

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



**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, 18 June 2010

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.  
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact  
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Premiere News  
Friday, 18 June 2010

# Charles Taylor's Trial

## Witness Testifies On RUF Recruitment In Liberia

By Alpha Sesay

**A** woman who helped top Sierra Leonean rebels recruit and train fighters in Liberia in the early 1990s on Wednesday said that Charles Taylor was not involved in that effort as far as she knew. Her testimony contradicts prosecution allegations that the former Liberian President backed rebel forces as they planned to invade Sierra Leone in 1991.

Isatu Kallon, known as "Mammie Iye" said she helped top rebel leader, Foday Sankoh of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) in his drive to enlist and train rebel forces, but not once did he or other top rebel commanders hint at Mr. Taylor's involvement in their efforts.

Prosecutors, meanwhile, have alleged that the RUF rebels received substantial support from Mr. Taylor in recruiting and training fighters for the invasion of Sierra Leone after his National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) rebel group attacked Liberia in 1989. Mr. Taylor has denied these allegations, telling the court that he had no knowledge that RUF rebels were being recruited and trained in Liberia.

"Madam Kallon, that meeting that Pa Morlai [another name for Foday Sankoh] held in your house, do you know whether during the course of that meeting, the name Charles Taylor was ever mentioned?" asked Morris Anyah, defense counsel for Charles Taylor.

"At that time, no," Mrs. Kallon responded.

Mr. Anyah also asked the witness about her conversation with another senior RUF member, Philip Palmer, whom she said was transporting Sierra Leonean volunteers for training to a place called 'Sokoto' at Camp Naama in Liberia after they had been freed from the hands of NPFL rebels.

"When Palmer came with the truck and the volunteers entered the truck, and when Palmer came back two days after, during that two day period, did you ever hear Palmer mention the name Charles Taylor?" Mr. Anyah asked.

"No," the witness said.

"When Palmer spoke of this place 'Sokoto' and he

mentioned that it was somewhere near Naama, during that conversation with him, did the name Charles Taylor come up?" Mr. Anyah asked.

"No," Mrs. Kallon said.

Mrs. Kallon went on to tell the Special Court for Sierra Leone that when Mr. Taylor's rebel forces the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) attacked Liberia in 1989, Sierra Leonean rebels in that group were harassed until they were rescued by RUF leader Mr. Sankoh. These Sierra Leonean nationals came to like Mr. Sankoh since he had saved their lives.

"There was too much harassment, so when Pa Sankoh came, he was able to stop that so they liked him," Mrs. Kallon said.

Mrs. Kallon added that "he Sankoh sympathized with the people for the harassment. He told them not to blame the NPFL fighters but to blame our government because the government should have rescued us."

On some occasions, Mrs. Kallon said that she also helped Mr. Sankoh to rescue Sierra Leonean nationals who were later recruited into the RUF.

Mrs. Kallon told the court that she used to provide food and soap for the RUF rebels while they underwent training at Sokoto in Camp Naama. She said Mr. Sankoh used to give her money to provide those services to the RUF but the money was never enough and so she had to use her own resources to provide enough food for the trainees.

Asked how she got extra money to provide these services to the RUF, Mrs. Kallon said that "through the business that I was doing." She said that her husband also used to help with some money.

Asked whether she knew of any other people who provided such assistance to the RUF rebels, the witness said that "I know about myself but the area was so big, I did not go to the other places. I only know about myself and my husband."



According to the witness, when she visited the scene to have a first hand look at the people she was providing support for, she found out that the RUF recruits were being trained in a valley at Camp Naama. The NPFL fighters, she said were being trained on a hill at the same Camp Naama.

When asked by Mr. Anyah whether the NPFL fighters ever interacted with the RUF recruits, the witness said that "the time that I went there, no."

The witness said she also realized that the gate to Sokoto where the RUF rebels were being trained was always closed. She said she asked Mr. Sankoh why the gate was not open.

"He said his ideology that he gave his boys, he did not want them to mingle with the NPFL," said told the court. The witness said she could not tell what such ideology was.

Mrs. Kallon's testimony continues.

