

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, April 06, 2005

The press clips are produced Monday to Friday.
If you are aware of omissions or have any comments or suggestions please contact
Mariama S. Yilla
Ext 7217 / 7216
MOBILE: 232 76 767502

Awoko. Wednesday, April 6th, 2005.

at the Special Court...

AFRC boycotts trial

By Odilia French

The three Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) indictees at Special Court yesterday started a boycott of court proceedings. The three,

Ibrahim Bazzy Kamara, Alex Tamba Brima aka Guillit and Santigie Kanu aka 55 were not present in court when the session resumed after the Easter break. The Defence

lawyers representing the indictees told the court, the indictees informed them that they would not be coming to court; adding that they (the defence) had nothing to do with their

absence from court. The Defence team explained further that even though they advised the indictees about the importance of their presence in court, they

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AFRC boycotts trial

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(indictees) still stressed in keeping away from the court. The three AFRC indictees now join Augustine Gbao of the RUF and Hinga Norman of the CDF to boycott the court sessions. It will be recalled that Augustine Gbao of the RUF was the first indictee to refuse attending the court sessions. He was soon

followed by Issa Sesay and Morris Kallon but through the intervention of their lawyers Issa and Kallon later on started attending court. Up to date Augustine Gbao is still adamant about his decision. Also first accused of the CDF- Sam Hinga Norman followed suit and decided not to cooperate with the court anymore and was later joined by Moinina Fofana

and Allieu Kondewa. Defence Counsels for Moinina and Kondewa were also later able to convince their clients about the importance of being in court and they too discontinued their action and started attending court sessions. Meanwhile, the RUF trial is scheduled to resume today with a total of 25 witnesses lined up to testify during this session including one that is coming from out of the continent.

Salone Times, Wednesday, April 6th, 2005.

'Taylor Should Be Dragged To Court'

By Mohamed Mansaray

A former lecturer of the University of Liberia, Dr. H. Fahnbulleh has called for the former Liberian President, Charles Taylor to be "dragged" from Nigeria to the UN-backed Sierra Leone Special Court for trial.

Dr. Fahnbulleh, formerly of the Reformation Alliance Party (RAP) was addressing a news conference at Benson Street in Monrovia after he returned home from abroad last week.

"I think Taylor should be dragged and I am not saying taken, but dragged from Calabar in Nigeria and brought before the court in Sierra Leone to be judged, being responsible for crimes against humanity," he told journalists.

The former university lecturer informed the press that the only way out for indicted Mr. Taylor is for him to face the

court in order to free himself from charges levelled against him. Describing Mr. Taylor as a "contemptible character," Dr. Fahnbulleh regretted that the indicted former Liberian leader entered politics and enriched himself at the expense of the Liberian masses, adding that Mr. Taylor looted and destroyed the nation, ruined the people and spread anarchy in the sub-region. "It is only the court that will establish the truth but with the court running out of steam over Nigeria's refusal to let go a principal suspect, some would say that the chances of Taylor facing any tribunal in Sierra Leone is slim," he added. Mr. Taylor is indicted on a 17-count charge of war crimes and crimes against humanity including rape, torture, abductions, murder, mutilations among others during the decade-long civil war in Sierra Leone.