

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:

Monday, March 14, 2005

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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Kamajors Planned Coup



Chief Sam Hinga Norman fight to capture the entire country and overthrow the Kabbah government and their own government.

By Joseph Turay
Former Civil Defence Force (CDF) Senior Commander, Albert Moinina Jusu Nallo, who is now one of the star

witness for the Special Court's prosecution team against the CDF last Friday continued his testimony by revealing that at the peak of

the war, first accused Chief Sam Hinga Norman, told them that they should

Kamajors Planned Coup

From front page

the country for three years and if need be hand over back to Kabbah.

Commander Nallo told the court that it was due to the negligence of the Kabbah administration to provide the Kamajor militia with the requisite logistics and support to have enabled them to robustly pursued the rebels that led to his ousting in May, 1997 by the combined forces of the RUF/AFRC.

Commander Nallo further told the court that Norman sensitised them to a point that they never even wanted to hear anything about Kabbah or the SLPP because according to him, Kabbah relied more on the international community for his reinstatement than the CDF. Implying that he even had no confidence in them. He went further to disclose

that Chief Norman used to tell them that even the arms and ammunitions they were using was provided by an ECOMOG soldier, one General Abdulai Mohamed who by then was deployed in Liberia and not Kabbah or the Sierra Leone government. He told the court that he was part of the executive of the command structure of the CDF but was later sacked by chief Norman when they came out of the bush.

He said the Kamajor society was a kind of organised force described as a trinity, in which the first accused Norman was 'Father,' the second accused Moinina Fofana; the 'Sun' and the third accused Allieu Kondewa; the 'Holy Spirit' who he said was responsible for the initiation and the faith of a fighter.

Commander Nallo further re-

vealed that civilians captured by them were most often killed, cooked and eaten with others killed and their bodies burnt and the ash used for the initiation of other Kamajors. The command structure of the CDF the witness also revealed, comprised of four categories including the Battalion, Company squad, Platoon and the Special Forces. The latter he said comprised mostly of Liberians and that they were permanently based at 'base zero' and most times had direct contact with Norman.

He further revealed that Norman sacked Allieu Kondewa immediately after they came out of the bush for allegedly looting at Gbangbatoke.

Cross examination by the defence continue this morning.

The Salone Times, Monday March 14, 2005.

EX-CDF OPERATIONS DIRECTOR TESTIFIES

By Mohamed Mansaray

A Prosecution witness in the ongoing trial of CDF inditees of the Special Court, Albert Moinina Jusu Nallo said in Freetown over the weekend, that President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah was not the National Director of the Civil Defence Forces (CDF) after the restoration of democracy in Sierra Leone sometime in 1998.

The witness was responding to questions posed to a member of Hinga Norman's defence team at court Room No. 1, New England in Freetown. Mr. Nallo testified that he was the National Deputy Director

of Operations and Regional Director of CDF Operations in the Southern Region.

The witness told the court, that he did not know whether former Vice President Dr. Albert Joe Demby was the

Vice Commander of the CD or that he (Dr. Demby) was member of the CDF.

Mr. Nallo told the court under cross-examination, that he was surprised to learn from cou



Tejan Kabbah

Testimony Against Norman

Parliament) was third in command on the CDF structure nor was he aware that Hon. Lagawo was the Chairman of the National Coordinating Commission within the CDF.

The witness informed the court that he know Hon. PC Charles Caulker as a member of the Kamajor War Council but did not know him as the 4th in command within the CDF structure. He said that he was also not aware that Hon. PC Caulker was Vice Chairman of the National Coordinating Commission.

Giving his testimony publicly in court, Mr. Nallo told the court that the first accused had plans to overthrow President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah when they were at Base Zero in the Bonthe district. Mr. Nallo quoted the first accused as telling Kamajors at the Base that the President had more confidence in the International Community to fight and restore him to power. He further quoted Mr. Norman as telling them at the Base that the President did not trust the Kamajors and hence deprived them of weapons.

The witness went on to tell the court under cross examination that he was sacked from the Kamajor movement after he granted an interview to the News Director of KISS 104 FM in Bo, Christian Keili about the transfer of the CDF from the Ministry of Defence to the Internal Affairs ministry during that period. Mr. Nallo testified that the interview was aired on KISS radio.

