

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



Former Special Court Registrar Robin Vincent,
who died on Saturday.

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, 13 June 2011

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

Special Court Pays Tribute to Former Registrar Robin Vincent / <i>OPA</i>	Page 3
Special Court Gives Judge 3 rd Term / <i>Concord Times</i>	Page 4
Special Court Indicts Bomblast, 4 Others / <i>New Storm</i>	Page 5

International News

S.A. Court Postpones Campbell's Diamond 'Gift' Trial / <i>Capital FM</i>	Page 6
Ngirabatware Trial Resumes Monday / <i>Hirondelle News Agency</i>	Page 7
ICTR to Deliver Judgement in August for Four Former Ministers / <i>Hirondelle News Agency</i>	Page 8
ICC Chief Hopes Gaddafi Will 'be Arrested' Soon / <i>Agence France Presse</i>	Page 9



Special Court for Sierra Leone
Outreach and Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 13 June 2011

Special Court Pays Tribute to Former Registrar Robin Vincent

Registrar Binta Mansaray has expressed the Court's condolences to the family of former Registrar Robin Vincent, who passed away over the weekend in Manchester, U.K.



Robin – as he was known to the staff – took part in the negotiations to set up the Special Court and served as its first Registrar, from 2002 until September 2005. He later served as the first Registrar of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

Ms. Mansaray commended him as an excellent colleague and a genuine friend.

Robin Vincent will be remembered for his dedication to the Special Court and the people of Sierra Leone. He will also be remembered for his extraordinary vision and his contributions to international justice. The post of Principal Defender – unique to the Special Court – was created because of his concerns that the Defence often lacked a voice in international tribunals. Robin also strongly supported the formation of the Court's Outreach programme in the belief that the Court, the first international situated in the country where the

crimes took place, could and should contribute to post-war reconciliation, the fight against impunity, and the restoration of the rule of law.

He will be remembered for his open door policy: all staff members, from Chiefs of Section to cleaners were welcome to come to his office and to express their concerns.

Despite his departure in 2005, Robin Vincent remained a friend of the Special Court, and of his former colleagues.

Ms. Mansaray pointed out that, although there have been three Registrars in the years Robin Vincent departed the Special Court, they have largely followed the path that he set out.

“The Special Court is his legacy,” she said.

#END

The Special Court is an independent tribunal established jointly by the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone. It is mandated to bring to justice those who bear the greatest responsibility for atrocities committed in Sierra Leone after 30 November 1996.

INFORMATION FOR MEDIA - NOT FOR ADVERTISING

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Special Court gives Salone Judge 3rd term



Justice Jon M. Kamanda of Sierra Leone has been re-elected unanimously to a third term as Presiding Judge of the Appeals Chamber of the United Nations-backed war crimes tribunal set up to deal with crimes committed during the civil war in that West African nation.

The selection as appeals court presiding judge, voted last month in a plenary session of judges in The Hague, automatically makes him the President of the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL).

Justice Emmanuel Ayoola of Nigeria has also been re-elected as Vice-President, according to a press release issued Friday

Contd. page 4

Special Court gives Salone Judge 3rd term

From page 1

by the court in Freetown.

The Special Court is an independent tribunal established jointly by Sierra Leone's government and the UN in 2002. It is mandated to try those who bear the greatest responsibility for atrocities

committed in Sierra Leone after 30 November 1996.

The trials of three former leaders of the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC), two members of the Civil Defence Forces (CDF) and three former leaders

of the Revolutionary United Front have been completed, including appeals.

The trial of former Liberian President Charles Taylor, which is taking place in The Hague, is currently in the defence phase.

New Storm
Monday, 13 June 2011

Special Court Indicts Bomblast, 4 Others

Time was when Sierra Leoneans were cowed by the long arm of the defunct Revolutionary United Front murderous outfit and their ruthless counterpart, the Armed

Forces Revolutionary Council. Times have changed; today the International Community and the people of Sierra Leone talk about the unassailable arm of the law,

which incidentally has slammed five other individuals allegedly for contempt of court.

Read Press Release on Page 2

Special Court Indicts Bomblast, 4 Others Press Release

Special Court Indicts Five for Contempt, Alleges Interference With Witnesses

Five persons have been served with "orders in lieu of an indictment" charging them with contempt of court under Rule 77(A) of the Rules. They are alleged to have interfered with Prosecution witnesses who testified in two separate trials before the Special Court.

Two convicted former leaders of the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council, Ibrahim Bazy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu (AKA: "Five-Five"), were given the indictment at Rwanda's Mpanga Prison, where

they are serving lengthy sentences for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Charged with Kamara and Kanu are Hassan Papa Bangura (AKA: "Bomblast") and Samuel Kargbo (AKA "Sammy Ragga"), resident in Sierra Leone. All four are charged with two counts of attempting to bribe a witness to recant his previous testimony.

Kamara faces an additional count of disclosing the name of a protected witness, "in

knowing violation of an order of a Chamber."

In a separate order, the Trial Chamber charged Eric Senessie on nine counts of attempting to induce Prosecution witnesses in the Taylor trial to recant testimony they gave before the Court.

No arrest warrants have been issued. All of the accused have sought guidance from the Special Court's Defence Office on obtaining counsel.

Capital FM (Kenya)

Monday, 13 June 2011

S.A. court postpones Campbell's diamond 'gift' trial

BY AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

A South African court Monday postponed the trial of a former Nelson Mandela charity official who held diamonds at the centre of the war crimes trial of ex-Liberian president Charles Taylor.

Jeremy Ractliffe, a former trustee of Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, is charged with contravention of Diamonds Act for the possession of rough diamonds which he said he received from supermodel Naomi Campbell.