## New Vision

Friday, 18 June 2010

### ICC Member States Agree on Definition of Aggression

By Abimbola Akosile

Member States of the International Criminal Court (ICC), including Nigeria, have agreed on what constitutes the crime of aggression, a long-running source of contention in international law, after nearly one decade of discussion.

Nations agreed to amend the Rome Statute, which set up the Court, to define the crime of aggression as "the planning, preparation, initiation or execution, by a person in a position effectively to exercise control over or to direct the political or military action of a State, of an act of aggression which, by its character, gravity and scale, constitutes a manifest violation of the Charter of the United Nations." Under the resolution adopted at the end of the two-week-long ICC review conference in Kampala, Uganda last weekend, blockades of ports or coasts of a State by armed forces of another State, as well as an invasion or attack by troops of one State on the territory of another, are considered as acts of aggression under the statute.

Nations agreed that the ICC can exercise jurisdiction over crimes of aggression, but only over those committed one year after 30 States Parties have ratified the newly-made amendment. This will not happen until at least 2017, when States meet against to review the amendment, according to the new resolution adopted in the Ugandan capital.

It also noted that if the ICC Prosecutor wishes to move forward with an investigation of possible cases, he or she will take the case to the Security Council. Once that body has determined that an act of aggression has taken place, the Prosecutor will move forward with a probe, a UN statement revealed.

In a statement issued by his spokesperson, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, welcomed what he described as "the historic agreement" on the definition of aggression. "The compromise text is a significant step forward in the fight against impunity and towards an age of accountability," the statement noted.

The Rome Statute, adopted in 1998, included the crime of aggression - along with genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes - as the four categories of crimes over which it has jurisdiction. But it said the ICC could not exercise its rights in that area until a definition had been agreed upon.

So far 111 countries have become parties to the Statute, while 37 others have signed but not yet ratified it. But some of the world's largest and most powerful countries, including China, India, Russia and the United States, have not joined.

At the start of the Kampala conference, Mr. Ban underlined that a new "age of accountability" is replacing the "old era of impunity." The ICC, he said, is now "permanent, increasingly powerful, casting a long shadow. There is no going back."

In this new age, those committing the worst of human crimes - be they rank-and-file soldiers or top political leaders - "will be held responsible," Mr. Ban emphasised.

Former Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic, and former Liberian leader, Charles Taylor, are among those who have already been called to justice. "Not long ago," he said, "this would have been unimaginable."

But for the ICC to have the reach it needs, it must have universal support. "Only then will perpetrators have no place to hide," the Secretary-General said

## BBC World Service Trust

Thursday, 17 June 2010

### June 17, 2010 Script

#### Cue

**Proceedings at the Special Court for Sierra Leone in The Hague started Thursday morning with an argument between the Defence Team and the tough talking Presiding Judge, Julia Sebutinde about the new sitting schedule of the court. After the argument, a Sierra Leonean Defence Witness testifying in The Hague told the court that the West African Peacekeeping, ECOMOG did not only keep peace in Liberia, but also engaged in wide-ranging business transactions with the locals. Joseph Cheeseman reports.**

The argument between the Presiding Judge and Lead Defence Lawyer, Courtenay Griffiths arose when Mr. Griffiths announced a change of mind about the court's new sitting schedule.

Defence Lawyer, Courtenay Griffiths who had earlier proposed that the court change its sitting schedule from 9:30 a.m to 9a.m, called on the Judges today to revert to 9:30a.m.

Mr. Griffiths said 9a.m was too early for their Client, Charles Taylor, the Defence Lawyers, the witnesses and the court transcribers.

The Lead Defence Counsel told the Judges to disregard a memorandum from the Court's Registrar concerning the change in schedule.

This change of mind on the part of Mr. Griffiths provoked a robust response from Presiding Judge, Julia Sebutinde.

JUSTICE SEBUTINDE: Mr. Griffiths, frankly I personally must express surprise at this kind of application for a number of reasons. I don't think an order...the Registrar is the one responsible for the Court reporters as a unit, not the Defence, certainly not Lead Counsel, and I think those comments in particular relating to the Registrar's powers over the unit of Court Management are quite uncalled-for.

Mr. Griffiths also gave a fiery response.

