

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



Get an inside view of last Thursday's 'Rule of Law' Outreach  
in today's *'Special Court Supplement'*.

**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:**

Tuesday, 13 October 2009

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

### International News

UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary / <i>UNMIL</i>	Pages 3-7
Liberians Gripped by Taylor Trial / <i>International Justice Tribune</i>	Pages 8-9
Ten Striking Similarities Between Charles Taylor and Prez Sirleaf / <i>The Liberian Journal</i>	Pages 10-11
Khmer Rouge Lawyer Demands Judge's Disqualification in Cambodia / <i>Agence Frances Presses</i>	Pages 12-13
Nazi War Crime Suspect Loses Latest Australia Extradition Battle / <i>Radio Netherlands Worldwide</i>	Page 14

### Special Court Supplement

'Rule of Law' Outreach in Lungi, in Pictures	Pages 15-16
--	-------------

United Nations  Nations Unies

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

---

## UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 12 October 2009

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

### **International Clips on Liberia**

#### **Canadian Foundation Injects Millions in Health and Environment**

Oct 12, 2009 (New Democrat/All Africa Global Media via COMTEX) -- A Canadian formed organization, McCall MacBain Foundation, has declared its interest in Liberia, pumping over USD14 million into the country's health, education and energy sectors. Speaking to journalists Tuesday in Monrovia, Mr. John McCall, spearheading the ventures, said the Foundation's activities here are designed to invest in programs with long-term vision and positive impact that will increase local capacity. In the health sector, he said his group intends to prevent malaria, malnutrition, the transmission of HIV AIDS from mother to child, and other diseases. Within the spheres of the environment and energy, Mr. McCall indicated that they have entered the stock market, venturing with the Buchanan Renewable to construct a 35 mega watt power plant in Kakata that will provide electrify to Monrovia within the first three months in 2011.

#### **250 more Bangladeshi policemen to join UN peacekeeping mission**

DHAKA, Oct 12, 2009 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- A total of 250 Bangladeshi policemen are expected to leave the country Monday night for joining the United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping Mission in Ivory Coast, national news agency BSS reported. The two units, led by Police Super Barrister M Zillur Raman and Kaimuzzaman, will leave by a UN-chartered plane. The demand and acceptability of Bangladesh Police in the UN missions are gradually increasing day by day for their professionalism and efficiency. A total of 1,772 police personnel have been working in UN missions in different countries. Bangladesh Police is the top contributing organization in the UN peacekeeping missions for the last two years. Ten Formed Police Units have been working in different strife- torn countries. The members of Bangladesh police have been working in Congo, East Timor, Ivory Cost, Afghanistan, Liberia and Sudan.

### **International Clips on West Africa**

#### **Guinea**

#### **W. Africa's ECOWAS to meet on Guinea, Niger concerns**

ABUJA, Oct 12 (Reuters) - West African trade group ECOWAS called on Monday for a summit of heads of state this week to seek ways to resolve political conflicts in Guinea and Niger, which Nigeria's president warned could destabilise the region. Nigeria's leader Umaru Yar'Adua said the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) would meet on Thursday in Nigeria's capital Abuja to discuss the two issues. "The actions of the military leaders in Guinea are contrary to all agreements reached, while my brother in Niger has continued to take steps which are sending wrong signals to the whole world," said Yar'Adua, who also holds the rotating chairmanship of ECOWAS.

## Guineans in post-massacre protest

CONAKRY, Oct 12, 2009 (AFP) -

Shops, markets and offices were closed Monday in Conakry and other cities after labour unions called on residents to stay home in protest at the September 28 massacre which killed at least 150 people. Little traffic ventured onto the streets of Guinea's capital two weeks after elite troops opened fire on thousands of demonstrators protesting military rule. Banks and service stations were also shut in Conakry. The union call received strong backing in the southeastern town of Kissidougou. Local trader Sall Mamadou Lamarana told AFP by telephone there was "no activity" in the main market. "All the shops, as well as the banks, have shut down, and the bus station as well," he said. In northwestern Boke, "there is no activity at the market. People have been praying in the courtyards, and youth clubs," schoolteacher Sine Magassouba said by phone. In a statement issued last week, the main union federation called on people to observe a "day of prayer", urging them to "kneel piously before the mortal remains of the ... martyrs for democracy in Guinea," killed when soldiers opened fire on the protest in a football stadium.

