

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:

Wednesday, March 16, 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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The New Citizen, Wednesday 16th March, 2005.

SPECIAL COURT BANS NORMAN'S RELATIVES

By James B. Sawyerr friends and sympathizers of of CDF indictee, Sam who confessed last week that denied the allegation that they gations levied against rela-
Presiding Judge, Benjamin the former Kamajor boss, Hinga Norman, was as even as he worked under threatened the person of tives of Sam Hinga
Itoe of Special Court No. 1 Sam Hinga Norman, from a result of alleged threatening Sam Hinga Norman, he also Moinina Jusu Nallo. Normans, I hereby declare
where CDF indictees are standing trial, yesterday attending Special Court ses- remarks made against the ate human parts, including the liver of a human being. Judge Itoe in reading the ban or- that members and relatives
banned family members, sions. The decision to ban relatives Albert Moinina Jusu Nallo, Relatives of Hinga Norman nation by the Court on the alle- of Sam Hinga Norman be

banned from entering the pre- April. AFRC/RUF indictees also
mises of the Special Court un- Meanwhile, Judge Dorothy adjourned her court to the 5th
til further notice." Doherty, presiding over of April, 2005.
The court was adjourned to 5th

Concord Times, Wednesday 16th March, 2005.

At Special Court...

Hinga Norman named in looting scam

By Abdul Karim Koroma

Special Court witness, Albert Jusu Nallo Monday implicated Kamajoh Coordinator and war crimes indictee, Chief Sam Hinga Norman in the looting of vehicles during the reign of the defunct Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC).

Nallo, who was cross examined by defence counsel Yada Williams said Norman was using a looted vehicle from the Agriculture Ministry as his official car at Base Zero, which he promised to hand over to him but he never did.

"Norman was using looted vehicles to take him from place to place," Nallo said, adding, "all the vehicles used by Kamajohs were looted ones."

He says Alieu Kondowa used a vehicle that was comman-



Hinga Norman
deered from Hon. Sorber Stevens.

"Hon. Sorber Stevens later retrieved the vehicle but there were problems surrounding it," he said and narrated how Norman ordered Kamajohs to kill a famous businessman in Bo, Dr. Mamoud Sesay and his properties destroyed because he was perceived as a rebel collaborator.

Awoko, Wednesday March 16th 2005.

"CDF and ECOMOG had strong relationship" - *Witness*

In the ongoing trial of the Civil Defence Force (CDF). Prosecution Witness- Albert Jusu Nallo- former National Director of Operations has disclosed that a

strong relationship existed between ECOMOG and the CDF. "The CDF and ECOMOG had a strong relationship during the war," he stressed. The

witness explained that Gen. Maxwell Kobe with other ECOMOG officers used to visit their camp named 'Base Zero'. Asked by Defense

CDF and ECOMOG

From Front Page
Counsel for the third accused if he knew 'Fred', a helicopter pilot; the witness answered in the affirmative. The witness further stated that he

usually visits 'Base Zero' not only with ECOMOG officers, but also brings in logistics such as rice, fuel, arms and ammunitions; adding that these items were for the CDF

fighting force. The former CDF Operations Director also said that the relationship between ECOMOG's Gen. Abdulai Wan of Liberia and Chief Norman lasted for a long period.



ABC Online

UN cuts ties with Australian policeman in Sierra Leone. 16/03/2005. ABC News Online

[This is the print version of story <http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200503/s1324393.htm>]

Last Update: Wednesday, March 16, 2005. 9:42am (AEDT)

UN cuts ties with Australian policeman in Sierra Leone

By Africa correspondent Zoe Daniel

The United Nations Special Court in Sierra Leone has ended the contract of an Australian policeman convicted of the indecent assault of a local child, before his appeal is heard.

The UN court terminated Peter Halloran's contract on Friday.

The Victorian policeman was on secondment to the court in the west African nation of Sierra Leone and was helping investigate war crimes.

After his conviction for indecently assaulting a 13-year-old girl, the court has terminated his employment.

Halloran spent three weeks in jail, but is now out on bail and is appealing the conviction.

The UN special court will reconsider the termination of his contract if his appeal succeeds.

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Awoko, March 16th 2005 (Wednesday).

