

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



Carrying
Palm Kernels,
Sierra Leone
Protectorate.

Registered.
Lisk-Carew Brothers, Photo., Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Historic Lisk-Carew Brothers postcard: "Carrying Palm
Kernels, Sierra Leone Protectorate."

PRESS CLIPPINGS

**Enclosed are clippings of local and international press on the Special Court and
related issues obtained by the Outreach and Public Affairs Office
as at:**

Friday, 12 September 2008

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
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Charlestaylortrial.org

Friday, 12 September 2008

Prosecution Begins Examination of 39th Witness TF1-568-Mohamed Bereteh Kabba

Court resumed and prosecution called its 39th witness TF1-568, Mohamed B. Kabba. The witness said he was also called Tourist. Prosecution counsel Mr. Christopher Santora asked the witness several questions about the the start of the rebel war in 1991, recruitment of the witness, various places where he was deployed, and the periods prior to and after the AFRC coup.

The Start of the Rebel War in 1991

Prosecution counsel Mr. Santora asked the witness about the circumstances under which he got into contact with the RUF. The witness explained that he was a teacher in the Kailahun District when the RUF rebels entered the country. The witness said that they were all taken to the barry where the rebels addressed them. The rebels, he said, told them they were freedom fighters and wanted to redeem the country from the APC misrule. He said that the rebels replaced the paramount chief with a new Town Commander. The witness was appointed as deputy town commander. The witness said that they were later taken to Pendembu for training, then moved to Kailahun where they completed their training. The witness said his first assignment after the training was at Manorwa. The witness was made MP adjutant at Manorwa and that he reported directly to Sam Tua. The witness was later sent to Mobai as Target Adjutant.

Witness Becomes Radio Operator

The witness said that he was sent by CO Papa to be trained as a radio operator. This, he said, was in early 1992. The witness said he was later relocated to Pujehun, and then to Koribondo. He said he was sent as one of the RUF delegates to the Abidjan peace talks in 1996. In Abidjan, the witness said that he worked as a radio operator, and updated Fodak Sankoh in Sierra Leone regularly about the peace negotiations. The witness said that he was in Kailahun during the AFRC/RUF junta rule and his appointment there was as Regional Commander in cahрге of Communications.

Killing of Alledged Kamajors in Kailahun

The witness testified about the killing of 60 men, accused of being Kamajors by Sam Bockarie and Issa Sesay. He said that some of these people had joined the kamajor movement at some point but had now become civilians. He said that Sam Bockarie had concerns about spies infiltrating RUF territory. He therefore called all those people in order to vet them and determine those who were kamajors. The witness explained that at some point, Bockarie took five of these alledged Kamajors to the roundabout in the center of Kailahun town. The witness, together with other people pleaded with Bockarie not to kill these men but he shot two of them in everybody's presence and ordered Issa Sesay to execute the remaining three. The witness said that Issa carried out the orders.

The witness broke into tears at this point, when he talked about the death of these individuals.

Star Radio (Liberia)

Wednesday, 10 September 2008

Taylor's lawyer rejects TRC request

Written by Wellington Geevon Smith

The lead lawyer of detained former President Charles Taylor says he will not allow Mr. Taylor to grant audience to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Mr. Courtney Griffiths said if the Liberian government was interested in truth and reconciliation, it would have thought far ahead to realize the role of Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Griffiths said the government should have known it would be a complete waste of time without the former president present to give his account.

According to the lead lawyer, the government must have itself to blame that it is now in this situation, having to beg for audience with their own citizen.

Mr. Griffiths said Liberia should have thought on the need to interview Mr. Taylor before handing him to a foreign government in Sierra Leone.

Mr. Griffiths made the remarks while responding to an official request from the TRC to have an audience with the detained former President.

The lead defense lawyer said he spoke with Mr. Taylor on the request and his reaction is a resounding no to the truth commission.

