

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, November 04, 2004

The press clips are produced Monday to Friday.
If you are aware of omissions or have any comments or suggestions please contact
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'I Don't Know How To Tell Lies' - SPECIAL COURT WITNESS

By Mohamed Mansaray

Defence Counsel for third CDF accused Aliou Kondewa, Yada Williams yesterday accused the 19th Special Court prosecution witness, TF-021 of telling lies in court. But the witness replied that he does not know how to tell lies.

Mr. Williams made the accusation whilst he was cross-examining the witness at Court Room No. 1, New England in Freetown.

Under cross-examination, the witness denied making certain remarks which are now contained in statements he made to the office of the prosecution sometime in 2003 in respect of the trial of CDF accused.

He denied telling the prosecution that he was trained by RUF rebels at Ngiehun in the Kailahun district when they captured him between 1995 and 1997. The witness also denied telling the prosecution that CO Mohamed gave him a gun after his training. "I did not tell them about CO. Mohamed giving me a gun", the witness told the court in response to counsel's question, and added that he never carried a gun when he was in rebel captivity.

The witness further denied telling the prosecution that Foday Sankoh ever addressed them in Kailahun during that period. "I told them that I saw Foday Sankoh in Pendembu where we were initially captured", he said.

SEE BACK PAGE

Witness Denies He Is A Liar

He also denied telling them that commander Savage shot and killed an old woman at an undisclosed location in the area despite orders given by his boss SAJ Musa for him not to do so. "That is not my statement", he said.

The statements in question were tendered in evidence by Mr. Williams. The witness admitted making statements to the prosecution on three occasions. He described himself as an illiterate man and added that two officials from the office of the prosecution obtained statements from him in Krio.

The witness was born in the Kailahun district and was led in evidence earlier, by a prosecution lawyer, Sharan Parmer. He testified from the witness protection box and he gave his testimony in Krio.

The trials continue.

Sharon Parmer MD 4th 2004

ECOMOG

Implicated

By Joseph Turay

A former Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and Civil Defence Force (CDF) fighter told the Special Court yesterday that Kamajors

fought alongside ECOMOG forces at the time when they were in the bush.

The prosecution witness, code name TF 2-201, was being cross examined by defence counsel for the third accused, Yada Williams. Third accused Aliou Kamara

...Witness Reveals

explained to the court that the civil defence force had a War Council but the witness denied that third accused Kondewa was part of that

Contd. page 2

ECOMOG Implicated

From front page

council, that he was only an initiator.

Witness went on to say that the Kamajor forces most times fought alongside ECOMOG forces against the RUF.

Asked whether he took command from Ecomog forces, witness answered in the negative, adding that he did not know whether his commander took command from them.

In a separate development, witness agreed that he had once seen the late rebel leader Foday Sankoh in Pendembu where he was captured by the rebels.

He testified that the Kamajor fighting force had laws which

according to him were forced them not to eat oil peel a banana and a member should not see a dead body, nor should he talk to a woman or have an affair with her whenever a member wants to go to the battle field.

Witness also testified that they were told by their leaders not to loot or kill innocent civilians when they went into battle but that they were told if any member breached those laws he would be shot dead.

Witness went on to tell that Foday Sankoh called on them but, adding that what he told the Prosecution in his statement takers that he saw Foday Sankoh in kajianun where addressed them was not true.

Witness further denied several statement he made to the prosecution on diverse dates.

In his earlier testimony during cross examination, TF 2-201 told the court that the Kamajor society had different fighting forces with name such as Kemoh Brina's kamajors, Kondewa kamajors, etc.

Witness went on to tell the court that he was part of the group in Kenema that ate human beings. He said, most times when they went on patrols they would hunt for human beings who they brought to their Base Zero where the captives would be killed and eaten. He added that sometimes they would capture people, place tyres on them and burn them alive in a field.