Halloran Sacked

The former Chief of Investigations of the Special Court Peter Halloran who was recently convicted on indecent sexual assault charges, has been officially sacked by the Special Court. According to Alison Cooper Chief of Public Affairs at the Special Court, Halloran's contract was terminated by the Registrar last Friday March 11th. Special Court staff rules



she explained make for the termination of the contract of anyone who has been convicted, especially in a case like Halloran's. The Australian born Police Officer was suspended with full pay in August last year after the allegations were made

public. On Monday February 21 he was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment by Justice Samuel Ademus at the Freetown High Court. Questioned why it took the Registrar Robin Vincent three weeks after the conviction and

sentence. before terminating Halloran's contract, the Chief of Public Affairs Officer said the Registrar "had to consider." Halloran was given bail last Wednesday March 9 pending the hearing of his appeal at the Appeals Court

Source: [News & Business](#) > [News](#) > [News, Most Recent 90 Days \(English, Full Text\)](#) | i |

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

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Chicago Tribune March 15, 2005 Tuesday

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Chicago Tribune

March 15, 2005 Tuesday
Chicago Final Edition

SECTION: COMMENTARY ; ZONE C; Pg. 19

LENGTH: 632 words

HEADLINE: Impunity is threat to freedom

BYLINE: By Tiawan S. Gongloe and Romeo Dallaire. Tiawan S. Gongloe is a Liberian human-rights lawyer forced into exile after been tortured by former Liberian President Charles Taylor. He is a human-rights fellow at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Gen. Romeo Dallaire was commander of the UN peacekeeping force in Rwanda at the time of the 1994 genocide. He is author of "Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity In Rwanda." He also is a human-rights fellow at the Carr Center.

BODY:

"Today, America speaks anew to the peoples of the world: All who live in tyranny and hopelessness can know: The United States will not ignore your oppression or excuse your oppressors. When you stand for your liberty, we will stand with you."

--President Bush

This proclamation by President Bush, delivered in his Jan. 20 inaugural address, is perhaps the clearest promise of support any American president has made to oppressed people around the world. His message is both a warning to tyrants and a great source of hope for victims of oppressive rule. However, many who currently live under tyranny and are making efforts to gain freedom will closely watch the U.S. for concrete support in the next few months.

Africans will certainly look to see the outcome of this new promise coming from the center of power of the free world. In South Africa, blacks waited for 30 years before they received assistance to defeat apartheid. In Rwanda, the Tutsis waited hopelessly as they were slaughtered by their oppressors. In the end, there were 800,000 victims of Rwanda's 1994 genocide. Today in Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Togo and Guinea, Africans suffer various forms of oppression and human-rights abuse with little being done to their abusers.

While abuses have been curtailed by the interventions of UN peacekeeping forces in Liberia and **Sierra Leone**, victims of past abuses remain fearful of a return to the status quo because the one man who organized and led the machinery of death, mayhem, rape and all manner of cruel, degrading and inhumane treatment seems to be above the law. In 2003, Bush led the world to end the repressive rule of President Charles Taylor when Bush announced that Taylor should leave Liberia. Although the UN-backed **Special Court** for **Sierra Leone** publicly unsealed its indictment against Taylor in June 2003, alleging war crimes and crimes against humanity, he has been insulated from arrest by Nigerian President

Olusegun Obasanjo.

While Taylor's agents face justice, and tens of thousands of victims of the former president's evil enterprise struggle for survival and healing, Taylor remains free and enjoys the best of hospitalities as an honored guest of Obasanjo at a mansion in the provincial city of Calabar, near Nigeria's border with Cameroon.

The failure of the international community to bring Taylor to justice creates the impression not only in Liberia and **Sierra Leone**, but around the world, that he is more powerful than many thought. Unfortunately, among Liberians the hope that Taylor would face justice is dwindling. And many Liberians and Sierra Leoneans are beginning to harbor the fear that Taylor could destabilize the region again from his perch in Calabar.

They are not alone. David Crane, chief prosecutor at the **Special Court for Sierra Leone**, has repeatedly maintained this position. Speaking at a West African community forum in Minnesota last year, Crane said, "Unless and until Charles Taylor is brought to justice, there will be no peace. Charles Taylor is a big cloud hanging over Liberia. He is still ruling the country from his house arrest in Calabar. His agents remain influential in the country."

Can the people of Liberia and **Sierra Leone** enjoy liberty while they live in hopelessness and fear that the world will not do them justice?

Civil society organizations in Liberia, **Sierra Leone** and Nigeria have stood up and demanded that Taylor be brought to justice. International human-rights organizations such as Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have joined in the call, urging the United Nations, the Commonwealth and the African Union to persuade Nigeria not to shield Taylor from prosecution either by the **Special Court for Sierra Leone** or local courts of Nigeria.

Exactly what will it take to bring Taylor to justice?