BBC Online

Thursday, 11 September 2008

ICC appeal for Africa war victims

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has appealed for \$14m (£8m) to help the nearly two million victims of sexual violence in Africa's wars.

The ICC said sex attacks against women and girls had been found to be the most widespread form of criminality.

Rape has become a weapon of war often used to fuel ethnic cleansing, it said.

The ICC said funding was needed for the rehabilitation of victims in northern Uganda, DR Congo, the Central African Republic and Sudan's region of Darfur.

Incomplete justice

South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu said women had become the primary victims of war and civil unrest, and that violence against women was used as a form of ethnic cleansing.

The victims must be taken into account, otherwise justice is incomplete

Simone Veil, TVF chairwoman

"Rape has become, viciously, a weapon of war meant to punish communities," said Mr Tutu, who is one of five directors of the court's Trust Fund for Victims (TVF).

"Our response to gender-based violence has been inadequate," he said at the appeal launch in The Hague.

Denmark announced a \$500,000 donation to start the fund, which will see its money allocated over three years.

The money raised by the global appeal will be in addition to the \$3m earmarked by the ICC for reparations to war victims and community rehabilitation projects.

The fund was set up to help victims of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity that have been referred to the ICC - an independent, permanent war crimes court.

The former French politician Simone Veil, who chairs TVF's board of directors, said: "The victims must be taken into account, otherwise justice is incomplete."

BBC World Service Trust

Thursday, 11 September 2008

Intro and script for September 11th from the Hague Taylor's trial-week four

The cross-examination of the prosecution 38th witness touched her knowledge of her previous testimonies about 50 men she claimed Charles Taylor sent to assist the RUF with the Freetown invasion, money spent on her by the prosecution and the alleged sending of arms to Sierra Leone by Charles Taylor after the Lome Peace Accord. The BBC World Service Trust Mariama Khai Fornah files us this report

The defence team of Charles Taylor on Thursday declared as untrue everything the prosecution 38th witness said on direct examination. The cross-examination was comprehensive touching the witness' memory of what she heard and saw from Sierra Leone to Liberia during the days she was with Sam Bockarie.

The witness in her direct examination this week testified that about 50 Liberian English-speaking men were sent by Charles Taylor to assist the RUF invade Freetown. But during the cross-examination of the witness, Defence Lawyer Morris Anyah said the number was insignificant and untrue taken into cognisance the massive destruction of Freetown and the large number of people that died during the invasion.

Mr. Anyah: As you sit down now does it make sense to you that given the massive scale of the January 6th attack, that Charles Taylor's contribution to the RUF forces would be only 40 to 50 men?

Witness: Well I think it would not be more than that.

Mr. Anyah: But what you know, at least 40 to 50 men, that's what you know about, yes?

Witness: At that time, the group that came from that place, I know about the forty to fifty...

The witness told the prosecution that in 1999 Charles Taylor sent one of his fighters named Jungle with arms to Sierra Leone. But Defence Lawyer, Anyah said Taylor was playing an important role in the Lome Peace Accord, which brought to an end the Sierra Leone Civil war. So for Mr. Taylor to have contributed arms at the same time was not feasible. Mr Anyah quoted a BBC article indicating Taylor's mediatory role. But the witness disagreed.

Mr. Anyah: Madam witness, a few weeks before this time you said Charles Taylor was sending arms, or you imply that Jungle was getting arms from Charles Taylor, to send into Sierra Leone. Charles Taylor was mediating peace between the warring factions in Sierra Leone. Are you aware of that Madam Witness?

Witness: (indistinct) will do that, or even Charles Taylor will do that, making peace between Foday Sankoh and Johnny Paul. And he could still send arms (indistinct) to

Sierra Leone during that time because that was in secret, it was not in public, that whenever he wanted to send arms and ammunition he would announce it on the radio like when he would do when he wanted to make peace between Johnny Paul Koroma and Foday Sankoh. No.