He told the court that the interview was preceded by a meeting in Bo facilitated by the then Minister of Internal Affairs, Charles Margai where he informed his audience about the transfer of the CDF to his ministry. The interview, Mr. Nallo said did not go down well with Mr. Norman. The witness testified that he was later summoned to a meeting first at Sir Milton Hotel and then later, at the Bo Town Hall. Mr. Nallo informed the court that the meeting was attended by ex-VP Demby, Hon. R. E. S. Lagawo, Hon. Sidique Brima, Samuel Hinga Norman, Alhaji Daramy Rogers, who according to the witness, represented the government at Base Zero. The witness quoted Dr. Demby as announcing at the meeting that Kamajor activities used to be regulated at district levels and that they were reverting to that arrangement.

Asked by counsel Yillah whether he agrees with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) findings that President Kabbah was the National Commander of the CDF, Mr. Nallo replied that he disagrees with the TRC findings and restated that the President was not a member of Kamajor society.

The trials resume this morning.

The Exclusive, Monday March 14, 2005.

As Special Court Suspends Private Investigator...

4 Banned!

Jarrah Kawusu-Konte
The AFRC trials commenced on Monday 7th March, 2005 at the Special

Court for Sierra Leone, New England Ville. Until last Thursday, the proceedings were suspended as

a result of an issue relating to one of the "protected" witnesses who spoke on behalf of the defence.

"WE KNOW YOU!"
According to a reliable source close to the prosecution, while the witness, TF1-002

was being driven home after her testimony to the court, some four people shouted her real name and said "we know

you". **BANNED**
Investigations mounted by

4 Banned!

From that point
the prosecution revealed that the four included the two wives of Tamba Brima and Ibrahim Banzay and two of their friends. This, according to the prosecution was the reason why the court has ruled that these four people should be banned from witnessing the court's proceedings from the public gallery.

WELFARE

The million dollar question now is how did the indictees' wives and their friends recognize the witness, TF1-002 when the court assured and reassured all and sundry of the safety and welfare of witnesses?

SUSPENDED

Meanwhile, the defence team has clearly stated that it can continue with the case without the private investigator who has been suspended rather inexplicably.

"EQUALITY OF ARMS"

In fact, a very immaculate source close to the defence has revealed to this writer that one of the problems stealthily undermining the effectiveness of the defence in executing its duties by providing adequate legal representation for indictees, is the issue of "equality of arms".

"Equality of arms" is a key principle underlying the trials of the Special Court especially between the office of the prosecution and the defence.

AFTERTHOUGHT

It was further maintained that the provision of resources for the defence team such as logistical support (transportation, computers and accessories) and resources for a private investigator is like an afterthought on the part of the court.

UNBELIEVABLE

How can a whole defence team of nine lawyers use just three offices with only one networked printer considering the work load and amount of materials needed to be accessed and printed from the internet? How can four lawyers sit around one table and have to scramble for transportation while their counterpart the OTP continue to provide all the goodies for their staff especially the expatriates?

POSSIBILITY?

Is there any possibility of dispensing justice in such an atmosphere where the prosecution is armed to the teeth to nail indictees while the defence is left to scramble for access to the limited logistics available, is the question put to me by a competent member of the court, who wished to remain anonymous.

The New Citizen, Monday 14th March, 2005

Special Court CONFESSIONS OF A CANNIBAL

By James B. Sawyer, Special Court witness TF-2-014, former Kamajor Commander, Albert Moinina Jusu Nallo, past Friday testified before Justice Benjamin Itoe that he was part of the Kamajor outfit that killed and slaughtered one Mustapha Kallon at a

Cont. Page 5

FROM PAGE 1 CONFESSIONS OF A CANNIBAL

Poro Bush at Base Zero and ate the liver and other vital organs of the said victim.

Albert Nallo also informed the court that other atrocities, including the burning and looting as well as killing of civilians were carried out by the Kamajors under the instruction of the former Kamajor boss, Sam Hinga Norman.

Although Sam Hinga was

conspicuously absent, the other CDF indietee, Aliou Kondewah was present in court during the cross examination.

When defence counsel for the AFRC indietees, Ibrahim Yillah, requested the Special Court Witness, Albert Moinina Jusu, to inform the court about the laws and how people were initiated into the Kamajor fold, he explained that a

Kamajor should not have sex with a woman and that he should not eat a banana or steps on its peel.

