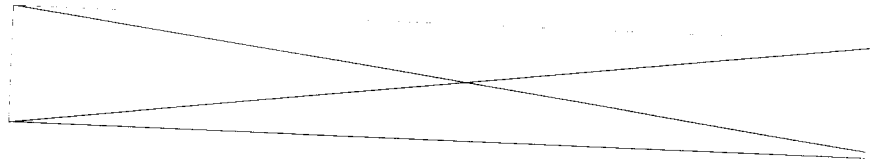
Foreword. Introduction. List of abbreviations. List of tables and presentations. **1. The Twentieth Century—Massacres and Genocides.** Unchallenged impunity. Colonialist crimes. Communism: a criminal utopia. Impunity in civil and International wars. Legal impunity: amnesty. National justice. International justice. Conclusion. **2. The International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.** The reticent founders. Mandate and structure. The attitude of countries. Kosovo and the fall of Milosevic. The tribunal's achievements. Reforms. NATO's 'war crimes' in Kosovo. Conclusion **3. The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.** A predictable genocide. Rwanda and the International Tribunal. Mandate and structure. A mixed performance. Selected judgments and issues. National justice. Conclusion **4. The International Criminal Court.** The origins. The statute. The preparatory Commission for the ICC. The US position. Promoting the ICC. Russian crimes in Chechnya. Conclusion. **5. The Pinochet Effect.** The Pinochet's Chile. The prosecution of Pinochet. The Pinochet precedent. Universal jurisdiction. Conclusion. **6. Mixed National/International Tribunals.** Judging the Khmer Rouge leaders? Sierra Leone's special Court. East Timor: Indonesian impunity. The Lockerbie Trial. Conclusion. **7. Conclusion.** Select bibliography. Index.

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## **Liberia: Fewer Than Half Those Disarmed Hand in a Weapon**

### **UN Integrated Regional Information Networks**

NEWS

April 21, 2004

Posted to the web April 21, 2004

Monrovia

The United Nations said on Wednesday nearly 1,800 former combatants reported for demobilisation during the first week of its relaunched disarmament programme in Liberia, but less than half of them handed in a gun.

This revived fears that many of the weapons used in Liberia's 14-year civil war were being hidden or had been spirited away across the border into neighbouring countries.

Officials of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) told reporters that 1,789 former combatants from the LURD and MODEL rebel movements had registered for disarmament between 15 and 20 April at the two cantonment sites opened so far.

However, only 782 weapons had been handed in, they added.

There have recently been reports of MODEL (Movement for Democracy for Liberia) disarming many of its own fighters in order to send their weapons over the border to Cote d'Ivoire.

Diplomats say Cote d'Ivoire is the main backer of MODEL and it is an open secret in both countries that many MODEL fighters previously fought with pro-government militia groups in Cote d'Ivoire's own civil war.

Earlier this year, diplomats and UN officials in Monrovia expressed fears that LURD (Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy) was trying to withdraw much of its heavy weaponry into Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Moses Jarbo, the executive director of the National Disarmament, Demobilisation, Reintegration and Rehabilitation Commission said on Wednesday he had received reports that some MODEL fighters in the port city of Buchanan had complained that their arms were taken away from them by senior commanders well before the start of the UN disarmament process.

"We are aware of this information from those fighters about their arms taken away," Jarbo said. "Let it be clear that the movement of arms outside of Liberia is a serious violation of the comprehensive agreement and this is a serious matter and we are monitoring it."

MODEL's chief military commander, general Boi Blehju Boi denied point blank that his organisation had returned these weapons to Cote d'Ivoire.

"This is frustrating and unfortunate news which I heard myself," he told IRIN.

"We took arms from our fighters a few months back because of cries by some citizens in southeastern Liberia of harassment by our fighters. We did this to minimise our men from roaming with arms," the general said.

Boi said MODEL had reissued these weapons to its fighters so that they could hand them over to the UN peacekeepers. "Those were the same arms that some of our fighters are handing over to UNMIL," he said.

Former combatants must hand over a weapon or ammunition if they are to be admitted to the cantonment centres already operating in Buchanan and the northern town of Gbarnga.

Two more cantonment sites are due to open next week at VOA on the outskirts of Monrovia and at Tubmanburg 60 km north of the capital. Each one is due to process up to 250 new admissions per day.

The former combatants undergo a week of screening at the cantonment sites, during which they receive medical treatment and therapy to help them get over the horrors of war. They are also asked what kind of training they want to help them get a new job in civilian life.

