

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:

Tuesday, April 05, 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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Concord Times. Tues, April 05, 2005.

Hinga Norman paralyzes at Special Court



Hinga Norman

...Family members

Chief Norman adequate medical attention and prevented them from attending to him at their own expense.

"We have on many occasions offered to purchase at our own expense a stationery exercise bicycle but the authorities have so far not given us the okay to do so," they said, adding that lack of adequate physical exercise is aggravating Chief Norman's medical condition.

Chief Norman's daughter, Juliet says her father has no equipment for exercise at the detention centre.

"Every time I buy him medication, I end up having to bring it back home with me," she says, adding, "all he has is a scrabble

and another board game which we purchased for him sometime ago."

But Special Court Spokesman, Peter Anderson says all detainees are in a good health and remain in good health.

"There is a fulltime medical unit and a doctor to handle medical

cases of all inditees and when everything arises that the unit cannot handle, we automatically refer it to Choithram Hospital," he says, adding that Chief Norman is generally in good health.

Hinga Norman paralyzes at Special Court

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"We have a specialized doctor at the court's medical unit and we couldn't allow people with no medical background to provide medication for detainees that we know nothing about," he stated,

and adds that the issue of whether Chief Norman is developing paralysis can only be confirmed by his lead counsel, Bu-Buake Jabbie.

When contacted, Jabbie could however not comment on the issue as he was reportedly attending a meeting.

By Chernoh Alpha M. Bah

Chief Sam Hinga Norman's family has told Concord Times that Special Court inditee. Chief Norman is developing paralysis, as he is currently unable to walk unassisted due to a chronic foot ailment and inadequate medical attention.

Family members allege that Special Court officials have denied

AWoko, Tues, April 05, 2005.

To pay his lawyer's ...Australian's raise funds to help Halloran

Australian Newspapers have reported that last Thursday March 31st around 1,000 people, including past and current police officers, gathered in

a South Melbourne (Australia) pub to raise funds to help their friend and colleague Peter Halloran meet his mounting legal expenses.

Peter Halloran came to Sierra Leone in January last year to work as an investigator for the UN backed Special Court.

On February 21st this year he was convicted of indecent sexual assault on a 13 year old girl by a Freetown High Court.

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To pay his lawyer's

From Front Page

Presided over by Justice Samuel Ademus. Police Association assistant secretary Bruce McKenzie said The Police Association's Bruce McKenzie says the 56-year-old has been treated unfairly by Sierra Leone's courts, but is optimistic of a successful appeal. He told The Australian newspaper that "Funds are particularly

important in terms of his defence at this point in time" adding "His legal expenses will need to be met from the fundraising activities that happen here in Australia, and we're very pleased that the Australia Government have similarly lent support to Peter." Halloran reportedly spoke to those attending the fundraiser via a telephone hook-up. "He thanked everyone for

attending the fundraiser and supporting him." According to the Police Association's assistant Secretary, Peter Halloran "told us about the conditions in Sierra Leone where there is little running water and no electricity and the hardships he's enduring over there." A legal team from Melbourne would represent Halloran at his appeal, Mr McKenzie said. Halloran was recently released on bail pending his appeal.



Hague takes on Darfur war crimes

A sealed list of 51 suspects accused of war crimes in the Darfur region of Sudan is to be handed to the International Criminal Court.

A United Nations investigation into killings, torture and rape identified a number of government and army officials, militia and rebel leaders.

Last week, the UN Security Council ordered that suspects should appear before the court in The Hague.

Sudan is refusing to hand any of its citizens over preferring local justice.

It is the first time a case has been referred to the court in The Hague by the Security Council.

Archives

Thousands of documents and other evidence will be handed over to the court to enable it to prepare an investigation into atrocities in Darfur.

The archives were compiled by the International Commission of Inquiry, which found in January that Sudanese government forces and militias committed gross human rights violations that could amount to crimes against humanity.

The Sudanese government has described the Security Council plan to try criminals in The Hague as "unfair, ill-advised and narrow-minded".

But Darfur's two main rebel groups welcome it.

The UN says at least 180,000 people have died and more than two million have sought refuge from the violence since the two-year conflict began.

A UK parliamentary investigation concluded that as many as 300,000 could have died.

Many of the deaths and atrocities are blamed on the Arab Janjaweed militia, which the government denies arming.

In the Sudanese capital, Khartoum, a demonstration is planned on Tuesday against the United Nations.

Meanwhile, Darfur rebels have rejected an Egyptian initiative to hold peace talks.

Story from BBC NEWS:
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/tr/-/2/hi/africa/4411497.stm>