

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, August 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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Awareness Times. Tuesday August 16, 2005.

Hinga Norman Wins Injunction

In what legal observers have termed as probably an unprecedented event in the annals of Sierra Leone, a panel of five Supreme Court Judges headed by the Chief Justice, Dr. Ade Renner Thomas, yesterday accepted and ruled on the joint undertaking of the SLPP (as defendants represented by Lawyer Eke Holloway) and Chief Hinga Norman (as plaintiff represented by Buakei Jabbie) by unanimously deciding to grant the interim injunction requested by the jailed Kamajor Chief, Hinga Norman and ruling that Chief Norman should also be prepared to undertake the full cost of all losses arising from the injunction so granted if the final determination of the matter

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*Chained Mystical
Kamajor Fighter*

Hinga Norman Wins Injunction

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shall have been decided or determined in favour of the SLPP (the defendants).

As reported in our yesterday's edition, Chief Hinga Norman's lawyer, Dr. Bu-buakei Jabbie, had on behalf of his client, filed in a writ of summons seeking an interim injunction on the holding of the forthcoming SLPP Delegates Convention slated for the 19 and 20 August 2005.

The Interlocutory Notice of Motion in respect of the matter in question reads as thus, "An interim injunction, restraining the 1st and 2nd defendants (in their personal and official party capacities alike) and 3rd defendant herein, their servants, agents and privies, and in the case of the 3rd defendant, in all its emanations and manifestations as organs, institutions, officers and members thereof, from nominating, electing, selecting, choosing or identifying as the case may be, a Presidential Nominee and/or Leader of the SLPP in any shape or form or name or guise, or attempting/purporting so to do or encouraging or causing or countenancing or shepherding or partaking in the doing of any such thing, at the party conference slated for 19-20 August 2005 or at all otherwise in 2005, pending and until final

determination by this honourable court of the cause, matter, action or suit issued or instituted by the originating notice of motion intitled as above, but otherwise without any prejudice whatsoever, whether interim or permanent, to the holding of the party conference as such and /or conducting thereat any lawful business strictly other than such aforesaid nomination, election, etc of a presidential nominee, or candidate and/or leader of the SLPP"

The ruling came after the judges granted a one hour break to the two sides to come up with undertakings upon which the court could proceed. After hanging heads for well over two hours, Lawyer Eke Hallaway, representing the SLPP told the Chief Justice and other Supreme Court judges that they were "pushed to the wall" to accept that no elections of officials will take place at the planned convention. Lawyer Jabbie also made an undertaking as initially tabled in his motion, that his client would undertake the financial reparation of all losses incurred by the SLPP as a result of the injunction granted. The Chief Justice then read out the undertakings to the court gallery which written undertaking was then signed and an affidavit was prepared. The case was then adjourned to Wednesday August 17th 2005.

Political Observers are now with the opinion that this decision will badly affect the campaigning by a whole host of desperate aspirants for the

various official positions such as the chairmanship, the secretary generalship and other positions like that for the post of organising secretary, regional chairmen, publicity secretary, women's leader and young generation leader.

Pundits believe that many of the aspirants are now broke and desperate and can no longer sustain the financial burden of continued campaigning.

Meanwhile, one of the aspirants for a top position in the SLPP intimated Awareness Times last night that he was repulsed by the decision of those who legally represented the party at the Law Courts yesterday. Whilst pleading for anonymity, he firmly stated that any such postponement or major changes to the planned convention can only be endorsed or approved by the National Executive Council (NEC) of the SLPP and not by Lawyers in court.

"Somebody, somewhere is trying to play games with the SLPP. The actual action brought against the SLPP by Hinga Norman concerning the election of a Presidential Nominee and/or Leader and yesterday's ruling, based upon that Eke Hallaway undertaking which has banned the election of all other 31 positions including that of National SLPP Chairman, are at variance with each other," he told Awareness Times.

Yesterday, political observers at the courts also noted that by the time Hinga Norman decides to stop fighting, some aspirants will not be left with a single dime in their pockets.

Christian Monitor. Tuesday August 16, 2005.

By Martin Sandy
Chief Justice Ade Renner Thomas yesterday refused an application by Dr. Bubuakei Jabbie which seeks to have Chief Sam Hinga Norman present at the Supreme Court hearing of the case between him and the ruling SLPP. Making his application at the Supreme Court Monday 15th August, Dr.