They receive US\$ 150 in cash upon their discharge, with a second payment of US \$150 promised three months later once they have returned to their home community.

Jarbo said the process, which began in Gbarnga last week and was extended to Buchanan on Tuesday, was progressing smoothly.

He revealed that UNMIL was looking at opening several new cantonment sites.

"In fact, we are looking at opening six additional cantonment and disarmament sites in other parts of the country which will add up to the already four sites we have. This would enable more fighters to disarm", Jarbo said.

UNMIL said just over 15 percent of those disarmed so far were child soldiers. During the first week, 275 youths under the age of 18 reported for disarmament, of whom 37 were girls.



The 1,514 adult soldiers reporting for demobilisation included 91 women.

Weapons surrendered included rifles, machine guns, rocket propelled grenade launchers, mortars, pistols and hand grenades.

UNMIL officials stressed the importance of collecting ammunition too. So far, 114 mortar rounds, 353 rocket-propelled grenades and 86 hand grenades have been handed in.

In February, at a meeting of UN officials in Dakar, Senegal, Jacques Klein, the UN special representative to Liberia, estimated there were about three weapons per combatant floating around Liberia.

But UNMIL disarmament experts say privately that even in the most successful disarmament campaigns, only half the total number of weapons in circulation get handed in.

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## 'UK must revive ethical policy'

**Britain needs a campaign to revive its "ethical" foreign policy to soften the blow to its credibility caused by the Iraq war, says a leading think tank.**

The Foreign Policy Centre says Britain can recapture its reputation by acting as a "moral entrepreneur" and backing a "worthy cause".

The centre, which has Labour ties, has given a verdict of the pledge to give foreign policy an "ethical dimension".

Tony Blair made pre-war mistakes by being too "presidential", it says.

### Indonesia failure

When Labour came to power in 1997, then Foreign Secretary Robin Cook the "ethical dimension" was in his mission statement.

Six-and-half years later, Nicholas Wheeler, from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and Tim Dunne, from the Exeter University, have tried to judge the government's success in their report, Moral Britannia?

**Britain needs to act as a moral entrepreneur in terms of mobilising domestic and international support for a worthy cause**

Foreign Policy Centre report

They say it has won praise for its intervention in Sierra Leone, setting up the Department for International Development and backing the new International Criminal Court.

But the suspension of sales of Hawk aircraft to Indonesia, which raised fears they would be used for internal repression, came "too late", says the report.

"The inescapable conclusion we draw here is that Britain failed to act as an ethical state in its relations with Indonesia because it placed selfish economic advantage prior to human rights concerns," it continues.

### Crumbling?

The two academics argue that Iraq is a classic of example of where selling arms to authoritarian regimes has come back to haunt governments.

They say the Iraq war showed how the twin foundations of the ethical foreign policy - complying with international rules and trying to improve human rights - can become unstuck.

"The fact that the edifice of the ethical foreign policy was crumbling was graphically illustrated by Robin Cook's departure from government," says the report.

In the wake of the war, Britain lacks credibility internationally for its claim to uphold ethical commitments to internationalism and multi-lateralism, it goes on.

"One way of recapturing its reputation would be for the government to mobilise internationally opinion around an issue that was consistent with its professed internationalist values.

"Britain needs to act as a moral entrepreneur in terms of mobilising domestic and international support for a worthy cause, as Canada did with the treaty banning land mines."

### **Evidence worries**

The report suggests Britain could follow Oxfam's suggestion that it campaign for a treaty controlling the spread of small arms.

That would set Britain apart from the US without damaging transatlantic links too much and foster relations with Third World governments and charities, it says.

Among other lessons it draws for the future is that the government must be sure of its case before using force, scrutinising all the evidence rather than searching for things to support a political judgement.

Britain may also need to distance itself from America if it wants to act as a "pivotal power", it says.

"It is time that we faced up to the fact that the influence Britain gains from the special relationship is significantly overshadowed by the costs it has to pay in terms of the damage done to our relationship with European partners and peoples outside the Western world," it says.

### **Pre-war mistakes**

It warns that there is mounting evidence that the Foreign Office is being sidelined by Mr Blair and his close circle of advisers.

"We would argue that a less presidential approach to foreign policy might have averted the many mistakes made in the run-up to the war," it says.

It points to the use of intelligence and the "misreading" of the French position in Security Council debates.

"Double standards" is a familiar criticism of interventionist foreign policies.

But the report suggests it can be countered by arguing that the best that can be achieved is following coherent values, not consistency in the way different cases are handled.