He continued, "Kamajor should not eat cooked rice mixed with pounded okra and he should not set eyes on a corpse, a woman pounding a mortar or a naked woman. A Kamajor should not urinate on a graveyard or sit on a mortar used for pounding".

The Special Court witness further stated that he joined the Kamajor outfit in November 1996 and that all atrocities committed by him and other members of the Kamajor paraphernalia were directives from the Kamajor Chief, Sam Hinga Norman.

The matter was adjourned to this morning.

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Terms: **special court and sierra leone** ([Edit Search](#))

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Panafrican News Agency (PANA) Daily Newswire March 12, 2005

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Panafrican News Agency (PANA) Daily Newswire

March 12, 2005

LENGTH: 372 words

HEADLINE: KABBAH OPTIMISTIC TAYLOR TO FACE JUSTICE

BODY:

Freetown, **Sierra Leone** (PANA) - Sierra Leonean president Ahmad Tejan Kabbah has expressed the firm belief that former Liberian leader Charles Taylor will eventually face prosecution at the UN- backed **Special Court** for **Sierra Leone**, state radio reported here Saturday.

Taylor, who faces charges for war crimes and human rights violations because of his alleged support for Sierra Leonean rebels, is presently exiled in Nigeria under an arrangement that saw him step down from power to end a brutal war to unseat him.

"With improvement in peace and security in **Sierra Leone**, coupled with a Liberian election towards the end of the year, things will change and Charles Taylor will definitely be brought before the **Special Court**," Kabbah said.

He was speaking when the out-going Prosecutor of the court, David Crane, paid a courtesy call to take a formal leave of him at the presidential Hill Station Lodge here.

Kabbah said he was aware that "a lot of people have been wondering" why his administration was not pressurising Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo to hand over Taylor to the **Special Court**, noting that "the decision President Obasanjo took at that time to grant asylum to Taylor was in the interest of the sub- region."

"Charles Taylor had threatened to go back to the bush and restart a guerrilla warfare when pressure was being piled on him to step down.

"Considering the fragility of peace and security at the time and the repercussion on **Sierra Leone** if a new war were to break out with Charles Taylor in the bush, I decided to leave the Nigerian leader to use his best judgement," Kabbah explained.

Outgoing prosecutor Crane told President Kabbah he was leaving **Sierra Leone** "with mixed feelings" especially at a time when Sierra Leoneans were seeking justice, and assured his continued interest in the work of the **Special Court**.

Crane said he shared President Kabbah's belief that "Taylor will very soon be handed over" to the court, and praised the European Parliament for its stance on ensuring that the ex-Liberian leader goes on trial.

Crane, who took up appointment as Prosecutor at the inception of the court in 2002, quits

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the job when his contract expires in July this year.

JOURNAL-CODE: WPNA

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The Washington Post March 13, 2005 Sunday

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March 13, 2005 Sunday

Final Edition

SECTION: A Section; A22

LENGTH: 1091 words

HEADLINE: U.N. Faces More Accusations of Sexual Misconduct; Officials Acknowledge 'Swamp' of Problems and Pledge Fixes Amid New Allegations in Africa, Haiti

BYLINE: Colum Lynch, Washington Post Staff Writer

DATELINE: UNITED NATIONS

BODY:

The United Nations is facing new allegations of sexual misconduct by U.N. personnel in Burundi, Haiti, Liberia and elsewhere, which is complicating the organization's efforts to contain a sexual abuse scandal that has tarnished its Nobel Prize-winning peacekeepers in Congo.

The allegations indicate that a series of measures the United Nations has taken in recent years have failed to eliminate a culture of sexual permissiveness that has plagued its far-flung peacekeeping operations over the last 12 years. But senior U.N. officials say they have signaled their seriousness by imposing new reforms and forcing senior U.N. military commanders and officials to step down if they do not curb such practices.

"The blue helmet has become black and blue through self-inflicted wounds," Jane Holl Lute, a senior U.N. peacekeeping official who heads a U.N. task force on sexual exploitation, told a congressional committee investigating allegations that U.N. personnel participated in rape, prostitution and pedophilia in Congo. "We will not sit still until the luster of that blue helmet is restored."

The reports of sexual abuse have come from U.N. officials, internal U.N. documents, and local and international human rights organizations that have tracked the issue. Some U.N. officials and outside observers say there have been cases of abuse in almost every U.N. mission, including operations in Ivory Coast, **Sierra Leone** and Kosovo.

