

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



See photos from Friday's send-off of Deputy Prosecutor Joseph Kamara, Sierra Leone's new Anti-Corruption Commissioner, 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:

Monday, 27 September 2010

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
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Biriwa Chief Addresses

By Minkailu Turay

The Paramount Chief of Biriwa Chiefdom, Bombali District in Northern Sierra Leone, P.C. Alhaji Dr. Madeseray Sheriff II has asked the Special Court for Sierra Leone to quickly intervene in the Chieftaincy crisis in the Biriwa Chiefdom which he said is fastly degenerating

Special Court

into a tribal chaos because of the long delay of justice.

Paramount Chief Sheriff II made this statement at Karina Town in the Biriwa Chiefdom where a high profile team of Special

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Biriwa Chief Addresses Special Court

Court officials visited on Wednesday 22 September 2010 as one of the important war affected areas to bid farewell to the people as the court folds up. In no uncertain terms, Chief Sheriff said the long delay in dispensing justice by the authorities ferments trouble and may plunge the Chiefdom into another round of anarchy.

He said the government has resorted to actions which led to the outbreak of the rebel war in 1991. He told the court that, at the moment he speaks in the capacity of a Tax Payer and not a Paramount Chief of Biriwa. "I was suspended immediately this present government came to

power and upon all the investigations, no report has been made public. Now I want my report card shown to me" the Chief lamented. He commended the Special Court for a work well done and stressed that the country now has peace but no freedom. The Chief disclosed that there are particular areas in his Chiefdom where members of one tribe could not pass through during day time otherwise they will be subjected to mayhem adding that there is no place to complain. He made it clear to the court that Biriwa Chiefdom sits on a time

bomb which could explode anytime and buttressed the statement from other speakers that if they (Special Court) go without solving the Biriwa issue they are just going on vacation. He also complained that other people outside Biriwa usually come in to incite people against one another and requested for justice in the Chiefdom and not favour. He called on the political leadership of Sierra Leone to be mindful of the Biriwa situation and take prompt action to nip in the bud any looming catastrophe.

Defense Lawyers Want Former South African President Thabo Mbeki To Testify In The Hague

Defense lawyers for Charles Taylor have indicated that they want former South African President Thabo Mbeki to testify in The Hague about the circumstances under which Mr. Taylor stepped down as president of Liberia in 2003.

This was disclosed in a September 16, 2010 news article by the Associated Press (AP) after an interview with Mr. Taylor's lead defense lawyer Courtenay Griffiths, who is presently in South Africa on an investigative trip. In the AP interview, Mr. Griffiths said that he wants to speak with Mr. Mbeki about the circumstances under which Mr. Taylor stepped down as president of Liberia in 2003. Mr. Griffiths said he also wants to speak with South African weapons makers about allegations that Mr. Taylor purchased war materials in South Africa while on a visit there in the late 1990s.

"It is suggested by the prosecution that Mr. Taylor did not step down voluntarily as president of Liberia he was forced out of office by among others, Thabo Mbeki...Mr. Taylor flatly denies that he was put under any pressure to step down," Mr. Griffiths said in his interview with the AP.

Mr. Griffiths said he believes that Mr. Mbeki's evidence about the issue would support Mr. Taylor's account that he was not forced out of power by African leaders but that he voluntarily relinquished power in 2003.

Mr. Griffiths said he has asked to meet and speak with Mr. Mbeki in South Africa. The former South African President's spokesperson, however, says that no request has been received to speak with Mr. Mbeki on the matter, the AP reports.

Mr. Griffiths has also said that he does not intend to subject Mr. Mbeki to any subpoena by the Special Court for Sierra Leone. He says he wants Mr. Mbeki to voluntarily speak about the issue, and if the former South African president decides not to testify about the issue, then Mr. Taylor's defense team will not pursue it further.



Telegraph

Saturday, 25 September 2010

Charles Taylor is 'one of my easier clients' says war crimes lawyer Courtenay Griffiths

Courtenay Griffiths, the flamboyant defence lawyer for Charles Taylor, talks to Jane Flanagan about Naomi Campbell, diamonds and defending the 'indefensible'.

By Jane Flanagan in Cape Town



Courtenay Griffiths has worked for some of Britain's most reviled criminals during his 25-year career Photo: RAYMOND PRESTON

His swashbuckling style and use of rap lyrics during cross-examination have made Courtenay Griffiths an unexpected star of the Charles Taylor blood diamonds trial.

