

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



Entrance to Harford School for Girls, Moyamba.

**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 June 2011

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

Law Students Humiliated / <i>Standard Times</i>	Page 3
High Court Judge Issues Final Warning to State Prosecutors / <i>Standard Times</i>	Page 4
Tribunal Verdict Today / <i>Independent Observer</i>	Page 5

**International News**

The Government's Case Against Cindor Reeves Stinks / <i>Macleans News</i>	Pages 6-7
First Hearing Ex-Khmer Rouge Leaders' Trial / <i>BBC Online</i>	Pages 8-10
STL to Indict 5 Hezbollah Members This Week: Report / <i>The Daily Star</i>	Page 11

Standard Times  
Monday, 27 June 2011

# DISGRACEFUL LAW STUDENTS HUMILIATED

BY SANTIGIE KAMARA

The tale of David and Goliath was actually displayed on Friday 24th June 2011 at the Special Court Chamber when Accounting and Business Administration students of the Institute of Public Administration and Management (IPAM)

disgracefully defeated Law Students of Fourah Bay College (FBC) on the 7th National Moot Court Competition in International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Organized by the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society.

In his opening speech, Captain F. Gevao who was the Judge spoke about the essence of the Moot Court

Competition in International Humanitarian Law and outlined the golden rules of the game.

Peter Anderson of the Special Court welcomed the participants adding that the Special Court room has unique qualities adding that Sierra Leone is now on post conflict era.

✦ PAGE 19

## LAW STUDENTS HUMILIATED

### FROM PAGE 1

Peter Anderson maintained that people should always talk about the rule of law and called on the participants to do their best in the debate.

The Deputy Secretary General of the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society Mohamed Sanusie Mansaray said it was the seventh National Moot Court Competition in International Humanitarian Law organized by the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society and expressed his profound gratitude and satisfaction over the interest shown by the students.

Mr. Mansaray said they are encouraging more Students, Lecturers, Colleges and Universities to join their fold.

'Sierra Leone has signed many humanitarian law' noting that only few of them are being fully used and commended the efforts made by the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces in incorporating International Humanitarian Law in their programmes.

The Deputy Secretary General of Sierra Leone Red Cross Society however stated that Sierra Leone will be a beacon for International Humanitarian Law and thanked members of the Special Court for Sierra Leone for hosting the event.

The team from Fourah Bay College FBC which comprises Law Students started the prosecution by reading out the count charges committed by the

accused person who was tagged 'Professor G' was an indication of genocide and they made specific references of the statements he uttered and the commands he allegedly gave to the combatants.

Following the prosecuting process, the panel of Judges who were mostly legal luminaries posed questions regarding the matter.

While the team from the Institute of Public Administration and Management (IPAM) was on the contrary, defending Professor G as an academia and some body who has love for humanity.

The team of IPAM also gave instances of how Professor G was tell-

ing his people that they are the owner of the land but he did not take a weapon to fight nor did he at any given time give command to any group to commit atrocities.

Following the questioning session, the panel of judges retired to a room and spent about ten minutes there before delivering the judgment.

Before delivering the judgment, Captain F. Gevao congratulated the teams for a job well done adding that they looked at the clarity of presentation and team work before coming out with the final decision.

Captain F. Gevao however stated that the best team for the 2011 National Moot Court Competition in In-

ternational Humanitarian Law is the Institute of Public Administration and Management (IPAM) which comprised Salmata CM Bah, Gibrilla Sesay and William Moiwo Jimmy.

A total number of six teams of three students argued to their interpretation of specific International Humanitarian Law related cases in a thirty minutes presentation.

After the preliminary rounds, two teams namely IPAM and FBC qualified and through the debate between the two institutions, IPAM emerged victorious and they will have to represent Sierra Leone in a Pan Africa Moot Court Competition in November 2011 Arusha Tanzania.

## HIGH COURT JUDGE ISSUE FINAL WARNING TO STATE PROSECUTORS

BY UNISSA BANGURA

This is a clear case in which justice may seem not to be respected nor does the rules of the Law Officer Department being followed regarding the number of adjournment required for a discharge of a matter if the prosecution is unable to present witnesses to prove their case beyond all reasonable doubt.