"This is a problem in every mission around the world," said Sarah Martin, an expert on the subject at Refugees International who recently conducted investigations into misconduct by U.N. peacekeepers in Haiti and Liberia. "If you don't have a strict code of discipline, accountability and transparency in the process, then you're going to continue to have a

problem."

Peacekeepers in several Liberian communities routinely engage in sex with girls, according to an internal U.N. letter obtained by The Washington Post. In the town of Gbarnga, peacekeepers were seen patronizing a club called Little Lagos, "where girls as young as 12 years of age are engaged in prostitution, forced into sex acts and sometimes photographed by U.N. peacekeepers in exchange for \$10 or food or other commodities," according to the letter, which a representative of the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) wrote Feb. 8 to the mission's second-ranking official.

The letter also stated that community leaders in the town of Robertsport have accused Namibian peacekeepers there of "using administrative building premises and the surrounding bush to undertake sex acts with girls between the age of 12-17."

The letter said the U.N. peacekeeping mission had failed to address some misconduct reports. In response, the U.N. special representative in Liberia, Jacques Klein, ordered an investigation, according to an internal U.N. memo dated Feb. 18. U.N. Deputy Secretary General Louise Frechette, meanwhile, traveled this month to Liberia, **Sierra Leone** and Ivory Coast to urge the missions' leadership to crack down on sexual misconduct.

The United Nations also opened an investigation earlier this month into allegations of sexual abuse of minors by U.N. troops in the Central African country of Burundi. "Over the past few weeks I have learned to my deep regret that, despite firm instructions to the contrary, some staff members continue to indulge in unacceptable and potentially illegal behavior," Carolyn McKaskie, the senior U.N. representative, wrote in a March 10 internal memo to members of the U.N. mission.

Lute said the U.N. peacekeeping department has ordered an internal review of its policies for combating sexual exploitation among the nearly 80,000 peacekeepers in all 17 U.N. peacekeeping missions around the world. They are also pressing countries that contribute peacekeepers to prosecute those accused of crimes in **special courts**-martial in the countries where they are accused.

"We have violated our duty for care, and we need to fix that problem," Lute said in a recent interview. "We're shining a light here, and it's not a pretty picture. But when you're in the swamp, the only way out of the swamp is through the swamp."

Pamela Shifman, a UNICEF expert on sexual exploitation of children, said abuses are pervasive among U.N. peacekeepers deployed in countries that have been afflicted by grinding poverty and years of conflict. But, she said, "It is not inevitable. That's a really important message -- that we can address impunity. We can address accountability."

Martin, of Refugees International, said the degree of military discipline varies from mission to mission. In Liberia, she said, uniformed U.N. peacekeepers and U.N. civilians openly frequent brothels in marked U.N. vehicles. She also noted that some contingents, including the Namibians, are encamped in local villages, placing them in direct contact with locals.

In Haiti, she said, soldiers from Chile, Brazil, Sri Lanka and Peru "lived in walled compounds with gates, and they are not able to go out at night; they are under strict curfew."

Still, two Pakistani police were removed from Haiti last month after a local woman accused them of raping her at a banana farm outside Gonaives, U.N. officials said. A U.N. investigation dismissed the rape charge but expelled the Pakistanis for hiring a prostitute.

In September a Brazilian peacekeeper was accused of raping a minor in Port-au-Prince, Martin said. The United Nations concluded there was insufficient evidence to prosecute the peacekeeper, she said.

Sexual abuse scandals have shadowed the United Nations since the early 1990s, when U.N.

peacekeepers in Cambodia were charged with sexually abusing girls. At the time, the U.N.'s top official in Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, played down the gravity of the allegations, saying, "Boys will be boys."

Human rights investigators and journalists documented widespread abuses in 2001 in Kosovo and Bosnia, where U.N. police operated brothels and trafficked women from Eastern Europe to engage in prostitution.

A U.N. spokesman in Kosovo, Neeraj Singh, said a series of reforms had curtailed such abuses. But Singh confirmed that a Pakistani staff member in the office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, Rashid Doon Khan, was arrested in Kosovo on Jan. 28 by an international prosecutor in Kosovo pending a pretrial investigation that "relates to sexual and narcotics-related charges involving minors."

Singh declined to provide further details. An attorney for Khan, Tome Gashi, declined to comment on the charges.