No Exclusion

Thursday 11/10/2004

'Kill all young men in Kenema'- witness discloses

Continuing his testimony at the Trials Chamber of the Special Court, witness TF2-021 has disclosed that one of the Commanders of the Kamajor Militia ordered

them to kill all the young men in Kenema town upon their entry into the town. Kamour Brima gave the orders the witness said, before they moved to chase the rebels out of the township, which had been rebel-

controlled for quite sometime. "Kamour Brima told us that when we get hold of the township, we should kill all young men- be them collaborators or not, we should not have mercy on them," the witness said;

adding that Kamour Brima stated that if they do not adhere to his orders, they themselves would die by the bullet. On their push to enter Kenema town the witness explained, they as Kamajors were more armed as

Contd. Page 2

Thursday November 04, 2004

AWOKO NEWSPAPER

Page 2

Kill all young men in Kenema

From Front Page

compared to the rebels and that as such, they overpowered the rebels who retreated while some of them (rebels) hid in houses in the township. "When we entered the town, we started searching the houses- looking under

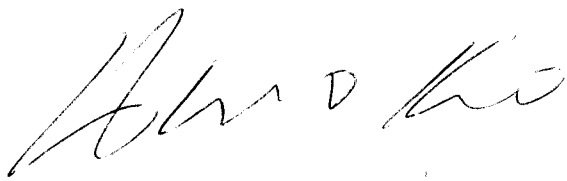
the beds, and I shot under one bed at the Police Barracks where I killed a Police Officer. I then took his body out; dragging him on his clothes and we burnt him using tyres and a mattress." TF2-021 told the Court. He went on to

state that all the alleged rebel collaborators they happened to capture while in Kenema were then taken to their base and eaten. The witness acknowledged while being cross-examined by Counsel for the

Defence of Allieu Kondewa, Yada Williams that he was indeed a member of the "yamortor" group of the Kamajor Militia whom he said were the ones that ate their captives. "I joined the 'yamortor' squad in Kenema and we captured collaborators whom we took to our base to be eaten," the witness explained further, adding he used to smoke marijuana

and once took "brown brown" at Base Zero, which is the Headquarters of the Kamajor Militia. Counsel Yada Williams put it to the witness that he is at the Court to "tell a pack of lies", maintaining that the witness had denied most of what is in his statement made to the investigators in 2003. "I do not know how to tell lies but say the truth," the witness maintained. Asked by Counsel for Allieu

Kondewa to tell the Court the laws of the Kamajor society, TF2-021 explained that upon completion of initiation to become a true Kamajor, they were told not to eat "nut oil"; not to watch when a banana is being peeled and should not talk to nor have an affair with a woman before going to the battlefield. The consequences for violating these laws he said, "is that you would die by a bullet." The trial continues today.



Thursday November 4 2004

Special Court...

"Kemoh Brima gave orders to kill"

- Witness tells court

BY THEOPHILUS S. GBENDA

Eighteen-year-old prosecution witness, TF2-021, testifying in the ongoing CDF trial at the Special Court for Sierra Leone, has said a senior Kamajor commander in the person of Kemoh Brima gave strict orders to them, while on a mission to Kenema, to kill all rebels.

According to the witness, the Kamajor society was segmented into different sects, all headed by specific commanders from whom direct orders were taken.

The witness, who claimed to have been conscripted into the ranks of the RUF as a child soldier, happened to have been captured by Kamajor fighters who also initiated him into the Kamajor society.

According to him, he and others captured alongside him were happy to have been captured by the Kamajors because, as he puts it, the rebels

CONTINUED PAGE 2

"Kemoh Brima gave orders to kill"

From page 1

were unfriendly not only to their captives but also civilians caught behind their lines.

The witness recalled how on their way to Kenema, via the Moa River after his capture, the Kamajors executed three women thought to have been rebel sympathizers.

As part of his initiation, the witness recalled how he was taken to a graveyard at midnight and graduated the following day as a full member of the Kamajor society.

The witness is said to have taken part in a number of attacks in Freetown, Masiaka and Kenema to name a few, and even went further to take responsibility for the death of another woman who he taught was an enemy.

The witness also claimed to have been present when several Kamajor atrocities were committed.

Standard Times

Thursday November 4 2004

The OSWALD HANCILES Column

The 21st Century Global Game

'Poor' Charles Taylor. ("President"?). If only he had been reading my articles. Maybe he was. I have written some twenty articles on Taylor in the *Concord Times* alone between 1999 and 2001; and about six in this Column since 2002. Some of those articles were posted in *Concord Times* website; and culled by three other websites frequented by Liberians. As things are turning out in Liberia, Taylor, even if he had read my articles, would have arrogantly ignored them. I have been postulating that Taylor is a paper tiger. Given the intensity of ethnic sentiments in Liberia (ethnicity clouds military alliances, or 'warlordism' in that country), I argued that once the brutal, venal, and Machiavellian Taylor were military pressed, there would be hardly any tribe that would stick its neck out for Taylor. When the LURD rebels came rampaging through 'Taylorland', the reputedly fierce and loyal fighters of Charles Taylor kept on scampering from the war front (or, was it ECOMOG's Nigerian General Timothy Shelveidi-type 'tactical retreat'?). I lived in Liberia for twelve years. I could just hear Taylor's soldiers saying, "*Da who comin die for Kongoh mehn for natin?*" Chinua Achebe writes in one of his books that when a lizard falls down from a tall iroko tree and there is no one to praise him, he shakes his head in praise of himself. Don't blame me if I praise my prophetic abilities.