Now the Jamaican-born QC, who has worked for some of Britain's most reviled criminals during his 25-year career, is making a last-ditch bid to bolster the defence of Taylor, the Liberian warlord-turned-president who is his latest notorious client.

Last week, Mr Griffiths was in South Africa in an attempt to persuade its former president, Thabo Mbeki, to give evidence at The Hague's war crimes trial where Taylor faces multiple charges relating to a bloody conflict in Sierra Leone.

The trip was part of what Mr Griffiths describes as the "110 per cent effort" he is putting into the defence of the former president of Liberia whom – allegations of cannibalism, rape and torture notwithstanding – he described as "one of my easier clients".

"He has made himself into a pretty good lawyer over the years of the trial," Mr Griffiths told *The Sunday Telegraph*.

"He can spot good legal arguments that are worth pursuing in cross examination and is actually a pretty modest guy. Of course I have only known him as a detained individual, divested of the trappings of office or any power.

"I have had to sit through a great deal of harrowing evidence and worked to cut through a lot of public prejudice in defending Charles Taylor. I enjoy the challenge of defending those who seem to the rest of the world quite indefensible."

His previous clients have included Patrick Magee, the IRA terrorist convicted of planting the 1984 Brighton bomb; the IRA members who blew up Harrods and Canary Wharf, and a man he successfully defended on a charge of murder who later went on to kill three members of a family.

The Taylor trial – Mr Griffiths's first foray into international law – had been conducted in relative quiet obscurity for more than two and a half years until Naomi Campbell was subpoenaed to give evidence for the prosecution.

The court heard claims that Taylor had given the model a gift of uncut blood diamonds after they met at a charity dinner hosted by Nelson Mandela.

But as the media spotlight fell on the Special Court for Sierra Leone for Miss Campbell's testimony in August, the ebullient performance of the chief defence counsel briefly threatened to steal some of the show.

A Facebook page dedicated to the Rastafarian-following Mr Griffiths was immediately set up; highlights of his devastating forensic put-downs were tweeted across the ether.

The model's appearance on the stand, which she memorably described as "an inconvenience" was, he said, "an attractive but irrelevant sideshow" to the case.

"The reason Naomi Campbell was called by the prosecution was to bring some much needed publicity to the proceedings. Her evidence had no relevance at all to what is being considered," he said.

"Whether Mr Taylor was in South Africa at that time to purchase arms, as is being claimed, has no impact on whether there was a gift of diamonds to Naomi Campbell or not. Eventually, the prosecution, who had gone to the effort of issuing a subpoena to get her there, then turned on their own witness and accused her of lying because she could not confirm that a gift of diamonds had come from Charles Taylor. I can understand why she felt slightly pissed off by it all."

Miss Campbell was followed directly onto the stand by another guest at the Mandela charity fund-raiser, the American actress Mia Farrow, who claimed that the British model had told her that the gem gift had come directly from Taylor.

The fact that Miss Farrow, who is now a UN goodwill ambassador, only came forward with her version of events more than a year after the war crimes trial began has clearly vexed Mr Griffiths – although he denied referring to her as an "over the hill model and actress" in a South African newspaper interview.

"I think I might have called her a one-time Hollywood actress," he conceded, before adding waspishly, "But you really would think that with all the good work that she does in the Third World, Mia Farrow might have taken less than 12 years to recall these pertinent events and bring them to the attention of the investigators or the media. I have no idea what her motivation was."

With the end of the marathon Taylor trial approaching – closing arguments will begin within weeks – Mr Griffiths is considering possible future cases. He certainly had time to ponder the future last week as he languished in a smart Johannesburg hotel waiting for an audience with Mr Mbeki that never came.

The former South African president was one of a cadre of African leaders said to have made a pact with Taylor in Ghana in 2003, in which the Liberian was reportedly guaranteed safe exile and freedom from prosecution in return for relinquishing power.

Mr Griffiths had hoped that Mr Mbeki might be persuaded to give evidence at the hearing, but the president's office declined to assist. Approaches by Mr Griffiths to other African heavyweights who were in on the deal – including from Ghana and Nigeria – have proved similarly fruitless.