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Africa News March 10, 2005 Thursday

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 Africa News

March 10, 2005 Thursday

LENGTH: 801 words

HEADLINE: Liberia;
 A Courageous Stand

BYLINE: Liberian Observer

BODY:
 A profile of 2005 Reebok Human Rights Award Winner, Aloysius Toe of Liberia.

Aloysius Toe, Age 27:

One of Liberia's leading activists since 1996, Aloysius Toe has taken courageous stances on critical human rights issues, advocated against abuses, and educated Liberians about their rights.

Those rights have been brutally undermined since 1989, when Liberia was engulfed in the first of two civil wars. The first war ended with the election of former warlord Charles Taylor as president, but Taylor's rule soon became characterized by political killings, arbitrary arrests, illegal detentions, and deteriorating social conditions. The second war broke out in 2000 when rebels fought to unseat Taylor. Again, all sides perpetrated egregious human rights violations against civilians, including rape, summary execution, forced recruitment, widespread use of child combatants, displacement, looting, and banditry. With Taylor now exiled, the interim government is trying to rebuild a devastated nation.

"After such war and brutality our country needs to live in peace. Our country needs to enjoy reconciliation. But reconciliation cannot be achieved by turning a blind eye to issues of justice. Can we provide justice for victims of human rights abuses while at the same time creating conditions that will not lead to renewed conflict? That is our hope."

Aloysius began his activism as a teenager, when he found himself surrounded by turmoil. Armed forces were arresting innocent people, including a sixteen-year-old girl whose only crime was being from the wrong ethnic group. Despite the protestation of Aloysius and his fellow students, the soldiers executed the girl. "It was like my soul was boiling within me," Aloysius says. "I could not stand by and simply watch what was happening."

From 1996 to 1999, Aloysius directed the Movement for the Defense of Human Rights, organizing 110 human rights clubs, raising awareness of the abuses of the Taylor government, and promoting human rights education within the Liberian school system. He also organized a network of 245 community-based human rights volunteers in rural communities to monitor and report violations. His leadership helped expose and challenge the practice of forced labor on Taylor's farms. In 2001, he led non-violent protests against the politically motivated murders of student demonstrators and a prominent community leader. When he spoke out against the atrocities committed by Taylor's son, he was arrested and imprisoned. After his release, he continued to protest human rights violations.

The most dramatic test of his courage came not long after. He was in hiding when, in an

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apparent assassination attempt, armed government operatives raided his home in the middle of the night, held a pistol to his wife's head, tossed her in the back of a pickup, and hauled her off to jail. Although their small children were left alone, neighbors were too afraid to leave their own homes to come to the children's aid. Rather than flee the country and leave his family vulnerable to retribution, Aloysius turned himself in to authorities. He was charged with treason and imprisoned for eight months. He escaped when Taylor's regime collapsed.


It was then that Aloysius realized his role as a human rights leader had only just begun. A lack of infrastructure, huge numbers of displaced people, and desperate levels of poverty have together sparked a further crisis for Liberia. The interim government must disarm, retrain, and provide meaningful work for more than 40,000 former combatants, including some 15,000 children. Hundreds of thousands of civilians must be reintegrated into their towns and villages. The army and national police must be revamped and retrained. And the crumbling, looted infrastructure of hospitals, schools, and courts must be rebuilt.

Aloysius realized that most of the Liberian organizations working on human rights were focused on civil and political rights. Little or no work was done on social and economic rights - and the widespread, crushing poverty made the entire country vulnerable. So in 2003 he established the Foundation for Human Rights and Democracy, Liberia's first nongovernmental organization concerned with social, cultural, and economic justice. He now works on transitional justice issues to ensure that human rights are central to the peace process in postwar Liberia. As part of that mission, he is involved in a campaign to bring former president Taylor to trial in a **special court in Sierra Leone**.

"I dream of one day being able to sleep in peace in my own home, in my own country," Aloysius says. "And I dream that one day we'll be regarded as a dignified people, as a country with direction, as a country with national spirit."

Source: Reebok International

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Special Court for Sierra Leone : Prosecution] Trial of the military junta opens in Freetown

The third and last scheduled trial at the Special Court for Sierra Leone finally got underway on 7 March. The three men in the dock are former members of the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC): Alex Tamba Brima, Brima Bazzy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu. They faced the three foreign judges after spending nearly two years in detention. On stage for perhaps the last time was court prosecutor David Crane, two weeks after announcing he will be stepping down in July after three years at the head of the prosecution.