Due to the non prosecution of the matter since its resumption in the High Court some months back couple with the nine consecutive adjournment so far granted by Justice Alhaji Fofana, the defense team led by veteran Lawyer Mr. Manley Spain has applied to the court to invoke the Law Officers Department rules and discharge the accused persons since the prosecution are not yet ready to go ahead with the matter.

This application prompted the bench yesterday to request from the state counsel Mr. A. Sesay to throw light on the issue and to explain why the prosecution is dragging their feet in bringing witnesses to testify before the court

Justice Alhaji Fofanah in his remarks before the court also made mention about the attitude of the Law Officers' Department in prosecuting state matters, noting that State prosecutors are always culpable in their duties which in many occasions will tantamount to a delay in justice.

In the circumstance, the Judge went on and asked state counsel to make an undertaking which he recorded and requested for a final adjournment date where as if the prosecution fails to present a witness, the judge will be at liberty to take any action.

It will be recalled that the matter started in the lower court where the then presiding Magistrate in his wisdom held that the seven accused persons including Anthony B. Aruna and Patrick Cullen of the Immigration Department while Johnson W. S. Kargbo and some junior members of the Births and Deaths division of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation allegedly conspired together in issuing a passport to a Lebanese National sometime in March last year.

The slow pace of the matter in the High Court brought in several suspicious that the Law Officers Department who are the sole conduct of the matter cannot in any way prove their case. In the previous hearing in the high Court, it was said that State Prosecutors who are assigned into the matter have allegedly inform the court about the status of the matter which to a large extent has been rumour that the original file is missing which left to the expulsion of one of the accused who is initially and jointly standing trial in the preliminary stage in the lower court.

However, the presiding judge justice Alhaji Fofanah have adjourn the matter to Wednesday June 29, 2011, a date he believe the prosecutor will be up to the task in conducting their case.

# Tribunal verdict today

The Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone will this morning (Monday 27th June, 2011) deliver its judgement on its first public hearing on 235 ex-soldiers of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) who were referred to as chronically and mentally imbalanced by the Ministry of Defence and the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces at the YWCA New Hall.

The Commission received the complaints from the ex-soldiers on April 23rd, 2009. They claimed that they were recruited in to the RSLAF on various dates and served for periods ranging between 3yrs and 40yrs up to 2008. During their service with the RSLAF, the complainants alleged to be involved in active combat duties of various kinds in the period of the civil war in Sierra Leone and in 2008, they were discharged from the RSLAF as chronically ill and mentally imbalanced.

The complainants were not happy with the nomenclature, chronically ill and mentally imbalanced which they considered to be inappropriate as they cannot secure jobs with potential civil employers. They also complained that some of them were initially Wounded in Action (WIA) category but they were later placed in the chronically ill and mentally imbalance category hence got less benefit.

They claimed that they were forced to take a medical check up only to be later categorized as chronically and mentally imbalanced and that they felt disowned by their former employers considering the type of service they have rendered to their country. They view the action of their authorities as unfortunate and for failing to ad-

equately articulate the breakdown of their discharge package.

When the tribunal began hearing on June 1, eighteen witnesses testified before Commissioner Rev. Moses Khanu, Commissioner Jamesina-King and Commissioner Yasmin Jusu-Sheriff as chair. Six of those witnesses were the complainants, seven of them from the defence and four the tribunal witnesses.

Among the witnesses that faced the tribunal were the Defence Minister, Alfred Paolo Conteh, Brigadier Kestora Kabia, Brigadier Jah-Tucker, Col. Dr. Sahr, Dr. Edward Nahim, Alhaji Baniyila Sesay and the IMATT Medical Advisor. The closing arguments take place at the Commission's conference room, Wellington Street.

The Public Hearing started its hearing on June 1 at began its first Public Hearing on 235 ex-soldiers of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) who were referred to as chronically and mentally imbalanced by the Ministry of Defence and the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces.

On June 16th, 2011, the Tribunal sat to hear closing arguments between counsel representing the complainants of 235 ex-soldiers, Editayo Pabs-Garnon and counsel representing the defendants, the Ministry of Defence and Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces, Col. I.M. Koroma. Stating his closing arguments Col. I.M Koroma said the military committed no breach in discharging the ex-soldiers.