## Sierra Leone

### Sierra Leone: Problems over Rights to Drilling Base as Oil is Discovered in

Oct 12, 2009 (MENA News from Al-Bawaba via COMTEX) -- Sierra Leone's Minister of Mines and Political Affairs, Alhaji Alpha Kanu has disclosed that there is plenty of oil in Sierra Leone that would serve the needs of the people of Sierra Leone. Hon Kanu spoke on Thursday October 8th at a regular news briefing held by the Ministry of Information and Communication. Sierra Leone is known for its potential in mineral resources like diamond, gold and bauxite, and the latest reports about oil discovery in the country is seen as good news for the socio-economic development of the country. However, diamond accounted largely for the country's decade long civil war that saw the destruction of lives and property, and the maiming of innocent people. Over forty thousand Sierra Leoneans were killed during the country's civil war. Speaking to news men in central Freetown, Sierra Leone's capital, Hon Alpha Kanu said only one well has so far been dug but that its content indicate, the country has oil. The discovery of oil in Sierra Leone, Kanu said has helped in the upper bracket of a rich identity that should put us all above petty squabbles in the national interest. Oil has also been a major source of conflict in countries like Nigeria in the West African region and the Arab world.

## Ivory Coast

### Bangladesh earns over 1.29-bln-USD from UN peacekeeping

DHAKA, Oct 12, 2009 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Bangladesh earned more than 90.6 billion taka (about 1.29 billion U.S. dollars) from UN peacekeeping jobs in the last 2008-09 fiscal year (July 2008-June 2009); Foreign Minister Dipu Moni told the parliament Monday. Presently Bangladeshi blue helmets are engaged in 12 peacekeeping missions in 11 countries. The countries are: Ivory Coast, Liberia, Sudan, Congo, West Sahara, Timor, Georgia, Chad, Burundi, Afghanistan and West Africa. Presently, around 10,000 Bangladeshi troops and 1,500 policemen are engaged in different peacekeeping missions around the world. Bangladesh has been doing the job since 1988 and so far contributed over 80,000 soldiers and policemen. Bangladesh is now the second largest UN peace troop contributor after Pakistan.

## Local Media – Newspaper

### UN Envoy Pledges UN's Full Engagement with LINSU

(The Informer, The Monitor, Liberian Express Public Agenda, New Vision, Heritage)

- United Nations Envoy Ellen Margrethe Løj has pledged the full engagement of the UN family with the Liberia National Student Union (LINSU).
- She said the UN will look forward to cooperating with LINSU to bring the inclusive working agenda forward for the development of Liberia and its youth.
- She told the leadership of LINSU to decentralize their activities to ensure it is inclusive of all students in Liberia. Madam Løj who met the leadership of the Union at UNMIL's Headquarters also challenged them to demonstrate respect for diversity.
- She pointed out that the new leadership was emerging at a critical point in Liberia's political history, after being dormant for 22 years.
- LINSU President, Kwame Ross praised the efforts of UNMIL and appealed for logistical support for his organization.

### **UNMIL Sharpens Editors' Skills**

(The Informer)

- Senior editors of mainstream newspapers in the country have ended a three-day intensive Editors' Coaching Gym in Monrovia.
- The gym took place at the compound of the Liberia Broadcasting System from October 9-10, 2009.
- The gym organized by the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) focused on building the skills of newspaper editors and proofreaders, ensuring their growth and helping to build confidence.
- The key facilitator, Professor James Wolo of UNMIL said print media editors are very important in the communication landscape of post war Liberia and needed to be au courant with current trend in editing that meets international standards.