Story from BBC NEWS:  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/uk\\_news/politics/3632399.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/uk_news/politics/3632399.stm)

Published: 2004/04/22 00:18:18 GMT

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# TROUBLE BREWS IN THE ARMY

COMMENTARY By Mohamed Mansaray

*Signs are emerging that some members of the RSLAF are still disgruntled with the Kabba administration and this was clearly exhibited on Easter Monday within the environs of the Eastern Police Station in Freetown.*

At mid-day on that fateful day, two private soldiers of the RSLAF reported an assault matter to the police at the above-mentioned station, alleging that they were severely beaten up by a group of civilians. The soldiers were however dissatisfied with the police handling of the matter, claiming it was not treated with

the seriousness it deserved. Hours later, an army captain was discovered dead-drunk and he and his men were molesting civilians within the same vicinity. The captain was arrested by the police and bundled into a waiting police truck, much to the annoyance of the captain's followers some of whom wore red-berets

SEE BACK PAGE



CDS Maj. Gen. Sam M'boma

Salone Times  
Thursday April 22, 2004

while others were clad in civilian clothing. The soldiers were openly heard making remarks such as "we will come at a time of our own choosing, "we love Johnny Paul Koroma", "free AFRC Special Court indictees" and so on. We are sure these are all remarks which members of the public would not support, especially that relating to the seizure of power by soldiers. Similar utterances by soldiers in the past were fully implemented, often with devastating consequences on life and property.

The lawless soldiers in question were also embittered that they are apparently being deprived of certain facilities which they say are provided in abundance to the police, facilities such as vehicles, communication equipment, accommodation, Honda bikes to name a few. They accused the Kabba administration of paying greater attention to the police than the army.

In fact at one point, three soldiers collared an OSD officer 6905 who was on board a vehicle with registration No. SLP 121 at Mountain Cut-Kissy Road junction as a way of avenging the mistreatment meted out to their colleagues. However, the OSD officer quickly removed his dagger and threatened to kill if the soldiers did not leave his collar. As tension mounted at Eastern Police Station, shots had to be fired in the air to disperse the crowd.

As it is at the moment, it is crystal clear that elements within the RSLAF are dissatisfied with the court indictment of their colleagues on the one hand and are jealous of the police for facilities available to them on the other.

Most worrying is the fact that some members of the ex-AFRC faction are being maintained in the army. Only God knows what these soldiers are having up their sleeves for this nation. God knows best what would have happened had those soldiers at Eastern Police Station carried guns on Easter Day!

The Kabba regime must not treat this issue lightly because this is not the first time soldiers are making unfavourable remarks against a civilian government and putting their plan into action. We recall May 1997 and January 1999 when soldiers were making frivolous remarks like the ones they are now making which certainly are not in the interest of this nation.

It is also becoming increasingly clear that while President Kabbah believes that the Special Court is for Sierra Leone and could contribute to the jurisprudence of international Humanitarian Law, some soldiers feel otherwise.

We therefore call on government to come down heavily on all the soldiers involved so that the past does not repeat itself, especially so when UNAMSIL forces are being withdrawn from Sierra Leone. We are also urging the government not to whole heartedly rely on foreign forces to secure Sierra Leone but to strive to embrace and equip its own security forces. We have seen the effect of such reliance on foreign troops in several countries including Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan where such forces are apparently helping to maintain internal peace and stability, yet the opposite is still the order of the day. The job can be done more properly by the sons and daughters of the soil.

All in all, it is worth saying that the restructuring/retraining of members of the RSLAF is not enough for the defence of this nation. They must be provided with adequate logistics, their welfare needs met and good conditions of service provided. In the meantime, those soldiers still demonstrating a proclivity for coup-making and insubordination should be identified and weeded out now.



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## **Unamsil Hands Over Northern Province Tomorrow**

**Concord Times** (Freetown)

NEWS

April 21, 2004

Posted to the web April 21, 2004

By Rachel Horner

Freetown

UNAMSIL will be handing over the Northern province security to the government of Sierra Leone on Thursday this week. The ceremony would take place in Makeni.

UNAMSIL's Spokeman Major Nwachukwu Onyena disclosed this to Concord Times on Tuesday.

Major Onyena said UNAMSIL would transfer the responsibility of providing security to the government whilst the mission would be monitoring the situation.

According to him, this does not mean that their troops deployed in that area would abandon the northern province. He noted that they are just transferring security responsibilities to Sierra Leone.

'We are not pulling out our troops completely from that region,' he said.

He said the army and the police would embark on routine patrols and UNAMSIL would come in when the need arises.

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