"I have been struck by the absence of any solidarity among former brother African presidents," he said. "All I am seeking is factual evidence of the discussion into Charles Taylor standing down, but they are all distancing themselves from him, I suppose, to protect their own long term prospects."

Such reluctance to come forward is possibly understandable, if one accepts Mr Griffiths' own interpretation of the "unbalanced" application of international law against African leaders.

"There are no fewer than five African leaders awaiting trial at the International Criminal Court," he explained. "How is it possible that in 2010 we have a situation where every indicted individual at the International Criminal Court is African and every investigation is, guess where, Africa?"

Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe is not among them, but Mr Griffiths already has an eye on him as a potential client if a case is secured against him.

"I would definitely like to represent Mugabe – from a defence point of view he would be an interesting challenge. In the eyes of the world, he is a complete power crazed ogre, I would like to present another side to him," he said.

"Look, I am not suggesting that African leaders should not be on trial, but I do think that everyone has to be equal before international law.

"Why is it that the Tony Blairs and the George W Bushes of the world are not being investigated for conducting an illegal war?"

"I am a defence lawyer, but if Blair came to The Hague, I would definitely have to switch sides and do some prosecuting."

Digital Spy

Thursday, September 23 2010, 10:12 BST

<http://www.digitalspy.co.uk/showbiz/news>

Naomi Campbell: 'I was war crime scapegoat'

By Mayer Nissim, Entertainment Reporter



Naomi Campbell

Naomi Campbell has argued that she was used as a "scapegoat" during Charles Taylor's war trial.

The supermodel last month took the stand at The Hague, where the ex-president of Liberia is being accused of war crimes. It was alleged that Campbell received conflict diamonds from Taylor in

1997.

Campbell told *Sky News*: "What you need to understand is I was not on trial. I was forced - subpoenaed to testify - nothing to do with me.

"This trial has been going on for how many years? No-one cared to write about it. You bring Naomi Campbell to the stand the whole world knows. So as far as I was concerned, I was used as a scapegoat."

She added: "I do not think what [Taylor] did to his people is correct. I did not condone that and I will never condone that.

"But I do not see why I have to sit here and hear around everywhere I go in the world like this was like my trial. I was a witness. I told and remembered what I could to my ability - and it was 13 years ago.

"I am sensitive but I don't want to buy into negativity, and I'm not going to buy into it. For me, buying into it would be stopping what I'm doing and completely disappear, which is not me, because then I wouldn't be able to help the people that I do help. And that's what counts to me today."

Rocnow (By Democrat and Chronicle)

Sunday, 26 September 2010

George Boley Sr. case has war crimes aspect

Gary Craig – Staff writer



JAMIE GERMANO file photo 2007

Immigration officials allege George Boley Sr. is responsible for atrocities in Liberia.

In June 1994 a top U.S. State Department official “dressed (a Liberian politico) up, down and sideways for undeniable human rights violations,” federal records show.

Then-Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Prudence Bushnell told the leader of a loose-knit coalition of Liberian political groups that he would be a “prime candidate” for exclusion from the U.S. and that he and others thwarting an attempt at peace in the west African country would “no longer find a welcome mat in the United States,” according to a now-declassified record of those meetings.

That leader of the Liberian faction was George Saigbe Boley Sr., one of a handful of Liberian “warlords” whom Bushnell, with mixed results, encouraged to engage in peace. Boley, even then, also maintained a life and family here in Clarkson. And, now, 16 years after the meeting in Liberia, U.S. immigration officials are seeking to deport him.

Immigration officials contend that Boley is responsible for atrocities in Liberia, including the slaughter of civilian women and children, and that he led children into battle in the jungle. In a more bureaucratic-based and common immigration allegation, officials also charge that Boley has been returning to the U.S. on illegitimate documents and can’t live here legally.

The immigration trial starts Monday at a federal detention facility in Batavia.

In a sense, Boley is right where he was in 1994, with American officials challenging his claims of innocence during the bloody Liberian civil war, and his “welcome” in the U.S. in jeopardy.

“From day one, when George Boley was an irritation to the (Liberian) peace process, immigration has been a subtext,” said Johnny Dwyer, an author based in New York City who has written extensively about Africa and who is now writing a book, *American Warlord*, about Chucky Taylor, the son of former Liberian president Charles Taylor.