### **UNHCR Assists Liberian Returnees**

(The Analyst)

- The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) Liberia Thursday October 8, 2009 received 44 returnee families (137 persons) from the Ivory Coast through the Toe Town Border in Grand Gedeh County.
- The Liberian returnees were transported by UNHCR Ivory Coast from to their final destinations in Montserrado, Grand Gedeh, Nimba, Sinoe and River Gee counties.
- Upon arrival at their final designations, UNHCR Liberia provided Secondary Transportation Allowance (STA) to each individual including Voluntary Repatriation grants.

### **President Sirleaf welcomes TRC debate**

(Daily Observer, The Analyst)

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has welcomed the debate among Liberians at home and abroad regarding the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).
- Presidential Press Secretary Cyrus Badio recently indicated that the President cannot implement any document that violates the constitution making reference to the 30-year ban.
- President Sirleaf in a release encouraged Liberians to fully discuss the issue with their lawmakers now on agriculture break to have a clear understanding of all the issues at stake to ensure an informed decision is reached for the nation and its people.
- She praised the Liberia Council of Churches, the National Legislature and other interest groups for their involvement in the process.

### **PUL Adopts New Constitution**

(Liberian Express, The Inquirer)

- The Press Union of Liberia (PUL) has finally adopted a new constitution that gives the body trade union status and leadership tenure of three years other than two.
- The adoption of the constitution was part of the Union 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in Gbarnga, Bong County but the process failed to go ahead.

- PUL President Peter Quaqua described the process as participatory and successful. He said the Union is now considering engaging media employers about developing a collective bargaining agreement to safeguard the interest of media workers.
- Mr. Quaqua noted that the new PUL constitution addresses present day challenges surrounding the media.

### **BY-Election Civil Education Launched**

(Daily Observer)

- The National Elections Commission (NEC) Friday October 9, 2009 officially launched the civic-voter education campaign for the upcoming Montserrado senatorial by-election.
- The campaign is to educate voters on the electoral and voting process that is to take place Tuesday, November 10, 2009.
- NEC Chairman James Fromoyan said the voter education will help attract more people to come out to the poll and vote.
- He called on all stakeholders, especially political parties and civil society organizations to fully participate in the electoral process to make it success.

### **LACC Differs with Executive Mansion on Assets Declaration**

(Public Agenda, The Analyst)

- The Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) has registered its disappointment over the manner in which the Executive Mansion is attempting to interfere with the function of the Commission.
- The Executive Chairperson of the Commission, Cllr. Frances Johnson Morris recently alarmed about the level of non-compliance by public officials with simple but necessary anti-corruption measure, which she stressed was worrisome and speaks volumes about the seriousness and commitment of the Liberian Government to the principle of transparency and accountability designed to fight corruption in public service.
- The Executive Mansion issued a press statement and extended the already expired September 30 deadline to December 2009.

### **Several Lives Lost in Fatal Accidents**

(Daily Observer, The Informer, National Chronicle, New Vision, The Inquirer)

- Seven persons including three students of the Salvation Army School System were Sunday killed in a fatal motor accident on the Tubman Boulevard near the Monrovia City Hall.
- The three students witnesses said had just returned from church service when they met their deaths.
- The accident occurred when an Isuzu Trooper Jeep heading from central Monrovia lost control and ran into a group of persons sitting few yards away from the main road.
- The witnesses said the Isuzu jeep driver and two other occupants believed to have been under the influence of alcohol jumped out of the car and fled the scene.
- In a related development, at least three persons were Saturday killed and several others rushed to hospital during a fatal motor accident on the Kakata Highway.

**Local Media – Radio Veritas** (*culled from website today at 09:45 am*)

### **Several Lives Lost in Fatal Accidents**

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

#### **Cape Mountaineers set for Demonstration if.....**

- Citizens of Grand Cape Mount County have threatened to stage a demonstration if President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf fails to heed their call to suspend the county's superintendent.
- The Grand Cape Mount citizens say they will prevent Superintendent Christiana Khasu from carry out her official duties if she is not suspended pending investigation into the over US\$62,000.00 that was allegedly siphoned from the county's development funds.