Jabbie said that his client was unable to be in court because he is being detained by the Special Court. He asked that the Supreme Court make way for the plaintiff to be in court to listen to proceedings regarding his application for an interim injunction on the election of the leader of the SLPP party at the proposed convention which was

stated for this weekend. In refusing the application, Justice Renner Thomas said that the plaintiff was not detained at the instance of the Supreme Court. Therefore he said the court is unable to do anything for the plaintiff to be brought to the Supreme Court since he is being detained by the Special Court. "It is your choice to carry on with the

matter in his name and I hope you have the legal order to do so" said Justice Renner Thomas to Dr. Jabbie.

While Dr. Bubuakei Jabbie was representing Chief Norman, the first defendant Dr. Sama Banya, second defendant Prince Harding and third defendant the SLPP, were represented by a defence team

comprising lead counsel Mr. Eke Halloway, David Valentine Quee, A. Y Brewah and A. Shears-Moses.

CONVENTION CAN GO ON BUT ..

Meanwhile, Dr. Bubuakei Jabbie has informed the Supreme Court that his client is not against the party's convention to be

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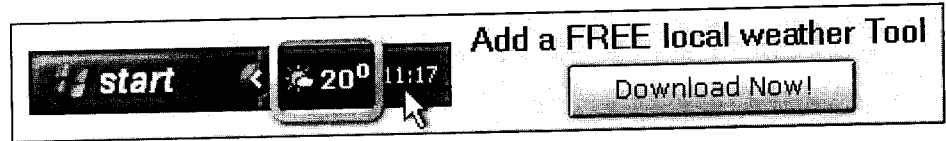
CONVENTION CAN GO ON BUT ..

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held on the 19th - 20th August 2005, but against the election of the party leader and presidential nominee for 2007 elections. Dr. Jabbie said that the injunction his client is seeking is not to forestall the convention rather, according to paragraph 11 of the Affidavit filed in by his client the convention can go

on but not to elect a presidential nominee for the 2007 elections. Mr. Eke Halloway, Counsel representing the defendants said that the party cannot go on with the convention because the plaintiff knows that it is contrary to the SLPP convention not to elect a leader. He pointed out that the plaintiff should be

ready for payment of damages for not holding a convention on the 19th - 20th August 2005. Chief Justice Ade Renner-Thomas adjourned the matter to Wednesday 17th August 2005 and asked that both sides submit all relevant documents pertaining to the matter before midday today.



Govt Tasked On Taylor

Daily Champion (Lagos)

NEWS

August 15, 2005

Posted to the web August 15, 2005

By Olaide Lamidi

Lagos

PRESIDENT Olusegun Obasanjo has been urged to immediately release Charles Taylor, former Liberian President, who has been on exile in Nigeria for the past two years, to the Special Court on Sierra-Leone to ensure that justice is done for crimes committed during his tenure.

The plea was made by the Campaign Against Impunity, a coalition of some 300 African and international civil society groups to ensure Nigeria's surrender of Charles Taylor to the special Court on Sierra Leone.

Taylor has been accused of 17 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity and the people of Sierra Leone by the Special Court. The crimes include killings, mutilations, rape and other forms of sexual violence, sexual slavery, recruitment and use of child soldiers, abduction and the use of forced labour by Sierra Leonean armed opposition groups.

According to the group, Nigeria has continued to resist surrendering the indicted war criminal to the Special Court.

Mr. Shina Loremikan, a Director of the Committee for Defence of Human Rights (CDHR), a Nigerian organisation that is part of the coalition, said Nigeria is swimming against the tide of international justice.

"The international community is in agreement that Taylor must be surrendered to the special court for trial. It is high time President Obasanjo did the right thing by turning Taylor over to be tried for his alleged crimes", he said.

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Groups call for Taylor to be handed over

Published in: Legalbrief Africa

Date: Mon 15 August 2005

Category: Nigeria

Issue No: 140

A coalition group of 300 African and international civil society groups has called on President Olusegun Obasanjo to hand over former Liberian President Charles Taylor to the special court in Sierra Leone for prosecution.

The *Vanguard* quotes the Campaign Against Impunity as saying 'despite mounting international pressure from African countries, the UN, the EU and the US, Nigeria continues to resist surrendering ... Taylor'.

Full report by Vanguard

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