Boley headed a faction known as the Liberia Peace Council, or LPC, during the civil war, a struggle that stretched from 1989 to 2003 and claimed more than 200,000 lives. He has maintained that his sole intent was peace, and that he did not oversee or engage in violence against civilians.

In a telephone interview, Bushnell said there were few Liberian faction leaders who were innocent during the civil war.

“As far as I knew there was not a warlord in Liberia at the time of these struggles ... who did not have blood on his hands,” said Bushnell, who also served as the American ambassador to Kenya and Guatemala and now lectures and consults on international relations.

Matthew Kolken, a Buffalo-based immigration lawyer who is representing Boley, said he has yet to see reliable evidence of human rights violations by Boley when he headed the LPC. The government has indicated it may call up to 42 witnesses, many of them piped in via videoconference from Liberia.

“It doesn’t appear that any of these witnesses have any firsthand accountings that would directly connect my client to any atrocities that occurred in Liberia,” Kolken said.

As well, Boley supporters say, evidence will show that his documentation to stay in the United States was authentic.

Immigration officials would not comment about the case.

A religious man

Boley came to the United States in the late 1960s to attend State University College at Brockport. After earning his bachelor’s and master’s degrees there, he received his doctorate at the University of Akron. In the years since, he has traveled to and from Liberia — always living and traveling on legal immigration documents, his lawyer says — and even once ran for president of Liberia, an election in which he was thoroughly drubbed. Through the years, he has spent more time with his family here, holding down various jobs, including a stint as a City School District administrator.

Somehow, he reconciled the two worlds — a quiet, bucolic life on 27 acres in Clarkson and frequent returns to war-scarred Liberia. Here, Boley and his wife had six children, one of whom died of cancer.

James Cannon, for one, cannot imagine that the George Boley he knows oversaw the killings of anyone.

A social studies teacher at Brockport High School, Cannon coached Boley’s sons on the high school wrestling team. The families and their children befriended each other, and Cannon maintains that Boley is a salt-of-the-earth family man who ingrained in his children an appreciation for religion and education.

Once, Cannon said, one of Boley’s sons was struggling slightly at school, and Boley came to meet with the teachers to see how he and the family could help. Even though some of the Boley children excelled athletically, sports were secondary to the family, Cannon said.

“He made it pretty clear to me that education was critical in his family,” Cannon said. “He was glad they were athletes, but he said that’s going to come and go.”

Some of Boley’s neighbors and friends in Clarkson have written the immigration court, encouraging the judge to allow Boley to stay free as the trial progresses. In the correspondence, Boley is described as a devout and hard-working man, always quick to help a neighbor in need.

The U.S. government opposed the release of Boley, and he has been detained since his immigration arrest in January. He is likely to be detained for months more; a second phase of the trial isn’t scheduled until January.

Originally, the government indicated it would complete its testimony this week, and Boley’s defense would begin its case in January. But, Kolken said, he received notice this week that the government

expects it will need more time to finish the presentation of its case, meaning that the hopes of a resolution in January could be optimistic.

The government, Kolken said, is simply trying to exhaust Boley by stretching out the proceedings.

“They’re extending his jail time,” Kolken said.

The expected duration of the trial speaks to how uncommon the hearings will be — in essence, there will be a war crimes trial atmosphere in an immigration deportation case.

“It’s extremely unusual for an immigration hearing to last more than a couple of hours,” Kolken said.

The current case against Boley is likely the offspring of investigations by a war crimes unit within the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, said Dwyer. That unit is relatively new, he said.

“This unit sort of emerged and developed after ICE was created (in 2002),” Dwyer said. “I think this just fits within their mandate.”

A war without answers

Even today, Boley’s alleged role in the Liberian civil war is debated. Since his immigration arrest, Liberia-related blogs have warred over whether he is responsible for violence the LPC committed during the country’s conflict.

“As a leader of his misnamed Liberian Peace Council (LPC), George Boley’s ragtag military comprised of men, women and children maimed, raped and killed innocent men, women and children,” Tewroh-Wehtoe Sungbeh, editor of the website theliberiandialogue.org, said in an e-mail response to questions from the *Democrat and Chronicle*.

“His group burned down villages, destroyed sacred grounds, and killed individuals and an entire family in the name of liberation. Because he was a leader of this deadly group, and because he inspired and participated in the wanton killings of Liberians, George Saigbe Boley should be held responsible for the crimes he committed against humanity,” wrote Sungbeh, who now lives in Atlanta.