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Charles Taylor (right), then the president of Liberia, relinquished power to his vice president during a 2003 ceremony. Los Angeles Times photo by Carolyn Cole.
PHOTO

LOAD-DATE: March 15, 2005

Source: [News & Business](#) > [News](#) > [News, Most Recent 90 Days \(English, Full Text\)](#) 

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The Citizen, Wednesday 16th March, 2005.

COMMENTARY

HALLORAN & PAUL KAMARA

The matter of the incarcerated Journalist, Paul Kamara, has again been raised by David Tam-Bayoh, a fellow Journalist, who rightly argues that if the Australian born Peter Halloran who was found guilty of having sex with a minor can be granted bail, pending appeal, why should the same not be done in the case of Sierra Leonean Paul Kamara? True, all well meaning Journalists in Sierra Leone would want to see Paul Kamara free and contrary to the belief held by David Tam-Bayoh, the executive of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists has never sat on the fence when it comes to handling matters related to the freedom of Journalists.

Only recently, the executive of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists robustly intervened when the editors of the Independent Observer were being treated shabbily and it was the intervention of the executive of SLAJ that caused the matter to be withdrawn from the courts.

And when the Editor of a reputable newspaper was about to be evicted from a rented house because of his political views, again, the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists intervened and normalized the situation.

We do not want to repeat the matter of the Editor of the Peep magazine when the executive of SLAJ stood up and challenged the authorities in an effort to secure the

release of the editor.

Only recently, a female Journalist was manhandled by police officers and the executive of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists made an uncompromising representation about the unacceptable activities of the police.

The matter related to criminal libel has been debated time and again and it would appear that one way by which this unaccepted legislation can be removed from the law books is to take the matter to the Law Courts.

Indeed, the present executive is in the process of securing funding to hire the services of a competent lawyer if only as a way of making it clear to all Sierra Leoneans that the activities of Journalists should not be criminalized by mere legislation.

The executive of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists will include as an agenda item at the next biennial conference the future of Journalism in Sierra Leone and the need to alter the vexatious libel laws, after all, Paul Kamara is today still languishing at the Pademba Road Prisons because of these backward libel laws.

We want to make it very clear that the executive of SLAJ will never sit on the fence when it comes to promoting the rights of Journalists, even though the same executive will continue to encourage colleague journalists to be objective in their reportage and to operate according to the code of conduct of SLAJ which dictates the operations of Journalists.

So, when David Tam-Bayoh raises this issue about the need to challenge the authorities to release Paul Kamara pending bail, he is not making a mistake at all, for the government itself has set the precedent by releasing the Australian felon on bail, pending appeal.

But what is not acceptable is the assumption that the problems beleaguering Journalism in Sierra Leone are centered just around one or two people, for after all, there are many Journalists in Sierra Leone who may be silent but who are also suffering in an atmosphere of sometimes questionable democratic practice.

We agree that the rights of Journalists should not be trampled upon and the executive of SLAJ will pursue this until results are achieved.

On the question of using news blackouts to pressurize the judiciary and government to release Paul Kamara from Pademba Road Prisons, pending bail, it is left entirely with the membership of SLAJ to take such a decision, as any individual approach to the problem can be counter productive.

The executive of SLAJ may not be a talkative executive, but experience has taught the membership of that executive that results can better be achieved when a problem is tackled from a realistic angle.

Paul Kamara should be freed from Pademba Road Prisons, but of course, David Tam-Bayoh realizes that Paul Kamara was arrested and charged to court before the present executive assumed office and nobody at that time lifted a finger to robustly challenge the authorities.

The present executive inherited Paul Kamara's dilemma and the executive has never been happy about what has befallen Paul Kamara which explains why Paul Kamara's issue will always be seen by the executive as a priority matter.

When the same thing was going to be done to other Journalists, including editors, the present executive of SLAJ stood up and shouted foul and it did pay dividend.

We agree with David Tam-Bayoh that all Journalists should work together to ensure the release of Paul Kamara, but definitely, it is totally wrong to state that the present executive of SLAJ is sitting on the fence.

Perhaps, David Tam-Bayoh only needs to interview the Attorney General to fully understand the present position held by the SLAJ executive and this includes going to court to challenge some of the excesses of the laws related to Journalism and freedom of expression.

Perhaps, he also needs to talk to Dr. Bu-Buakei Jabbie to understand the position that has been taken by the present executive of SLAJ to challenge the legislative excesses that continue to criminalize Journalists in Sierra Leone.

No, David Tam-Bayoh, this present executive of SLAJ is not sitting on the fence. It is a fighting executive that fears nobody even though it also believes that Journalists should operate within the law.