GRIFFITHS: Frankly, it's none of the Registrar's business. It's the Judges' responsibility to ensure a fair trial. I'm not interested in what has gone on behind the scenes between the Registrar and the court reporters, so frankly I'm not impressed with that suggestion.

Meanwhile, Defence Witness, Isatu Kallon said she herself did business with ECOMOG behalf of the Sierra Leone Revolutionary United Front rebels.

Madam Kallon described to the Judges how she obtained five drums of Diesels from ECOMOG through what she called a barter system at a river near Harbel, Firestone.

Defence Lawyer, Morris Anyah expressing surprise at Madam Kallon's evidence further questioned her about the alleged business transaction involving ECOMOG.

Madam Kallon, the Defence 18<sup>th</sup> witness is giving her testimonies in the Sierra Leonean Krio Language, so her evidence is being translated.

ANYAH: The people that you did business with, who were those people?

KALLON: ECOMOG. There were boats there in the river, but during the war all those boats were under ECOMOG. But when you wanted to do business with it, you would take a white piece of cloth and wave it, then they would know that you wanted to do business and they would come.

ANYAH: Are you telling the Court that ECOMOG was engaged in business commercial activities in Liberia?

KALLON: Yes, we were doing business with them.

ANYAH: Did you have to pay money for the diesel when you bought it?

KALLON: I did not pay money. I sent palm oil.

ANYAH: What did you do with the diesel when you obtained it?

KALLON: When I brought it, I gave it to Pa Foday Sankoh.

Madam Kallon, the 57 year-old Sierra Leonean Defence witness hardly looked in the direction of the Judges even though she was advised to do so. She bowed her head during most of the testimonies on direct examination.

## CharlesTaylorTrial.org (The Hague)

Thursday, 17 June 2010

### **Liberia: ECOMOG Peacekeepers Were Involved in Business Transactions and I Bought Diesel From Them for the RUF, Witness Says**

Alpha Sesay

West African peacekeepers sold diesel supplies to Sierra Leonean rebel forces as they prepared to launch an attack on their country from Liberia in the early 1990s, a defense witness for former Liberian president, Charles Taylor, told the Special Court for Sierra Leone today.

Isatu Kallon, a Sierra Leonean woman who was based in Liberia when Revolutionary United Front (RUF) forces were preparing to invade Sierra Leone in 1991 has explained how Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) peacekeepers did business in Liberia. Mrs. Kallon said she bought a barrel of diesel on behalf RUF rebel leader, Foday Sankoh, from ECOMOG forces in exchange for palm oil.

"The people that you did business with, who were those people?" asked Mr. Taylor's defense counsel, Morris Anyah.

"ECOMOG," the witness said. "There were boats there, in the river, but during the war, all those boats were under ECOMOG."

"but when you wanted to do business with it, you'll take a white piece of cloth and wave it, then they would know that you wanted to do business and they will come," she explained.

"Are you telling the court that ECOMOG was engaged in business, commercial activities in Liberia?" Mr. Anyah asked again.

"yes, we were doing business with them," the witness said.

Asked whether she had "to pay money for the diesel when you bought it," the witness said "I did not pay money, I sent palm oil."

When asked to tell the court what she did with the diesel: "I gave it to Pa Foday Sankoh."

#### Relevant Links

Prosecutors have alleged that Charles Taylor was the main source of support for RUF rebels. It is alleged that Mr. Taylor provided support for the rebels while they prepared to invade Sierra Leone in 1991 and that such support continued during the West African country's 11 year conflict. Mr. Taylor has denied these allegations and, like some of his witnesses, the former Liberian president has accused ECOMOG peacekeepers of being involved in trade of arms and other materials with rebel factions in the West African sub-region.

Today, Mrs. Kallon again spent much of her testimony outlining the support she provided to the RUF forces while they were training in Liberia. The witness also told the court today that Mr. Sankoh had asked her to start up trade fairs in RUF-controlled territory in Sierra Leone after the group's invasion of the country. These trade fairs were successful, she added.

Mrs. Kallon's testimony continues today.