Bernard Goah, who lives in Arizona and who blogs about Liberia at bernardgoah.blogspot.com, also contends that Boley should be accountable for LPC crimes. Goah lived in Liberia’s capital during the civil war and says he saw awful violence committed by LPC fighters against civilians.

Goah was quoted in an Aug. 19 *Democrat and Chronicle* article about Boley; after it was published, Goah said, he received a telephone call from a Liberian friend in Maryland who, like himself and Boley, is a member of the country’s Krahn ethnic group. The friend warned him that he should not testify against Boley — Goah is not among the witnesses — and said that the witness list for the trial was circulating among Boley-sympathetic Krahns.

“He said, ‘I’m warning you. If you don’t believe me, I’m sending you the list right now,’” Goah said.

Goah received the list and provided it to the *Democrat and Chronicle*, which confirmed its authenticity. The list has not been made public.

ICE authorities have been alerted to Goah’s allegations but would not comment.

Goah recently blogged about the case against Boley, prompting a reply in his blog from a Boley ally.

“You hold that Dr. Boley is a rebel, a warlord who should and must be prosecuted for human rights violations in Liberia, while we believe and declare that Dr. Boley is not and has not been a rebel nor a human rights violator, but acted in consonance with law and international tradition as Leader of a Resistance Movement, in defense of our sovereign government and people,” wrote Bai M. Gbala, a director of the Grand Gedeh County Council of Elders, a group of Liberians who live there and in the U.S.

Despite the differing views on Boley, there is no active plan to prosecute him in Liberia should he return there.

“The goal of the United States is to make him a free man by sending him back to Liberia where he is awaiting no criminal charges,” Kolken said. “But his life is here.”

Dwyer said he is not surprised that individuals suspected of atrocities in Liberia may now walk the streets there freely.

“They’re coming from a society that was literally lawless for 10, 15 years,” he said. “It’s difficult to inculcate the sense of a culture of prosecution.

“There’s a lot more forgiveness within that society. It’s almost a practical nature, just because what happened in the war was so violent and so personal, yet it was neighbor against neighbor. Yet you still have to live with these people. I think a lot of people have willingly turned a blind eye just so they can move forward in life.”

GCRAIG@DemocratandChronicle.com

Hirondelle News Agency

Friday, 24 September 2010

FORMER RWANDAN MINISTER APPEAL OVER FRENCH GOVERNMENT DISMISSED

Arusha, September 24, 2010 (FH) - The Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) has refused to order the Tribunal's President to report the French government to the Security Council for failure to cooperate having been requested to provide information, allegedly backing up defence of alibi of genocide-accused Callixte Nzabonimana.

The information needed for defence allegedly suggests that Nzabonimana, former Rwandan Youth Minister, was at the French Embassy in Kigali during genocide between April 7 and 12, 1994, a period which the prosecution claims that the defendant was busy organizing killings of Tutsis in his native commune of Nyabikenke (Central Rwanda).

In its decision posted in the ICTR website and made available to Hirondelle News Agency Friday, the Chamber dismissed the appeal by Nzabonimana, challenging the order of Trial Chamber III to rescind its decision dated March 4, 2010, for the President to act against French government for non-cooperation.

The Trial Chamber rescinded the decision after realizing that France fulfilled the requests made in various decisions when its embassy in Tanzania supplied to the ICTR Registry several documents, which were later served upon the prosecution and defence on March 16, 2010 and, therefore, complied with its obligations.

"A trial Chamber is not precluded from reconsidering its decision to request the President to report the non-cooperation of a state to the Security Council when a change in circumstances occurs, particularly where, as in this case, that change of circumstance was cooperation by the state concerned," the chamber said.

It ruled, therefore, that the Trial Chamber did not error in finding that it had the powers to reconsider its March 4, 2010 decision and that the delivery by France of the March 16, 2010 documents amounted to new circumstances.

The Appeals Chamber further refused to grant permission to Nzabonimana to appeal against the President's decision dated May 5, 2010. The president had dismissed as moot the defendant's motion for implementation of the March 4, 2010 decision.

"Accordingly, once a Trial Chamber has rescinded its request under Rule 7bis of the Rules, the President is no longer seized of the matter and his subsequent decision not to report the matter to the Security Council cannot be successfully challenged on appeal," it ruled.