Paul Kamara would be released, no doubt and this executive which inherited an already bad case will do its utmost best to save Paul Kamara from the claws of legislative tyranny.

Key facts about U.N. war crimes tribunal

15 Mar 2005 14:09:35 GMT

Source: Reuters

THE HAGUE, March 15 (Reuters) - Following are key facts about the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague.

BASIC FACTS

The U.N. tribunal was established by adoption of Resolution 827 of the United Nations Security Council in May 1993. The resolution stipulates that all states must cooperate fully with the tribunal.

* Based in The Hague, it was the first international body for the prosecution of war crimes since the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials held in the aftermath of World War Two.

* The tribunal has jurisdiction over individuals responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes in the former Yugoslavia after January 1, 1991.

* It has no police force of its own and relies on the former Yugoslav republics, other states or the international peacekeeping forces in Bosnia and in Kosovo to make arrests.

* It has around 1,200 staff from more than than 80 countries.

* Judge Theodor Meron of the Unites States is president of the tribunal. Carla del Ponte of Switzerland is chief prosecutor.

* The tribunal may not try suspects in absentia, nor impose the death penalty. The maximum sentence is life imprisonment.

INDICTMENTS AND TRIALS

* There are still 17 suspects not in tribunal custody , including former Bosnian Serb wartime leader Radovan Karadzic and his military chief Ratko Mladic who remain at large.

* There are more than 50 accused in the detention unit in The Hague, according to tribunal figures posted on its website. They include former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, former Serbian President Milan Milutinovic and Kosovo's former Prime Minister Ramush Haradinaj.

* More than 100 accused have appeared in tribunal proceedings.

* Judgements have been rendered against at least 55 accused.

* Two accused were acquitted by the trial chamber and three acquitted on appeal.

* More than a dozen accused have been transferred to other European countries, including Finland, Germany, Spain, Austria and Norway, to serve their sentences.



Help stop the crisis in

Gacaca Courts Might Indict Three Sitting Members of Parliament

Hirondelle News Agency (Lausanne)

NEWS

March 14, 2005

Posted to the web March 15, 2005

Kigali

Rwanda's semi-traditional Gacaca courts might indict three seating members of parliament on genocide charges, a senior official told parliament on Monday.

"We have reports of three members of parliament that have persistently evaded their communities where Gacaca courts want them to answer some questions on their role during the genocide", the executive Secretary of the National Jurisdiction of Gacaca Courts (NJGC), Domitilla Mukantaganzwa said.

"They are (Etienne) Magali, Elysee (Bisengimana) and (Jean Baptiste) Butare", she added.

"They should muster the courage to go to their communities and explain the allegations", Mukantaganzwa told a joint parliamentary session. "It is possible that these are just allegations. But it also wouldn't be a surprise that a member of parliament, a minister or another important person participated in the genocide", she added.

Gacaca courts were set up three years ago to speed up genocide trials. The courts are presided over by persons of "impeccable integrity" elected by communities. The first trials began last week.

"People are complaining that leaders are not being held accountable. That Gacaca is only targeting regular people", said Mukantaganzwa.

Two of the members of parliament mentioned (Bisengimana and Butare) represent the ruling Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), whereas Magali is from the Liberal Party (PL).

Magali refuted allegations that he had refused to respond to calls from his community to answer allegations of genocide. "I attended Gacaca at Remera primary school. I met the leaders and told them that I was available whenever they need me", he said.

Gacaca Executive Secretary Mukantaganzwa also warned leaders that "are trying to influence the courts to cover up for their crimes or those committed by their people".

She said pilot courts (about 8% of total courts) have so far indicted 668 seating leaders ranging from the lowest administrative levels to "top end leaders".

Mukantaganzwa was addressing Rwandan legislators on the state of Gacaca courts.

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UN war crimes tribunal for former Yugoslavia hands down final indictments

15 March 2005 – The United Nations war crimes tribunal for the former Yugoslavia today handed down its final indictments, charging an ex-Interior Minister of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) and a police officer with war crimes that included murder and the wanton destruction of cities, towns, or villages.

Former minister Ljube Boskoski and police officer Johan Tarculovski were indicted in The Hague before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), which is to complete trying all defendants before it by 2008.

Other important investigations that have not led to indictments by the Tribunal will now be transferred to the local authorities. Meanwhile, the Tribunal continues to urge States to assist in transferring 17 indicted fugitives, including General Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic, who are wanted for their roles in the 1992-95 war in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The highest ranking defendant before the court is former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milošević, whose trial has been going on for more than three years.