The postponement was due to power failure in the court, magistrate Renier Boshoff said, adding the trial will now open on Wednesday, Sapa news agency reported.

"Looks like we are in the dark here," he said before postponing proceedings.

Ractliffe handed over the diamonds to the local authorities after Campbell's testimony in The Hague, where she admitted receiving a gift of "dirty-looking stones" she assumed were from Taylor in 1997.

Campbell said she handed the stones to Ractliffe.

Taylor, Liberia's president from 1997 to 2003, is charged with 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity for his alleged role in the 1991-2001 civil war in neighbouring Sierra Leone that claimed some 120,000 lives.

Hirondelle News Agency

Friday, 10 June 2011

Ngirabatware trial resumes Monday

The trial of former Rwandan Planning Minister, Augustin Ngirabatware, who is charged with genocide and crimes against humanity, resumes on Monday before the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

Ngirabatware, who completed giving his own evidence on February 15, 2011, is expected to continue presenting his defence case. The defence is projecting to call 60 witnesses out of 96 it had earlier proposed.

The former minister, who allegedly launched appeals to kill Tutsis during numerous meetings in his home region in 1994, is charged with genocide, crimes and or in the alternative conspiracy to commit genocide, direct and public incitement to commit genocide and extermination and rape as crimes against humanity.

He hails from what used to be the Nyamyumba district Gisenyi prefecture (North of Rwanda). He is the son-in-law of Felicien Kabuga, the alleged sponsor of the 1994 genocide, who is still on the run.

Ngirabatware fled Rwanda in July 1994 and subsequently worked in various research institutes in Gabon and France. He was arrested in Germany on September 17, 2007 and has been in ICTR custody since October 8, 2008.

On the same Monday, there would also be resumption of special deposition proceedings in the case involving Kabuga, who is charged with 11 counts of conspiracy to commit genocide, genocide, complicity in genocide and direct and public incitement to commit genocide.

The most wanted genocide fugitive is also facing charges of crimes against humanity for murder, extermination, rape, persecution and inhuman acts and other charges of war crimes.

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Friday, 10 June 2011

ICTR to deliver judgement in August for four former ministers

Arusha, June 10, 2011 (FH) -The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) is expected to deliver in August this year the judgement in the case involving four former Rwandan Ministers.

These are Casimir Bizimungu (Health), Prosper Mugiraneza, (Public Service), Jérôme Bicomumpaka (Foreign Affairs) and Justin Mugenzi (Trade).

"The Bizimungu Judgement will be delivered by August," the ICTR President, Judge Khalida Rachid Khan told the United Nations Security Council when presenting her six-monthly report on the Tribunal's completion strategy.

Delivery of judgement comes twelve years after the arrest of the suspects. The highly awaited event also comes eight years after the commencement of the trial commonly known as Government II.

The Trial Chamber presided over by Judge Khan has been drafting the judgement for three years since the parties (prosecution and defence) completed presenting their respective cases. Other members of the Chamber are Judges Emile Short and Lee Muthoga.

For four times, Mugiraneza requested for dismissal of the indictment for "violation of right to trial without undue delay." The Chamber, Judge Short dissenting, rejected the requests for failure to show how the defendant's rights were violated.

In his dissenting opinion, Judge Short said his co-members had not considered reasonableness of time taken after closing of case hearing. The evidence phase of the case was closed on June 12, 2008 and closing arguments were heard between December 1 and 5, 2008.

The president also said in her address to the Council that judgement for other three cases would be delivered in the fourth quarter of this year. They include that of former top officials of then Rwandan ruling party, MRND, Matthieu Ndirumpatse, who was the President and his Vice-President, Edouard Karemera.

Others involve former Mayor of Kivumu Commune in Kibuye prefecture, Western Rwanda, Grégoire Ndahimana and that of ex-Youth Minister Callixte Nzabonimana.

She further pointed out that the Tribunal has completed 88 percent of its work at trial level and by the end of year 2011, less than four percent of the total work would be left out. "We estimate that this work will be completed by the time the Residual Mechanism begins in July 2012," she said.

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Agence France Presse

Sunday, 12 June 2011

ICC chief hopes Gaddafi will 'be arrested' soon

International Criminal Court prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo, in an interview published Sunday, said he hoped that embattled Libyan leader Muammer Gaddafi "will be arrested" by his people in the coming weeks on crimes against humanity charges.

"We hope that the arrest warrant (to face charges of crimes against humanity) will be delivered soon and that Gaddafi will be detained by the Libyan people. That's what we are expecting," he told the Spanish daily El Mundo.

Moreno-Ocampo said he was hopeful ICC judges would rule on Gaddafi's arrest in the coming weeks.

"We are working on the assumption he will be arrested by his people, by members of his regime" and if "that is not possible by the (rebel) National Transitional Council," he added.

Last month, the ICC prosecutor said he would seek arrest warrants for three people considered most responsible for crimes against humanity in Libya, Gaddafi, his son Seif Al-Islam and Libyan intelligence chief Abdallah Al-Senoussi.

Libya's deputy foreign minister Khaled Kaaim retorted that Tripoli was "not concerned" by ICC decisions since it was not a party to the Rome Statute that founded the ICC.

But Moreno-Ocampo argued that Libya is bound to cooperate with the court as demanded by a UN Security Council resolution adopted last February 26.

And he maintained that Libya would be legally required to act on the arrest warrants if they are approved by the ICC judges.

Established in 2002, the ICC is the world's first permanent, treaty-based court set up to try those accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide if the accused's own country cannot or will not do so.