When most of the governing elite were hell bent on negotiating 'peace' with Foday Sankoh in 2000, I continually wrote that Sankoh was crazy, and should not be taken seriously. Today, I have been vindicated. As a lot of our learned people acted as if placating Charles Taylor would get him to ease his Mafia-like predatory tactics on Sierra Leone, I wrote many articles highlighting the heinous crimes of Taylor, pointing to Taylor's weak underbelly, and arguing that the "only solution" is "the tough solution" as regards Taylor: that it would be nonsensical, indeed, immoral, dealing with an unrepentant man who has committed war crimes of the magnitude of Charles Taylor. The Special Court and the "LURD" 'freedom fighters', have vindicated me again.

Chunking aside fake modesty, I state here; when I write about the "21st Century Global Game", you better learn the "Rules". Because if you continue to play "20th Century Games" in the "21st Century," the fate of Charles Taylor (and Foday Sankoh) awaits.

Special Court Prosecutor, David Crane, has been going around telling Sierra Leoneans about the "Rules" of the 'new game': Okay, fight a war. But no genocide. No raping. No looting. No amputation. No disembowelling of pregnant women. No locking up of people in houses and burning them. No "Weapons of Mass Destruction" (WMDs). No horror show. Fight a "clean war..." I can hear you chuckle at that - "clean war?" Ask Crane. The funny thing about the new game is that the "Rules" are so fluid, are still being evolved. And quite clearly, the "Rules" are being written by the offsprings of the very 'beasts' who made past rules of the "Old Global Game" - David Crane's white grandparents...

There was the 'Old Game' of Racial Superiority; of Total Domination - as promulgated by David Crane's European/American ancestors. Pre-eminent biologist, Charles Darwin, gave the force of "natural law" to this game with his "survival of the fittest theory". That is, if race is strong, it is only 'natural' for that to subjugate other races, even "annihilate" them. With this 'biological bible', Europeans/Americans enslaved africans for over four hundred years.

Then, some two hundred years ago another Global Game started. It was the "Marketing Game"...the "Colonialism Game." In the advent of the Industrial Revolution, the insatiable machines in Europe needed raw materials. They also needed markets for their manufactured products. So, the strong in Europe simply moved to Africa, and Asia...It was a 'lovely game.' If you were European, you simply moved into the land of Bai Bureh, plant your stake there, and say, "Hey!, this land is for me!"; and all the other European powers would recognize your claim. And the Africans? If they dared to oppose you kill them, with the same alacrity and remorselessness as you would their troublesome

mosquito

These global games have continued with ever interesting nuances - depending on whether you are on the winning side or losing side. "Protectorate." "Colony." "Independence". "Neo-Colonialism." It was by the mid 1980s that we realized that the world got involved with really serious games: "The Green Game." The European/Americans realized that they were playing a "Game of Insanity" - in their greed and parochialism, and crass desire to subjugate other races, they were destroying the planet earth. (The Greenhouse Effect: destruction of the ozone layer; rapid desertification, etc.). The best among Europeans/Americans became aware that when a poor farmer eking out a living in his Kailahun village chopped down forests, he is likely to destroy - irreversibly - genetic materials which would have been used to manufacture medicines for millions of people in the richest countries in the world. So, it would only be sane for the richest people to work with the poor farmer not to destroy his forests. So, how? Bring "development" to the poor farmer. It appears to me as if the 'new game' of Crane is an extension of the Green Game.

So, we play along. Pretend to be even supportive of the indictment of our Kamajor chieftains. (No one fights a war without committing atrocities!). We support the lofty soundings of Crane about "end of impunity." Then, we say, "Hey, stop there, you white man. You made all the rules in the past. Now, we Africans are going to make some of the rules, too." Crane, my boy, the pursuit of "justice" is not limited to physical wars alone. In fact, the War Crimes that you are so determined to prosecute have their genesis in the entire global economic and political war crimes of mainly whitemen. As the internet makes the Global Game more dynamic, we are going to give you "African Rules" of the "Global Game". A peek: No Great Divide between the Rich and the Poor. No Insufferable Arrogance. PEEPistique ignorance punishable by banishment from Mendeland.