- They are also calling for a speedy investigation in to the saga, adding that if nothing is done to curtail the act, it will continue unabated.
- Meanwhile, the citizens at a Sunday meeting in Garwula District, Grand Cape Mount County commended President Sirleaf for the recent dismissal of the county's development superintendent.

### **Opposition Parties Register Confidence in NEC Commissioners**

- Opposition political parties in the country say despite calls by the Liberty Party for a change in the leadership of the National Elections Commission, NEC, they still have confident in its board of commissioners.
- The political parties' assertion was contained in a statement delivered on their behalf by the Chairman of the Free Democratic Party of Liberia, Siafa Gbollie.
- He delivered the statement over the weekend when the Commission launched its civic education campaign ahead of the November 10 Montserrado senatorial by-election.
- In a related development, the International Foundation for Elections System, IFES says the NEC deserves additional assistance from the international community.
- IFES said since the 2005 national elections, the Commission's performance has been impressive.

*(Also reported on Sky F.M., Truth F.M. and ELBC)*

### **Truth FM** *(News culled from website today at 10:00am)*

#### **President Sirleaf welcomes TRC debate PUL Adopts New Constitution**

*(Also reported on Sky F.M., Truth F.M. and ELBC)*

\*\*\*\*

## International Justice Tribune

Wednesday, 30 September 2009

### Liberians gripped by Taylor trial

*By John Kollie, Monrovia*



*The Hague, Netherlands*

The appearance of former Liberian president Charles Taylor before the United Nations backed Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) in The Hague is generating huge interest and excitement in his home country.

Taylor's allegations regarding the involvement of current Liberian leaders in the instigation of the country's civil war have garnered the former president strong support across the nation.

Liberians monitor the trial through daily BBC updates syndicated to 20 Liberian broadcasters and a myriad of pro-Taylor support groups have formed since his arrest.

Discussions about Taylor's prosecution are also held on university campuses and street corners around the country, most of which condemn the trial as a witch-hunt by Western powers.

Taylor's proponents also accuse current Liberian president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of abandoning her predecessor and handing him over to the SCSL in order to humiliate him. Eric Kennedy, a leading member of the Friends of Taylor, maintains that Sirleaf orchestrated his arrest. John T. Richardson, head of the Association for the Legal Defense of Charles Taylor has called it "an unpatriotic act by a sitting president".

#### **Sirleaf was "prime supporter"**

In turn, Taylor's testimony about Sirleaf's involvement in the civil war has buoyed his supporters even further.

During his testimony, Taylor has alleged that Sirleaf supported his declaration of war on Liberia in 1989 and has called her "the prime supporter of my military adventurism in this country" - an allegation that has been partly confirmed by the findings of Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

TRC Chairman Jerome Verdier has told several radio and TV talk shows that his commission's findings are well substantiated and that the President's involvement in the brutal civil war in Liberia was confirmed by many witnesses who appeared before the TRC earlier this year.

Issued in July 2009, the TRC final report included President Johnson-Sirleaf in a list of 50 people who should be "barred from holding public office" for "being associated with former warring factions".

Taylor's supporters argue that Sirleaf should not have turned him over for trial since she was herself involved in the violence in the West African sub-region.

Taylor's family and members of his former regime are also standing behind him. His ex-wife and current member of Liberia's parliament, Jewel Howard Taylor; former Taylor political party Chairman Cyril Allen; and former Maritime Shipping Agency chief, Benoni Urey, are all speaking out in his support and regularly condemn the government for having turned him over for trial.

The government, however, denies any hand in the trial and points to the fact that Taylor is charged with crimes committed in neighbouring Sierra Leone.

