

**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE
PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**



Children from St. Anthony's Primary School learned about the Special Court during a visit on Friday.

PRESS CLIPPINGS

Enclosed are clippings of local and international press on the Special Court and related issues obtained by the Press and Public Affairs Office

as at:

Monday, 22 October 2007

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
Martin Royston-Wright
Ext 7217

International News

Ending Atrocity Requires More Than Punishment / <i>Richmond Times Dispatch</i>	Page 3
CDF: a “Legitimate” Cause / <i>International Justice Tribune</i>	Page 4
Lecture by Prosecutor Stephen Rapp on the Trial of Charles Taylor... / <i>UCLA</i>	Page 5
UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary / <i>UNMIL</i>	Pages 6-8
UN Secretary-General Appoints Sew UN Envoy for Liberia / <i>UNMIL</i>	Page 9
Looting the Poor / <i>Analyst</i>	Page 10
Rwanda Suspect Caught in France / <i>BBC</i>	Page 11

Richmond Times Dispatch

Wednesday, 17 October 2007

Opinion

Ending Atrocity Requires More Than Punishment

Mark A. Drumbl

On Oct. 9, a notorious child-soldier recruiter was finally punished.

Allieu Kondewa was sentenced to eight years in prison by the Special Court for Sierra Leone. The Special Court is a joint initiative between the United Nations and the Sierra Leone government. It prosecutes those most responsible for the bloodbath that plagued the country during the 1990s. Kondewa was convicted of several serious international crimes, including child-soldier enlistment.

Both rebel and government forces used child soldiers in Sierra Leone. Children fought, killed, tortured; they also served as sexual slaves, bush wives, cleaners, bodyguards, scouts, and spies. Many became addicted to drugs. Some were orphaned when leaders murdered their families or got them to murder their own families. That way, the armed forces became their new family.

THE SPECIAL Court has broken new ground in punishing child-soldier crimes. In July 2007, it sentenced three militia leaders to terms of 50, 45, and 50 years for a variety of international crimes, including the use of children under the age of 15 in armed conflict. These were the first child-soldier convictions in international law. Kondewa's sentencing on child-soldier enlistment further embeds the international norm against this practice.

Tragically, this practice remains too common. Children serve as tools of atrocity throughout Africa and its devastating conflicts. The Lord's Resistance Army, a rebel outfit in Uganda, had thousands of child soldiers. The International Criminal Court currently is set to prosecute Thomas Lubanga, a Congolese rebel leader, exclusively on child-soldiering crimes. His trial begins this fall.

Prosecuting and punishing those who recruit child soldiers is welcome. These prosecutions obtain some measure of justice. The Sierra Leone sentences should be applauded. But curbing the plague of child soldiers requires much more than the criminal law can give. It requires preventive measures. These include education, community involvement, health care, and food. When children have access to these essentials, it is more difficult to recruit them into marauding armed groups.

PUNISHING a handful of leaders does little for the child conscripts themselves. These children must be reintegrated into society. This requires extensive therapy, making amends, and forgiveness. Forgiveness is hard to find. And understandably so. After all, these children have committed unspeakable atrocities, often with great glee and sadism. Still, donors should engage with rebuilding efforts. This may mean, in the African context, supporting traditional reintegration rites for demobilized child soldiers.

The best guard against child soldiering lies not in punishing the children or their recruiters after the fact. It lies in empowering children to resist the allure of violence in the first place.

*Mark A. Drumbl is a law professor at Washington and Lee University and the author of *Atrocity, Punishment, and International Law* (Cambridge, 2007).*

International Justice Tribune

Monday, 22 October 2007

CDF: a «legitimate» cause

You committed horrible crimes, but your struggle was legitimate and that makes a difference. That is essentially what the judges of the Special Court for Sierra Leone said on October 9 when they sentenced two leaders of the former Civil Defense Forces (CDF), high priest Allieu Kondewa and war director Moinina Fofana to 7 and 8 years in prison. They had been found guilty of war crimes on August 2 [IJT-73]. This delicate judgment, which was part of the debate during the presidential campaign, gave validity to the notion that fighting for the return to democracy is not the same as fighting against it.