Salome Times

Thursday 10th June 2004



Kabbah Endorses Taylor's Asylum

The Analyst (Monrovia)

NEWS

November 3, 2004

Posted to the web November 3, 2004

Monrovia

Sierra Leone president Ahmed Tejan Kabbah has accepted Nigeria's decision to grant political asylum to former Liberian president Charles Taylor despite his extradition request by the UN special court in Sierra Leone..

Reports quote the Sierra Leone leader as saying that Nigeria's president Olusegun Obasanjo had acted in good faith by allowing Taylor to remain in Nigeria so that he could not resume Liberia's civil war. This could have affected the sub region.

Analysts say Kabbah's endorsement of Taylor's asylum in Nigeria gives a tacit indication that the high profile fugitive may not be handed over to the war crime tribunal soon.

Taylor took Nigeria's offer of asylum in August last year, weeks after rebels closed in on him in the capital, Monrovia.

Kabbah said it would be wrong for him to pressure Obasanjo to go back on his words.

Nigeria has been under pressure to surrender Taylor to the court for trial on war crime charges after he was indicted and nearly arrested in Ghana in June last year for bearing the greatest responsibility for Sierra Leone's civil war.

Taylor's indictment came after UN Sierra Leone, Great Britain and United States of America accused of transferring weapons and military personnel to fuel Sierra Leone's war in exchange of diamonds. Taylor denied the allegations.

But the UN imposed an embargo on the import of arms by his government. UN also subsequently imposed sanctions on the export of diamonds and timber from Liberia. There was an indication that proceeds from rough diamonds and timber were being used by the Taylor-led government to escalate conflict in Sierra Leone and the sub-region.



THIS STORY HAS BEEN FORMATTED FOR EASY PRINTING

Liberia's three ex-warring factions officially disband after disarmament

By Jonathan Paye-Layleh, Associated Press, 11/4/2004 01:43

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) Liberia's three former warring factions jointly announced they had disarmed and disbanded their forces, marking a milestone in a quest for peace in this battered West African nation after nearly 15 years of war.

The declaration Wednesday came just three days after a nationwide program to disarm ex-combatants officially ended with about 100,000 fighters laying down their arms, United Nations officials said.

The disbanded warring parties included the country's two main rebel groups, as well as fighters and former army commanders once loyal to ex-President Charles Taylor, who was forced to accept a peace deal in August 2003 that exiled him to Nigeria as rebels bore down on the capital.

Liberia has been mostly quiet since then, although deadly riots erupted in the capital on Friday, killing 16 and injuring 208 others, according to the United Nations.

All three groups signed a declaration Wednesday saying their forces and military commands had been disbanded and disarmed. The declaration also said all their weapons had been handed over to the United Nations, which has about 15,000 peacekeepers stationed in the country.

"Today we have freed Liberia. We have fought a good fight," Sekou Conneh, who headed the main Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy rebel group, told a crowd to thunderous applause. "It is now time to join hands to cover up for all the years we have wasted."

Conneh said his movement was now dissolved and would be transformed into a foundation to address the welfare of former fighters.

Thomas Yaya Nimely, representative of the smaller rebel Movement for Democracy in Liberia, said his own group was also disbanded.

Neither rebel movement will become a political party.

Lewis Brown, a former foreign minister who once served under Taylor, signed the declaration on behalf of former army soldiers. He said the day's events were "just a beginning" of efforts to make Liberia a peaceful country.

"And as we move forward, let us recognize that we are all partners in this business," he said. "We are former warring party leaders, but we are Liberians."

Liberia is struggling to recover from an era of fighting that began in 1989. The conflict claimed at least 150,000 lives and displaced hundreds of thousands of people.

Taylor's departure last year paved the way for a transitional government that gave top rebel officials ministerial posts.

Peacekeepers are deployed in the country to provide security, and the new government is to hold elections in October 2005.

Taylor's men 'not behind riots'

A member of former president Charles Taylor's government has denied involvement in riots in Liberia's capital which left 16 dead.

"There is absolutely no one in the former government who is anti-peace," said Defence Minister Daniel Chea, who also served under Mr Taylor.

The UN blames former combatants of being behind the violence which has threatened the fragile peace process.

The violence is the worst seen in Monrovia since Mr Taylor was exiled.

Some 250 people were detained in Monrovia on Monday following the running battles last Thursday, which left more than 200 people in hospital.

After days of tension with UN helicopters flying over the city, the BBC's Jonathan Paye-Layle says the capital is now calm.