Liberia's Minister of Information, Dr. Lawrence Bropleh, has dismissed the allegations as a ploy by former Taylor officials to undermine the Sirleaf government.

But the excitement that the trial is generating in Liberia is worrisome. Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia had a huge following amongst the country's youth, who make up around 40% of the population.

Given the still fragile nature of Liberia's post-war peace and the increasing divisions between Taylor and Sirleaf supporters, Taylor's growing popularity could have serious consequences for the country.

## The Liberian Journal

Monday, 12 October 2009

### Ten Striking Similarities Between Charles Taylor and Prez Sirleaf (Guest Commentary)



**Paul Jackson**

1. Both seriously suffer from a messiah complex-One is a grandma, I mean, "child" who believes she's "great", - the other, a paranoid schizophrenic and self-styled liberator who, despite his current incarceration, is still dreaming of his triumphant return to Liberia.
2. They are both egomaniacs-Prez Sirleaf's "legacy" is more important to her than the future of Liberia, and former President Taylor's libido and childish bravado reigned supreme over the welfare of Liberia, back in the days when "Ghankay was Ghankay".
3. They both are very nepotistic- they will hire any jackass to serious government position; you just need be a relative or bear one of those fanciful names that bring back memories of those good old days. Just ask Urey, Chenoweth, Jenny and Estrada Bernard, Richard Tolbert, and the list goes on....
4. They both "major in the minors"-wearing flashing African attires, hosting and attending lavish parties for foreign dignitaries, and paying attention to other ancillary duties that have no significance to the presidency.
5. They both have a crush on Mommar Gaddafi-never mind Gaddafi's antipathy towards democratic principles; Ellen is ready to make him Prime Minister of Africa. As for Ghangkay, he was always sucking up to the old man for arms and ammunition.
6. They constantly seek validation for all the wrong reasons-From Prez Sirleaf gowning John Stewart of the Daily Show, for giving her audience on his nightly television gig, to Charles Taylor worshipping and bribing Reverend Pat Robertson to put in a good word on his behalf to President Bush and the Republican leadership.
7. They both talk a big game, but like the ostentatious "one-minute man", cannot rock the boat when push comes to shove-Liberia under Prez Sirleaf is still economically at Taylor's baseline; These two lack initiative, don't know how to reward innovation. They know how to rely 100% prime time on foreign institutions for everything.
8. They both hate dissent-Under Taylor, dissenters were "tiebay" flogged, maimed, and sometimes killed. Under President Sirleaf, you get pencil whipped, transferred, or fired for any reason/s.

9. They both know how to champion corruption-Prez Sirleaf pretends she doesn't know or she's not involved in the many financial malpractices taking place under her nose; instead of penalizing corrupt officials, she recycles them from one agency to another. Charles Taylor on the other hand just didn't think it was wrong to dish up money from national coffers to support his and his relatives' licentious lifestyle.

10 .They both still can't fully accept their role in the carnage they started in 1990. Prez Sirleaf continues to express bias remorse for the role she played and keeps using hindsight or lack thereof to justify her collaboration with Charles Taylor. Taylor on the other hand, believes he was fulfilling a manifest destiny and up to this moment, still believes he did nothing wrong. Never mind the thousands of lives that were lost.

Agence Frances Presses

Friday, 9 October 2009

## **Khmer Rouge lawyer demands judge's disqualification in Cambodia**

By International Justice Desk



*Phnom Penh, Cambodia*

The lawyer for a former Khmer Rouge leader on Friday filed a demand that the French investigating judge be disqualified from Cambodia's UN-backed war crimes court for alleged bias.

Michael Karnavas, attorney for ex-Khmer Rouge foreign minister Ieng Sary, said the motion was based on allegations that Marcel Lemonde told subordinates to favour evidence showing suspects' guilt over evidence of their innocence.

The tribunal - the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) was set up to bring to justice the leaders of the genocidal late 1970s Khmer Rouge regime.

Karnavas said Lemonde was "giving instructions to his investigators to game the process. In other words, to look primarily for evidence that supports the prosecution".