"Lawyers don't like a lot of things that seem important to most people." This teasing remark made by Heather Ryan, lawyer and long-time observer of international courts, undoubtedly captures rather well the reaction that the judges' ruling will provoke in Freetown: repulsion in the small world of in...

 **Purchase this article**

UCLA Asia Institute
Monday, 22 October 2007



Lecture by Prosecutor Stephen Rapp on the Trial of Charles Taylor and the Sierra Leone Civil War

Stephen Rapp, Chief Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, will present a lecture on "The Trial of Charles Taylor and its Impact on International Justice".

Stephen J. Rapp was appointed as the third Prosecutor for the Special Court for Sierra Leone in December 2006 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Special Court for Sierra Leone was established on the basis of a joint agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone concluded in 2002. It is charged with prosecuting those bearing the greatest responsibility for the serious atrocities perpetrated in Sierra Leone since 1996.

Mr. Rapp was previously Chief of Prosecutions at the United Nations-International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) from May 2005. Before that, he served as Senior Trial Attorney of what has been called the "Media Trial," against the principals of RTLM radio and the editor of the Kangura newspaper. In December 2003, the Trial Chamber pronounced each of the defendants guilty of Genocide, Direct and Public Incitement to Commit Genocide, and other crimes. Rapp, the lead prosecutor, became renowned internationally for winning the most controversial case stemming from the Rwandan civil war.

Date: Monday, October 22, 2007

Time: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

UCLA Law School
Room 1347
Los Angeles, CA 90095

Cost: Free to the public.

UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 19 October 2007

[The media summaries and press clips do not necessarily represent the views of UNMIL.]

International Clips on Liberia

10/19/2007 09:01:34

Remarks by the First Lady in a Tribute Speech at Africare Dinner for Her Excellency Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf

WASHINGTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 19, 2007

MRS. BUSH: Thank you, Charlayne. Thank you, everyone. Thank you very, very much, Charlayne. Her Excellency, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President of Liberia, it's great to have this opportunity to be with you. I'm thrilled to have the chance to see you, and I want to wish you and your family, who are all here, a warm welcome to Washington. I also want to recognize the President of Africare, Julius Coles; the Acting Administrator for USAID, Henrietta Fore. Ambassador Mark Dybul, who is the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, is here tonight. Where's Mark? Way over there. Thank you, Mark. (Applause.) Ambassador Jendayi Frazer, the Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs is also here. (Applause.) Members of the diplomatic corps, members of Congress, distinguished guests, over the last three and a half decades; Africare has improved millions of lives across the continent of Africa. Africare programs provide emergency relief and safe drinking water. They feed the hungry. They clean up the natural environment. Your organization supports literacy training, develops civic institutions, and promotes good government. Since 1970, Africare has delivered more than \$675 million in aid to 36 different countries. (Applause.) Africare is one of several relief organizations that make up the RAPIDS consortium. RAPIDS is addressing one of the greatest humanitarian crises of all times, and that's the epidemic of HIV/AIDS. I've seen the benefits of this work first-hand in Zambia's Mututa Memorial Clinic. With support from RAPIDS and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, the clinic helps Zambians live positively with HIV. And as we just saw from the video -- did you all see the video? Okay, then I'll tell you what's going to be in it. (Laughter.) Africare works to improve opportunities for women and girls. Tonight, you're advancing this goal by honoring an outstanding African woman who's a role model for girls everywhere: President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf. (Applause.) President Johnson-Sirleaf is one of the world's most distinguished leaders. She's a respected economist, an accomplished public servant, and an amazing woman. Through her service as a Liberian cabinet minister in the 1970s, as a senior U.N. administrator in the 1990s, and now as her country's President, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf has always been deeply devoted to her nation.