The crisis erupted just before the disarmament deadline on Sunday, in which some 95,000 fighters have handed over weapons in the UN programme.

'Fool hardy'

UN envoy Jacques Klein said there were several flash points which were used by former combatants, especially those linked to Mr Taylor, to try to destabilise the country.

It was sparked, Mr Klein says, by competition between vendors for space in a market and further exacerbated by an internal leadership election among former Lurd rebels and then former Taylor fighters, criminals and thugs joined in, he said.

Mr Chea said it would be "foolhardy" for members of the former government to derail the peace process.

They were committed to the transitional national government, set to organise elections by October 2005.

He said, given the number of ex-combatants involved in the 14-year civil war, it was likely that some of those may have been involved in the unrest, but it was not sanctioned.

"If that were the case... we would not have made the kind of progress that we have made with regard to disarmament and with regard to the smooth running of the transitional government," Mr Chea told the BBC's Network Africa programme.

Several churches and mosques were attacked during the clashes which began last Thursday, and a curfew was put in place.

Religious and community leaders met on Monday to condemn the violence and agreed to form a 10-member committee to ensure violence does not flare up again.

Problems

Last week, parts of city suburbs were sealed off as gangs fought and looted.

The violence also forced the UN to postpone repatriation of refugees from neighbouring Guinea.

Liberia's interim leader Gyude Bryant - who heads a transitional power-sharing government set up to organise elections - blamed hooligans.

The unrest was one of the most serious outbreaks of violence in Liberia since the full deployment of some 15,000 UN peacekeepers in Liberia as part of a peace deal to end 14 years of civil war.

The chief Liberian peace negotiator for the West African community, Abdusalami Abubuakar, has now arrived in Monrovia to try to bring rival rebel faction leaders back within the peace process.

Fighters from the largest rebel movement known as Lurd are drawn from the mainly-Muslim Mandingo ethnic group.

And they have clashed with fighters which draw their support from Christian communities.

But the BBC's Dan Isaacs says that tensions and mistrust are complex and run very deep.

Story from BBC NEWS:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/africa/3974151.stm>

Published: 2004/11/02 11:17:31 GMT

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November 4, 2004

Liberia Disperses Warring Factions but Violence Persists in Capital

By AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

MONROVIA, Liberia, Nov. 3 - Liberia said it had finished dismantling its warring factions on Wednesday in an effort to end 14 years of war. Yet the announcement came against a backdrop of new violence in the capital and concerns that promises to rehabilitate ex-combatants have yet to be fulfilled.

"We have dismantled a critical component of the war machine but it will be meaningless unless we create opportunities," said Moses Jarbo, chairman of the National Disarmament Commission.

Since the United Nations disarmament program resumed in April after a disastrous start last December, more than 96,000 men, women and children have enrolled, handing in some 27,000 weapons and millions of rounds of ammunition, according to the latest United Nations statistics.

"I would like to take this moment to declare our organization, the Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy, officially dissolved," said Sekou Conneh, chairman of the group that took up arms in 1999 against former President Charles Taylor, setting off Liberia's second civil war since 1989.

But severe underfinancing of the rehabilitation and reintegration phase has left most ex-combatants without work and without prospects in a country with an unemployment rate estimated at 80 percent.

"The thousands of young fighters are now the responsibility of the transitional government and will look up to you for leadership," said Lewis Brown, who was foreign minister under Mr. Taylor.

The disarmament ceremony at the presidential mansion occurred against a backdrop of tighter security. Riots last week left at least 18 people dead and hundreds of properties burned to the ground, including mosques, churches and religious schools.

Ethnic tensions between the mostly Muslim Mandingos and Liberia's other, mainly Christian ethnic groups helped fuel the violence, along with mounting frustration at the dire living conditions here.

An emergency curfew has been in force in Monrovia since Friday, and security considerations prevented six West African heads of state from attending Wednesday's event.

"We knew there would be setbacks but we will not be derailed by a coalition of the unwilling," the United Nations special envoy, Jacques Klein, said in his address.

While the disarmament operation gets under way, reports are rampant of arms caches in Liberia and across its porous borders with Guinea and Ivory Coast, both potential flashpoints.

"This is a new chance for Liberia," said a former Nigerian president, Abdu Salami Abubakar, the chief mediator for the Economic Community of West African States in the Liberian peace effort. "I hope you do not blow it up."

UN Secretary-general says strong indication of war crimes

Thursday, November 4th, 2004.