The lawyer said he submitted his complaint based on a statement made by the former head of Lemonde's intelligence and analysis team, Wayne Bastin, at an Australian police station on Thursday.

A copy of the statement obtained by AFP said Lemonde shocked subordinates in a meeting at his Phnom Penh home in August when he told them, "I would prefer that we find more inculpatory evidence than exculpatory evidence".

Under the Khmer Rouge court's regulations, investigating judges are required to be impartial while researching allegations made by prosecutors. Defence teams are not permitted to make their own investigations.

"How is it that (Lemonde) can remain in the position in light of what we know now?" Karnavas said, adding that such behaviour was "outrageous".

Speaking on Lemonde's behalf, tribunal spokesman Lars Olsen said he had no comment on the issue. Lemonde is currently investigating the court's second case, against Ieng Sary and his wife, former minister of social affairs Ieng Thirith, as well as Khmer Rouge ideologue Nuon Chea and ex-head of state Khieu Samphan.

Heather Ryan, who monitors the court for the Open Society Justice Initiative, told AFP that the defence would probably need to demonstrate systemic bias for Lemonde to lose his job.

"An off the cuff remark made in private -- like what was quoted -- may not be significant," Ryan said. Under the court's internal rules, Lemonde's previous work on investigations remains valid even if he is disqualified from the tribunal.

Lemonde also met controversy earlier this week when it was revealed he summoned six top government and legislative officials to testify against Khmer Rouge leaders, a move opposed by Prime Minister Hun Sen's administration.

Final arguments in the court's first trial of prison chief Kaing Guek Eav, known by the alias Duch, are scheduled for late next month.

But the tribunal, created in 2006 after several years of haggling between Cambodia and the UN, has faced accusations of political interference and allegations that local staff were forced to pay kickbacks for their jobs.

Led by Pol Pot, who died in 1998, the Khmer Rouge emptied Cambodia's cities in a bid to forge a communist utopia between 1975-79, resulting in the deaths of up to two million people from starvation, overwork and torture.

(Source AFP)

## Radio Netherlands Worldwide

Thursday, 8 October 2009

### Nazi war crime suspect loses latest Australia extradition battle

By International Justice Desk



*Perth, Australia*

An 88-year-old alleged Nazi war criminal accused of murdering a young Jewish man in World War 2 on Thursday failed in his latest bid to escape extradition from Australia to Hungary.

Charles Zentai is accused of beating to death teenager Peter Balazs in 1944 in Budapest while serving as a soldier in the army of his native Hungary, which at the time was allied with Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany.

#### Challenges

Zentai, who denies the charges, was last year found eligible for extradition, but has mounted a series of challenges to the decision. In his latest challenge, he appealed to the full bench of the Federal Court, arguing the crime was not an offence when it was allegedly committed. The court ruled against Zentai, but granted him a stay of 14 days on the execution of the extradition warrant.

Zentai's son, Ernie Steiner declared his father's innocence and said the family would consider its options in the next fortnight. "We're leaving all options open at the moment, because we haven't read the full extent of the judgment. There may be things in there that are worth pursuing," he told reporters outside the court.

#### Appeal options

Zentai still has the option of applying to the Australian High Court for leave to appeal, and Attorney-General Robert McClelland will have the final say on whether to extradite him. Zentai's son said his father's best hope of avoiding extradition may be McClelland as the cost of appealing to the high court was enormous. He defended his father against the accusations, saying he believed him to be innocent and that Zentai had never had the chance to present arguments in his defence in court.

The allegations against Zentai have been brought by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, the Jewish human rights organisation known for tracking down alleged Nazi war criminals. Zentai, who migrated to Australia after the war, was living quietly in the western Australian city of Perth before the Hungarian government began extradition proceedings in March 2005.

Source: AFA

Photo: Flickr/ Marshall Astor

# Special Court Supplement 'Rule of Law' Outreach in Lungi Thursday, 8 October 2009