Mr. Anyah also wanted to know whether the witness's willingness to testify in Taylor's trial was influenced by the amount of money given her by the witness and victim section of the Special Court.

Mr. Anyah: Do you see the total of amount of money that this document indicates has been spent on you in ten months? It says twenty million, eight hundred and sixty six thousand, four hundred and fifty leones. Do you agree with that amount Madam Witness?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Anyah: Twenty million in ten months. If you were to times your monthly salary, 250,000 Le, by ten months you would get two million, five hundred Le. Does that sound about right to you Madam Witness?

Witness: Well maybe it would have been more than that.

On Thursday the defence concluded the cross-examination of the prosecution 38th witness by saying that neither Charles Taylor nor Benjamin Yeaten sent men to the Ivory Coast to fight. But the witness refuted that and said the Anti-Terrorist Unit were securities assigned at the Executive Mansion so it was not possible for them to have gone to Ivory Coast without Taylor's approval. The witness constantly complained of illness during her cross-examination on Thursday. The prosecution 39th witness is expected to take the stand on Friday.

For the BBC World Service Trust, this is Mariama Khai Fornah reporting from The Hague.

BBC World Service Trust

Thursday, 11 September 2008

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For the BBC World Service Trust, this is Joseph Cheeseman reporting from The Hague.

United Nations  **Nations Unies**

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

UNMIL Public Information Office Complete Media Summaries
11 September 2008

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

Newspaper Summary

World Bank Report on 'Doing Business' Ranks Liberia High

(Daily Observer, The Inquirer, New Democrat, The Analyst, The News)

- The media reports that President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has welcomed the latest World Bank report on 'Doing Business,' describing the gains as modest but encouraging. The improvement by Liberia in the World Bank ranking, the President said, is a testimony of the progress the country continues to make towards improving the business climate in the country.
- The President acknowledged that there are still challenges which must be overcome to improve the overall performance of doing business in Liberia. According to an Executive Mansion release, President Johnson Sirleaf lauded all agencies of government, headed by the National Investment Commission for the key roles played in providing the leadership to improve the business climate in Liberia.
- In a survey released Wednesday by the World Bank 'Doing Business' Report for 2009, Liberia was listed 157, out of 181 countries surveyed on ease of doing business; a 13-point improvement in doing business in Liberia. In a similar report last year, Liberia came 167 out of 178 countries surveyed in the 'Doing Business' Report. The report also shows Liberia topping the list of countries in Africa in the adoption of reforms.

Policing Crucial to Rule of Law in Liberia - UNDP Boss

(The Informer, Liberian Express, Heritage, The Analyst)

- UNDP Country Director in Liberia, Dominic Sam has stressed the importance of providing the National Police (LNP) with all the resources necessary to enforce the rule of law.
- Speaking during the hand-over of a newly-constructed Tubmanburg Police Station, Mr. Sam said as police stations are built there was a need focus on other demands, such as the cost associated with running them.
- "We also need to think about supporting continuous training and provision of essential logistics to enable the LNP carry out its statutory responsibilities successfully," Mr. Sam added.
- The new police station, which was funded by Norway with backing from UNDP and the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), contains a women and children protection unit, with tackling rape in particular tasked as well as other forms of gender-based violence.
- Also speaking at the hand-over ceremony, the Acting Commissioner of UN Police, Ibrahim Idris said Norway's contribution has proved instrumental in encouraging the expansion of the Women and Children Protection programmes in 21 locations throughout Liberia.