**United Nations**      **Nations Unies**

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

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**UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary**  
**17 June 2010**

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

**UN News in Liberia**

**UNMIL, Others Observe DAC – Deputy UN Envoy Challenges Liberian Government to Uphold Children’s Rights**

[The Inquirer, The Analyst, In Profile Daily, Daily Observer, The New Republic, Front Page Africa, The Tribute]

- The Day of the African Child (DAC) was Wednesday observed with a special call to the Government of Liberia to do more in ensuring that the rights of children are upheld.
- Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General and Officer-in Charge of the United Nations Mission In Liberian (UNMIL), Moustapha Soumaré, said in order for the rights of children to be upheld, government must take the lead and draw up policies that will protect children’s rights.
- Mr. Soumaré called for the consolidated efforts of everyone, especially child protection groups and parents to support the Liberian government in this effort.
- The Deputy Special representative for Recovery and Governance made the statement in the slum community and impoverished community of West Point in Monrovia.
- According to him, children are the greatest investment ever, and if they must flourish, government must allocate special programmes and budgetary allotments for their wellbeing.
- Mr. Soumaré said that it was saddened to note that children who live in the West Point Community lack good health, shelter, education, proper diet and recreational facilities.
- Wednesday’s celebration of the DAC was characterized by pomp and pageantry, medical outreach and presentation of gifts to the children.
- The event was organized by UNMIL in collaboration partners including EcoBank, Comium Liberia, UNICEF, Children Forum Network, WHO, Population Services International and Sharks Business Centre.

**UNMIL Head of Nimba Field Office, Others Honored**

[New Republic]

- UNMIL Head of Field Office in Nimba and other prominent citizens of the county were during the week honored by the “Feed My Lamp Early Foundation School” in Ganta City.
- Dr. Wesley Bokati Natana, who received a certificate, was honored for his invaluable service to the people of Nimba County and the school in particular.
- Receiving the certificate, Dr. Natana thanked the school administration and told the people of Nimba County that he was pleased for the recognition.
- He strongly advised parents to continue to invest in the education of their children because according to him, “a child’s education is the best place to lavish money.”
- Nimba County Superintendent Edith Gongloe-Weh, who also received certificate, pledged her support to the school.

**Local News on Liberian issues**

**Over Stalled Threshold Bill, Group of Lawmakers Threaten Boycott of All Plenary Activities**

[The News, Front Page Africa, The Monitor, Daily Observer, New Democrat]

- A group of lawmakers, representing six counties including Bong, Lofa, Margibi, Montserrado, Nimba, and Grand Bassa have threatened to boycott all activities at plenary unless the population Threshold Bill is passed.

- The lawmakers, numbering over 40, noted that House Speaker Alex Tyler and Senate President Pro-tempore Cletus Wotorsen were allegedly holding the bill hostage because their counties would lose seats if the bill is passed at 68,000.
- They claimed to have credible information that someone is contemplating tempering with the Supreme Court in order to nullify the 2008 census results.
- According to the lawmakers, the census was legal and sanctioned by the National Legislature during and after its conduct and no question was raised concerning its illegality.
- They asserted that census is not only about population, but rather it is also about data collection for developmental purposes.
- The lawmakers said it will be a disservice if the census result is nullified when in fact money was pumped into it by the international community.
- One of the aggrieved lawmakers, Bong County Representative George Mulbah said they will make sure that the bill is passed for the benefit of the country.

### **Renovation Work Begins at Ducor Hotel**

[Daily Observer]

- Renovation work at the Ducor Hotel, one of Liberia's foremost palaces situated at the top of the Monrovia, has begun.
- The renovation began with the clearing of garbage and other hazardous wastes within the dilapidated giant-size structure by a local construction firm, Obital Incorporated.
- The firm's Chief of Operations Sheikh Jomandy said the first phase of the work began with the clearing of dirt in the edifice and will last for a period of one month while the second phase will include the demolition of unwanted portions of the building.
- Mr. Jomandy said the Obital Construction Company was hired by the Libyan African Investment Company, caretaker of the hotel, to clear dirt and remove unwanted portions from the hotel.
- In 2008, the Libyan African Investment Company and the Liberian government entered into a US\$55 million renovation and lease agreement regarding the Ducor Hotel.