International Clips on West Africa

AP 10/19/2007 04:46:59

Sierra Leone Detainee Released in Texas

MICHELLE ROBERTS

SAN ANTONIO_The wait was excruciating for Samuel Komba Kambo's family. Then, suddenly, he emerged into the alley at dusk behind a downtown detention facility _ and into freedom. Kambo had been jailed for nearly a year as immigration authorities sought to deport him to his native Sierra Leone. U.S. District Judge Xavier Rodriguez ordered immigration officials on Thursday to release him on bond, saying that holding him violated Kambo's constitutional rights. "Look at him! Look at him!" cried Kambo's wife, Hanaan, as their four children, ages 4 to 13, ran to greet their father. A former energy minister in Sierra Leone, Kambo had been detained while fighting accusations related to the killing of counter-revolutionaries in his west African country. An immigration judge found in June that the accusations were unfounded and that Kambo should be allowed to become a permanent U.S. resident, but immigration officials continued to jail him while they appealed.

Local Media – Newspaper

Presidents Sirleaf and Bush Meet in Washington

(National Chronicle, Daily Observer and Public Agenda)

- Correspondents said that President George W. Bush declared that his Government pledged US\$1 million to fight malaria in Liberia as part of its support to the Liberian Government's effort to rebuild the Country's health-care infrastructure.
- Addressing a press conference in Washington following a meeting with the visiting Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President Bush also said that his Government would see Liberia relief of its international debts and succeeds with its education agenda.
- For her part, President Sirleaf thanked the people of the United States for supporting her Government and President Bush for his personal intervention for the extension by 18 months of the Temporary Protective Status for Liberians.

China Agrees to Help Settle Liberia's International Debts

(The News)

- In an interview, Chinese Ambassador Zhou Yuxiao revealed that his Government has consented to use the Country's "Shares" in the World Bank to help settle Liberia's indebtedness with international creditors and in so doing, encouraged other countries to follow suit. The Chinese envoy said that Liberia pleaded with China to help ease its international debt burden of more than US\$3 billion dollars.

Ban Names Danish Diplomat as His New Special Representative to Liberia

(National Chronicle)

- According to *National Chronicle*, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon yesterday named Danish diplomat Margaret Ellen Loj as his new Special Representative to Liberia, replacing Mr. Alan Doss who has been moved to the Democratic of Republic of Congo as Special Representative of the Secretary-General. The new Special Representative is not strange to Liberia because she repeatedly visited Liberia when she headed the headed the UN sanctions committee on Liberia.

Liberian Government Alerts INTERPOL to Arrest Wanted Liberian

(The news)

- Solicitor-General Tiawon Gongole told journalists in Monrovia yesterday that the Liberian Government has alerted Interpol in South Africa to arrest one Melee I.L. Kermue, a Liberian citizen who is wanted in the United States for prosecution. Mr. Kermue who is currently visiting South Africa fled the United States after he and another Liberian allegedly defrauded the American health-care system and engaged in money laundering.

Local Media – Radio Veritas *(News monitored today at 9:45 am)*

Liberians Mourn Dube's Death

- Correspondents said that Liberians joined reggae music lovers to mourn the death of South African reggae singer Lucky Dube who was shot and killed by gunmen in South Africa Thursday. Some of the Liberian mourners suggested the need to set aside a day in Liberia to commemorate Dube's death as he once visited the country during the war and was named as "Tamba", one of the famous traditional names in Liberia.
(Also reported on SKY FM, Truth FM, Star Radio and ELBS)

Presidents Sirleaf and Bush Meet in Washington

(Also reported on SKY FM, Truth FM, Star Radio and ELBS)

Complete versions of the UNMIL International Press Clips, UNMIL Daily Liberian Radio Summary and UNMIL Liberian Newspapers Summary are posted each day on the UNMIL Bulletin Board. If you are unable to access the UNMIL Bulletin Board or would like further information on the content of the summaries, please contact Mr. Weah Karpeh at karpeh@un.org.