In May 2010, Nzabonimana defence obtained from ICTR three diplomatic documents suggesting that the defendant sought refuge at the French Embassy in Kigali after President Juvénal Habyarimana's assassination on April 6, 1994 and requested the same to be accepted as exculpatory evidence.

Canadian defence co-counsel Philippe Larochelle had once blamed the French authorities for dragging their feet for more than a year and a half, preventing him from meeting with former employees at the French embassy in Kigali, namely security guards, who could be witnesses for the defence.

He asserted that their testimony would prove that Nzabonimana had no time to go to Nyabikenke and come back during his rare and short exits from the embassy between April 7 and 12, 1994.

The former minister is facing five charges of genocide, conspiracy to commit genocide, direct and public incitement to commit genocide, extermination and murder. The Prosecution presents him as the main instigator of the killings in his home prefecture of Gitarama.

Nzabonimana pleads not guilty. The trial is expecting to resume on October 11.

FK/NI/ER/GF

Columbia Spectator

Monday, 27 September 2010

Croatian president speaks on war crimes

Josipovic—one of the last heads of state to visit Columbia this month—began by saying that he was “proud that Croatia defended its independence,” but acknowledged that he was “sorry for every lost life in the cruel war in the former Yugoslavia.”

By Katie Bentivoglio

Over a decade after the breakup of the former Yugoslavia, Croatian President Ivo Josipovic spoke in Low Library Friday about his country’s dedication to prosecuting war crimes committed during the conflict.

Josipovic—one of the last heads of state to visit Columbia this month—began by saying that he was “proud that Croatia defended its independence,” but acknowledged that he was “sorry for every lost life in the cruel war in the former Yugoslavia.”

In a speech titled “Transitional Justice: Croatian and International Response to War Crimes,” Josipovic addressed the legal and practical aspects of war-crime prosecution both in general and as applied specifically to Croatia.

“History is not a stone monument, equal for everyone. History is seen differently from different people, different nations. It’s very important to move our vision of history towards reality,” he said.

Josipovic added that he realizes that there can be a reluctance to admit that some of the atrocities were committed by Croatians. “We defended our country and we liberated our country. But when we speak about war crimes, we are not always realistic.”

He continued, “There were war crimes on all sides. Not always in equal numbers, but there were crimes on all sides.”

Cooperation is needed, he said. “One of my main goals in foreign policy is to increase cooperation between countries in the region.”

He also praised what he called a “culture of responsibility” among leaders of the region with respect to war-crime prosecution efforts, particularly in Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Though Josipovic emphasized the importance of prosecution and fact-finding for reconciliation in Croatia, he also noted that such investigation also plays a role in Croatia’s hopes to join the European Union.

Audience members questioned the president on issues ranging from the International Criminal Court to the challenges of governance over a former conflict zone.

When asked about the future of the ICC, Josipovic took a moment to appeal for international—and particularly American—support for the court.

“I consider it [the ICC] one of the most important projects in human history,” he said.

He added, though, that he’s disappointed that “America, Russia, China, India, and Indonesia—which means the majority of the world—is out of the project,” especially since America has been considered a champion of democracy and human rights.

“If the tribunal is just for small or not-so-strong countries, then the project is not complete,” he added.

Despite this, Josipovic said that he is proud of how far the Balkan region, as well as the greater international community, has come in the prosecution of war crimes.

In this regard, he expressed optimism about Croatia’s future, saying that the “attitude towards war crimes in all the region is changed.”

Another student asked Josipovic, as the president of a former conflict zone, about his opinion on the future of the Middle East. He responded, “Everything depends on you, on your goodwill, on your capacity to negotiate and to accept the other side as a partner. It’s not always easy.”

Roko Rumora, CC ’14 and a Croatian student, said that he was impressed by the address.

“Of course, I have to be biased because I’m Croatian and I’m happy to see my own president,” Rumora said, adding that he thought Josipovic’s speech “showcased his competence in the field” and that Josipovic “was very mature, considering the tumultuous past of the country.”

Rumora said he appreciated that the president looked forward in the speech. “[I] was really happy that he didn’t focus that much on the past and instead more on the future.”

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SCSL and Civil Society Send-off for Deputy Prosecutor Joseph Kamara
Friday, 24 September 2010