### **DFC Identifies Serious Weaknesses in Management of County Social Development Funds**

[Front Page Africa]

- The Dedicated Fund Committee (DFC) has reported that there are serious weaknesses in the management of the Social Development Funds of Nimba, Bong and Grand Bassa Counties provided by Arcelor Mittal.
- The DFC noted that as a result of this, there are shortfalls in the expenditure and implementation of the social development funds of the counties.
- DFC further observed that the current structure of the funds has yielded less satisfactory results due to the role of stakeholders, lack of accountability and transparency.
- The Committee stressed that in order for the funds to be properly spent, the consent of grass root citizens must be met and procedures agreed upon on how the funds must be.
- The DFC's report also observed that the monthly, quarterly and annual reporting system has not been followed and will mean difficulties in taking notice when there is a gap.

### **Police Arrest 20 Persons for Possession and Trafficking in Drugs**

[New Republic]

- Police in Margibi County have arrested 20 persons in connection with the possession and trafficking of narcotics.
- The Police charge sheet states that the suspects have been charged with the sale of narcotics which is in violation of Section 41.23 of the New Penal Law of Liberia.
- The Police said the suspects were arrested during a raid after a tipoff.
- According to the Police, the suspects were also in the constant habit of harassing people and snatching away their mobile phones.

### **Star Radio** *(News monitored today at 09:00 am)*

#### **UNMIL Convenes Confab on Liberia's Security Soon**

- The UN Mission in Liberia is to convene a conference to discuss the transfer of Liberia's security to the national security forces.
- In a communication, UNMIL said the security conference would take place on Monday, 21 June 2010 in Monrovia.

- The holding of the conference was announced Wednesday during the ongoing draft budget hearing by the House Committee Chairman on Defense.

*(Also reported Radio Veritas, Sky FM, and ELBC)*

#### **Defense, Justice Ministries Plea for Increased Financial Support**

- The Ministries of Defense and Justice have pleaded with the Legislature for increased financial support in the 2010/2011 draft budget.
- The plea was contained in separate messages delivered Wednesday before the joint Legislative Budget Committee.
- Defense Minister Brownie Samukai said the Defense Ministry requires support to cater to the welfare of the national army.
- Minister Samukai said the Ministry needs additional finances to renovate the Camp Todee Military Barracks and support the purchase of fuel.
- Also Justice Minister Christiana Tah raised concern over the budgetary allotment to the Ministry describing the situation as unfortunate.
- Minister Tah said the US\$20.1 million allotment to the Ministry which comprises the Police and Immigration was not enough.

*(Also reported Truth FM, Sky FM, and ELBC)*

#### **Lawmakers Announce Radical Approach over Passage of Threshold Bill**

*(Also reported Radio Veritas, Truth FM, Sky FM, and ELBC)*

#### **Proposed Children's Act Suffers another Setback**

- The passage of the reconciled version of the draft Children's Act has suffered its second setback in the Senate in less than two weeks.
- The latest setback relates to the decision of the Senate to defer further debate on the contentious Act to Thursday, 17 June 2010.
- The Senate took the decision after protest against the passage of the draft Children's Act re-emerged.
- Some Senators including President Pro-tempore Cletus Wotorson said certain provisions in the proposed Children's Act are repugnant to the laws of Liberia.
- But Senator Wotorson's argument was however challenged by Senator Clarice Jah who said the Senator was reading an old text of the draft Children's Act.
- Meanwhile, the Senate Tuesday deferred action on the proposed thirty percent gender equity in politics Act amidst growing opposition to the bill.
- Several Senators are threatening to kill the bill which seeks increased women's representation in elected positions and political parties.

#### **Following JPC's Intervention, Criminal Court Releases 12 Detainees**

- Criminal Court 'C' has ordered the release of twelve people who were detained at the Monrovia Central Prison for the State's failure to prosecute them.
- They were arrested and detained for minor offenses such as burglary, theft of property, robbery and misapplication of entrusted property.
- According to a motion filed by the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (JPC), the men spent between one and three years in jail without charge or indictment.
- The JPC said two of the detainees were sent to the Zwedru Correction Facility even though they were not tried.
- The JPC described such prolonged detention without charge or indictment as a gross violation of the rights of the accused.
- Though the court ordered the release, it urged rights groups to go beyond advocacy and engage in meaningful correction activities to transform inmates.