Press Release, 19 October 2007

UNMIL/PIO/PR/124

UN Secretary-General appoints new UN Envoy for Liberia

Monrovia, Liberia - United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has announced the appointment of Ellen Margrethe Løj of Denmark as his new Special Representative to Liberia. Ms. Løj replaces Mr. Alan Doss, who becomes the new Secretary-General's Special Representative to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Currently, Denmark's ambassador to the Czech Republic, Ms. Løj has more than 30 years experience in the diplomatic service. She was the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations from 2001 to 2007 and served as a chairperson of the UN Security Council's Sanctions Committee on Liberia. Between 1977 and 1986, she served as Secretary in her country's Permanent Mission to the United Nations and then as Counsellor within the European Commission in Brussels. From 1986 to 1989, she was Head of Department in the Foreign Ministry. In addition, she was State Secretary of the South Group in Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1996 to 2001. Ms. Løj was also her country's ambassador to Israel from 1989 to 1992.



Ellen Margrethe Løj

In addition to her diplomatic appointments, Ms. Løj has since 1998, been on the supervisory board of Scandlines AG and Scandlines, a Danish shipping company. She was a member of the advisory boards of the Industrialization Fund for Developing Countries and the Investment Fund for Central and Eastern Europe.

Born on 17 October 1948 in Gedesby, Denmark, Ms. Løj graduated from the Copenhagen University in 1973 with a Master's degree in political science.

The Analyst (Liberia)

Saturday, 20 October 2007

Excerpt

Looting the Poor

Serving rulers on their way to qualifying for induction into ignoble club

By Antonio Maria Costa - Executive Director- UN Office on Drugs and Crime

Culled from International Herald Tribune

If someone breaks into your house, steals your money, and then lives off your wealth for years after being released, you would be pretty upset. Imagine how the people of Liberia feel. Former President Charles Taylor, who is on trial in The Hague, is alleged to have stashed away more than



\$3 billion of stolen wealth (including blood diamonds) in American, Swiss and other international banks - roughly equivalent to the entire annual gross domestic product of Liberia. You could fill a Corruption Hall of Shame with high-profile kleptocrats who have looted their national treasuries. In the last decade alone, new entrants would include Slobodan Milosevic, Alberto Fujimori and Mobutu Sese Sekou. They join some of the most corrupt leaders of recent history, like Sani Abacha, who stole the equivalent of 2 to 3 percent of Nigeria's GDP for every year he was in

office, or Ferdinand Marcos, who is estimated to have pocketed between \$5 billion and \$10 billion.

-SNIP-

BBC

Friday, 19 October 2007

Rwanda suspect caught in France
A man wanted in connection with Rwanda's 1994 genocide has been arrested in France, Interpol says.

Dominique Ntawukuriryayo, who was detained in the southern French town of Carcassonne, has been charged with genocide by the Rwanda tribunal.

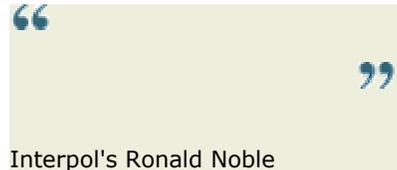
His indictment says he co-ordinated the killing of up to 25,000 Tutsis at Kabuye Hill near Gisagara over a five-day period in April 1994.



Mr Ntawukuriryayo had been in hiding in France

He is the third fugitive wanted by the tribunal to be caught in France.

The other two suspects - Wenceslas Munyeshyaka, a Catholic priest, and Laurent Bucyibaruta, a former government official - who were detained earlier this year have yet to be transferred to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) which sits in Tanzania.



Interpol's Ronald Noble

In September, a Paris appeals court ordered their release, saying the warrants issued by the international tribunal were "invalid". The case is to be reviewed later in the year.

But Interpol Secretary General Ronald Noble said Mr Ntawukuriryayo's arrest served as a warning to other ICTR "fugitives".

"They may believe they have evaded justice, but this is very much not the case," he said.

Mr Ntawukuriryayo, born in 1942, was a sub-prefect in the area of Gisagara at the time of the Kabuye Hill killings.

Since 1997 the tribunal has convicted 28 ringleaders of the genocide and acquitted five people.

Some 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed during the 100-day massacre in 1994.