By EDITH M. LEDERER, Associated Press Writer

UNITED NATIONS, Nov 4, 2004 (AP) -- There are strong indications that war crimes have been committed "on a large and systematic scale" in Sudan's Darfur region, where violence is getting worse and 2 million people have now been affected by the conflict, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan said.

In a report to the U.N. Security Council, Annan accused the Sudanese government of failing to bring the perpetrators of widespread killings, rapes, looting and village burnings to justice -- a charge he has made in recent months while urging the international community to tackle with the crisis.

Jan Pronk, the top U.N. envoy to Sudan who wrote the report, will present it to the council on Thursday. It recommends that members take "prompt action" to get the government and rebels to comply with U.N. resolutions demanding an end to the violence, punishment of those responsible and disarmament of combatants.



Until the government starts taking more than "pinprick" action against the perpetrators, the report warned, no displaced person will dare return home and no group will agree to disarm.

"Without an end to impunity ... banditry goes from strength to strength, menacing the population and obstructing the delivery of aid to desperate people in isolated areas," it said.

The violence in Darfur began in January 2003 when two black African rebel groups took up arms over alleged unjust treatment by the Sudanese government and ethnic Arab countrymen. Pro-government militias called Janjaweed reacted by unleashing attacks on villages.

The conflict, which has killed at least 70,000 people, has created what U.N. officials say is the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today.

An international commission appointed by Annan began work on Oct. 25 and has three months to study human rights violations and determine whether or not a genocide occurred in Darfur.

"There are strong indications that war crimes and crimes against humanity have occurred in Darfur on a large and systematic scale," the report said. "This has been confirmed by a number of senior U.N. human rights experts who have visited the region."

There have been reports that armed men dug up a grave containing 40 bodies in Souba, North Darfur and have been seen working on another site in an apparent attempt to hide evidence of mass killings, it said.

During October, security conditions in Darfur deteriorated, ceasefire violations increased on both sides, violence escalated and toward the end of the month, the threat of large scale attacks increased considerably, it said.

The estimate of people in Darfur affected by the conflict rose from 1.8 million on Sept. 1 to 2 million on Oct. 1, an upward trend expected to continue until the end of the year, it said.

The increase stems mainly from the growing number of internally displaced people, now 1.6 million, reflecting "the severity of the protection and security situation in Darfur," Pronk said. "A further 400,000 people are currently assessed to be affected by the conflict and in need of humanitarian assistance."

The U.N. envoy noted that the 2 million figure is a 100 percent increase in the number of people needing humanitarian assistance since April. Donors have funded 75 percent of the money needed for Darfur this year -- US\$397 million (A€310 million) of US\$534 million (A€418 million) -- and he appealed for the rest.

The report called for stepped up efforts to end the conflict in Darfur and the 21-year civil war between the government and rebels in southern Sudan and urged all countries to use their influence to achieve peace.

The Security Council will be holding a rare meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, where talks to end the civil war are taking place, on Nov. 18-19.

The report said the Nairobi talks were proceeding well and expressed hope that a final agreement can be reached by the end of the year and "serve as a model for Darfur."

It called for the government and rebels from Darfur now meeting in Nigeria to quickly start political negotiations, "which would enable them to reach agreement on all other outstanding issues."

U.S. Ambassador John Danforth, the current Security Council president, said Wednesday the council trip's aim is to show the Sudanese what the country would look like if there were peace -- including international guarantees of a peace agreement, international monitoring to development assistance.

But he warned that this "carrot" -- the offer of international help -- won't "be there forever" and "if we are pushed away by either side" then the international community will turn to other pressing global issues.



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Annan: Stop Sudan's war crimes now

UNITED NATIONS (AP) -- There are strong indications that war crimes have been committed "on a large and systematic scale" in Sudan's Darfur region, where violence is getting worse and two million people have now been affected by the conflict, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan said.

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The report says the Nairobi talks were proceeding well and expressed hope that a final agreement can be reached by the end of the year and "serve as a model for Darfur."

It called for the government and rebels from Darfur now meeting in Nigeria to quickly start political negotiations, "which would enable them to reach agreement on all other outstanding issues."

U.S. Ambassador John Danforth, the current Security Council president, said Wednesday the council trip's aim was to show the Sudanese what the country would look like if there were peace -- including international guarantees of a peace agreement, international monitoring to development assistance.

But he warned that this "carrot" -- the offer of international help -- would not "be there forever" and "if we are pushed away by either side" then the international community would turn to other pressing global issues.

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