#### **Wild Elephants Rock Central River Cess District**

- Wild elephants are said to be on the rampage in Central River Cess District in River Cess County.
- River Cess Superintendent Wellington Geevon Smith said the elephants have been attacking motorbikes and transport vehicles for two days now.
- Superintendent Smith said no one has been hurt as passengers escaped the rampaging elephants.
- River Cess officials said the elephants are also hindering road rehabilitation work by a logging company on kilometre 85.

#### **Man Arrested in Lofa for Involvement in February 26 Street Violence**

- Police in Lofa County have arrested and charged one Adama Sumarue Kanneh for his alleged involvement in the February 26 street violence in Voinjama.

- The Commander of the Criminal Services Department of the LNP in the county said Mr. Kanneh was charged for committing various criminal offenses.
- According to Commander Amos Suonie, the charges include criminal attempt to commit murder and arson.
- Mr. Suonie further said Kanneh is accused of attempting to kill the Priest of the St. Joseph Catholic Church with a gun in Voinjama.
- He said Mr. Kanneh was also charged for allegedly burning down the Catholic compound including the residence of the priest.

### **Mass Eviction in Grand Bassa**

- The Second Judicial Circuit Court in Grand Bassa County has evicted at least 126 citizens from their various towns.
- The exercise took place over the weekend in District Number Three as a result of a warrant served on them by the court in March this year.
- According to reports, the towns affected by the eviction include Willie Gbegbo, Giayou and Garyezohn.
- District Number Three Superintendent Abraham Nyonbol said the people were evicted for illegally occupying a parcel of land belonging to the Musu family.
- Mr. Nyonbol said the local authorities gave some of the affected citizens temporary shelters while others are residing with friends and family members.

### **Radio Veritas** *(News monitored today at 09:45 am)*

#### **President Sirleaf Off to Bamako**

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has left the country for a one-day visit to Bamako, Mali.
- The visit is aimed at mobilizing resources for the replenishment of funding for the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank.
- According to the press release the meeting is being hosted by Malian President Amadou Toumani Touré and is intended to ensure that the IDA continues to support African development.
- The World Bank is an important partner of Liberia and has committed significant resources to the country's development programmes.
- Meanwhile, Justice Minister Christiana Tah will coordinate the affairs of the government while President Sirleaf is away.

### **Truth FM** *(News monitored today at 10:00 am)*

#### **In Observance of DAC, UNMIL Provides Free Medical Service to West Point Children**

## **International Clips on Liberia**

### **Liberia reveals BHP ore spending plans**

**[www.theaustralian.com.au](http://www.theaustralian.com.au)**

BHP Billiton's iron ore mining development agreement with Liberia is worth at least \$US2 billion-\$US3 billion and offers generous but competitive tax and royalty rates, the head of Liberia's National Investment Commission says. The agreement would allow for a maximum effective tax rate of 30 per cent and royalty rates between 3-5 per cent, said Chairman Richard Tolbert in an interview with Dow Jones Newswires. On Sunday, BHP said it had signed a 25-year agreement with Liberia, establishing legal and fiscal parameters to explore and mine four major iron ore concessions in the West African country. Mr Tolbert said BHP has provided spending plans and revenue forecasts to the government indicating capital expenditures will be at least \$US2bn-\$US3bn (\$2.3bn-\$3.5bn) "minimum over the life of the mine," adding these estimates were "probably on the lower end". The agreement offers a low tax and royalty burden compared with the rate BHP would face in Australia if its government succeeds in passing a higher tax rate on resource profits. Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has proposed taxing at a rate of 40 per cent on profits above a rate of return in line with the long-term government bond rate of about 6 per cent.

### **Cargo ship ablaze at Port of Tampa**

**Associated Press**

Four fire-fighters have been transported to local hospitals with heat exhaustion after battling a blaze erupted aboard a cargo ship at the Port of Tampa. A cargo conveyor belt continued burning aboard the 742-foot Liberian-flagged ship Sophie Oldendorff Wednesday. The ship was transporting rock and gravel. Part of the belt has collapsed. Authorities say the ship's 32 crew members are still on board but have been moved away from the blaze. Fire-fighters are using foam and water but are being hampered by the excessive heat and by the large metal housing enclosing the conveyor belt. Authorities didn't immediately know how the fire began or the extent of damage to the ship.