Supreme Court Places “Stay Order” on Murder Case Involving Senator Kaine

(The Inquirer, New Democrat, The News, Heritage)

- Chamber Justice, Jamestta Wolokoie has ordered a halt to the murder case involving Margibi Senator, Roland Kaine and 15 others. The stay order followed a certiorari petition filed by the prosecution against the recent ruling of Criminal Court “B”.
- In a 13 count petition, the state argued that Korboi Nuta issued out an assignment in the case less than a week after the case was transferred to the first Judicial Circuit Court in Monrovia contending that the County Attorney was still in the process of reviewing the evidence and making efforts to contact witnesses.
- The court had earlier dismissed a request for a postponement of the case to the November term of court. The State wanted the murder trial delayed to enable prosecution lawyers handle cases already on the trial docket but Defense lawyers resisted the request describing it as an improperly filed continuance.

Monrovia Forum Calls for Strategic Partnerships on Decent Work in Africa

(The Informer, The Analyst, Liberian Express)

- High-level participants at the Monrovia international workshop today called for practical strategic partnerships between African countries, tripartite constituents, civil society organizations and development partners to make Decent Work a “reality in Africa”.
- “It is my hope that decent work, as a concept will become a visible reality” in Liberia and Africa, said Liberian President H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf in her keynote address during the two-day workshop organized by the Ministry of Labour of Liberia, in partnership with the international organization “Realizing Rights (RR): The Ethical Globalization Initiative” and the International Labour Organization (ILO).
- The Monrovia High Level Forum covered a wide range of topics including the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for Fair Globalization, plus renewed efforts toward Decent Work in Africa to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDG).
- The High Level Forum was preceded last week by an international conference in Oslo (Norway) on “Decent Work – a Key to Social Justice for a Fair Globalization” designed to build coherence between trade and employment opportunities. The Monrovia workshop was built on existing sources including the commitment framework from the 2004 African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation and the follow-up given at the 2007 ILO African Regional Meeting in Addis Ababa, the employment program design for Liberia presented to Development Partners at the June 2008 Liberia Poverty reduction Forum in Berlin and the lessons learned from existing Decent Work programs in other countries in the region.

Radio Summary

Star Radio *(News monitored today at 8:00 am)*

UN Envoy Urges Security Council to Recommit to Liberia's Peace-building Process

- Briefing the UN Security Council on the 17th Progress Report on UNMIL, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to Liberia, Ms. Ellen Løj, warned that despite significant progress made in Liberia, much needs to be done to deliver the peace to the ordinary people.
- SRSG Løj observed that progress had been made in strengthening and rebuilding security institutions and that effort are ongoing to turn the Liberian National Police into a fully independent and operational institution.
- She said a long-term strategic plan for the police force has been set in motion and that capacity-building initiatives have been put in place aimed at tackling systemic logistical and management challenges for the force.
- The SRSG however said more needs to be done to establish effective judicial and correctional institutions, saying limitations in these institutions result in widespread public frustration leading to use extra-judicial measures, including mob violence.

(Also reported on Truth F.M. and ELBC)

Detained Former President Taylor's Lawyer Rejects TRC Request

- The lead lawyer of detained former President Charles Taylor says he will not allow Mr. Taylor to grant audience to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Liberia.
- Mr. Courtney Griffiths said if the Liberian government was interested in truth and reconciliation, it would have thought far ahead to realize the role of Mr. Taylor.
- Mr. Griffith's remark is in apparent reaction to an official request from the TRC to have an audience with the detained former President.
- The lead Defense lawyer said he spoke with Mr. Taylor on the request and his reaction is a resounding 'no' to the truth commission.

(Also reported on Truth F.M. and ELBC)

Criminal Court "C" Confirms Receipt of State Motion in US\$500M Cocaine Case

- Criminal Court "C" has confirmed receipt of a State motion to advance the US\$500 million cocaine case on the trial docket.
- The Prosecution filed the advancement motion after defense lawyers resisted the start of the case claiming it was not docketed and its trial would have violated the statute.
- Judge Emmanuel Kollie granted the defense resistance motion.
- The case involves nine Ghanaians arrested with 92 barrels of cocaine on board a vessel called the Blue Atlantic.

High Court Halts Murder Case involving Senator Kaine

(Also reported on Truth F.M. and ELBC)