**In Liberia, UNICEF and partners take fight for better nutrition to community clinics**  
[www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

In an effort to reduce child mortality, UNICEF and its partners in Liberia are working with several community clinics to provide daily outpatient therapeutic feeding for children suffering from under nutrition in several Liberian counties. Lorpu Sana, 24, and her daughter, Afie, 2, were waiting recently at one of these overcrowded clinics, located in a 'rehabilitation community' just outside the capital, Monrovia. A few weeks before, the little girl had been suffering from under nutrition. But now she is recovering, thanks to therapeutic feeding and medical care. Afie and her mother were seated among many other young mothers and their children, waiting to be treated. Due to lack of space, some mothers stood around a makeshift waiting area just outside the main clinic building.

## **International Clip on West Africa**

### **Guinea**

**Stellar Announces Results from the Balandougou (Guinea) Project and Plans a 5000 M Drilling Program**  
[www.americanchronicle.com](http://www.americanchronicle.com)

Stellar Pacific Ventures Inc. is pleased to announce positive results from a detailed soil geochemistry survey over a 65 km<sup>2</sup> area of the Solotomo artisanal digging site of the Balandougou Project. The results confirm the presence of three major extensive gold anomalies within the survey area. Trenching and channel sampling of the more promising zones are ongoing and a 5,000 m RC drilling program is scheduled to test for possible extensions. The first priority is a strong gold anomaly outlined just 2 km east of the Solotomo artisanal digging site. The anomaly is interpreted as the intersection of two structures, trending NE-SW and NW-SE, respectively. Both these structures show a strong gold signature with numerous values grading over 1.0 g Au/t in soil samples. The NE-SW anomaly is over 1.5 km long and up to 900 m wide. This anomaly is remarkably consistent and, on most lines, shows wide sections with consecutive high grades ranging from 0.2 g Au/t to as much as 76 g Au/t in soil samples. Many values are over 1.0 g Au/t, which is uncommon for this type of survey. The NW-SE anomaly is over 1.0 km long and up to 500 m wide and also shows a strong gold signature with numerous consecutive values over 1 g Au/t.

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## New Tang Dynasty Television

Friday, 18 June 2010

### **Sudanese Rebel Leaders Appear Before International Criminal Court**

On Thursday, two Sudanese rebel leaders appeared before the International Criminal Court for their involvement in the killing of peacekeepers in Darfur. They also urged others to come forward to clear their names.

"I came here voluntarily in response to the summons by the ICC and I call upon everyone who has been summoned by this court to come here to exonerate themselves. And I thank this court and for everything they have given to me to enable me to come here."

"We are here to achieve justice and I call on everyone who is wanted for justice to come to appear before this court."

The rebel leaders are suspected of committing murder, intentionally directing attacks and pillaging in a September 2007 attack in Haskanita, where 12 African Union peacekeepers were killed.

The tribunal hearing is being held so that judges can determine whether there is enough evidence to press charges and go forward with a trial.

The ICC is investigating both sides of the Darfur conflict.

## Newswatch (South Africa)

Friday, 18 June 2010

### Malema may face genocide charge

Author: Sapa



The International Criminal Court in The Hague is investigating a request to charge ANC Youth League President Julius Malema with genocide.

The court has confirmed that it has received a complaint about Malema singing the notorious 'shoot the farmer' lyrics and, as it does with all complaints it receives, will now decide whether or not it merits incitement to commit genocide against farmers as the complainant from Rustenberg claims.

Although the ICC does not automatically launch investigations into all the complaints it received, it has confirmed that this case against Malema does comply with the jurisdiction and mandate of the court as defined by the Rome Statute.

While it is unclear where this particular issue will end, especially considering that Malema obeyed the ANC's instruction to stop singing the song, the question now is what the ANC will do, if anything, to protect or defend Malema.

He has got some powerful backs up in the organisation recently. So much so that President Jacob Zuma not only chose to commemorate Youth Day at a different rally to Malema but he chose to appear at a rally alongside Malema's deputy and arch rival Andile Lungisa.