Maclean's News  
Thursday, 23 June 2011

## The government's case against Cindor Reeves stinks

By Michael Petrou

Since beginning four years ago to dig into the story of Cindor Reeves — the man who helped bring former Liberian president and warlord Charles Taylor to trial in The Hague, and whom Canada is now deporting — I have occasionally worried that there might be some missing piece of the puzzle that I didn't have. Perhaps the government has information about Reeves that would explain its determination to send him back to Liberia, where he faces murder, other than incompetence, malice, and a perverted sense of justice.

I have now read nearly 4,000 pages of government documents released to me by the Immigration and Refugee Board because of an access-to-information request. My fears that the government might have dirt on Reeves are now gone. In their place is a deep sense of disgust with this government and with the Immigration and Refugee Board — particularly Joanne Sajtos, the IRB member who ruled against Reeves; Public Safety Minister Vic Toews, who intervened in this case; and Brenda Lloyd, counsel for the minister, who represented the minister in the hearing and argued that Reeves and his wife and children should be excluded from refugee protection because of Reeves' alleged complicity in crimes against humanity.

Let's start with incompetence. Among the disturbing details to emerge from transcripts of Reeves' hearing is that in a case involving international espionage, Brenda Lloyd apparently did not know what the British intelligence agency MI-5 is. Elsewhere she wonders why Reeves, on the run from Taylor, didn't simply go to the United Nations or the Red Cross.

Lloyd argues Reeves was not in danger from Taylor's goons when he was living in Accra, Ghana. The Special Court for Sierra Leone, to whom Reeves was secretly providing evidence, thought otherwise. They learned a team of assassins was on its way to kill Reeves, and therefore spirited him out of the country. Alexander Yearsley of the British NGO Global Witness — which Reeves also aided in its campaign to expose the blood diamond trade — testified in an affidavit that Reeves was attacked at a supposed safe house in Ghana, and that his friend in the same house was murdered.

Joanne Sajtos, who ruled against Reeves, doubts Reeves tried to tell the U.S. Consulate in Burkina Faso about Taylor's activities. But there is no evidence anyone tried to verify this with the U.S. State Department. This case is full of such logical gaps and slipshod research.

The line between incompetence and malice is a blurry one. Does Lloyd honestly think Reeves exaggerated the threats against him, for example, or does she simply want him out of the country and will make that case however she can? It's hard to say. But there is a weird subtext in much of Lloyd's arguments regarding Reeves' relationship with *Maclean's*. There is abundant evidence Reeves has been threatened here in Canada. I've published some of the warnings he and members of his family have received. Yet Lloyd suggests that if Reeves truly felt he was in danger, he wouldn't have publicized his presence here by speaking with me. It's difficult not to suspect the government resents the publicity more than it thinks Reeves' decision to talk to me reveals anything about his safety.

Finally, and most crucially, there is the question of justice. There is no evidence that Reeves directly harmed anyone. He did smuggle diamonds and weapons between Liberia and Sierra Leone on behalf of his brother-in-law, Charles Taylor. Reeves admitted this when he arrived in Canada and claimed refugee status in 2006. There may be legitimate questions about his motivations and the degree of choice he had. But it is undisputed that Reeves risked his life to help the Special Court for Sierra Leone build its case against Charles Taylor. He never asked for anything in return, and when offered a bribe by at least one of Taylor's associates if he would desist, he refused.

Alain Blaise Werner, a former prosecutor for the Special Court, says this about Reeves in an affidavit: "I can attest that Cindor Reeves is one of the very few who had the courage to risk his life and the life of his family and collaborate with the office of the prosecutor in Freetown at a time when nobody else dared to talk about the involvement of Charles Taylor with the RUF [Revolutionary United Front, a Sierra Leone rebel group]."

Elsewhere Werner describes Reeves' help as voluntary and "only motivated by his desire to have the people most responsible for the civil wars in Liberia and Sierra Leone brought to justice."

Christopher Santora, a prosecutor in the trial against Charles Taylor, makes a similar claim, also in an affidavit supplied to the IRB: "I can state unequivocally that Cindor Reeves is one of the few people in this whole conflict that did the right thing when the opportunity presented itself. I state this as someone who has dealt with hundreds of 'insiders,' former commanders and direct perpetrators..."

"It was Reeves who took the first opportunity to come forward, and without his cooperation it would have been extremely unlikely that the Office of the Prosecutor would have had enough underlying evidence to indict Mr. Taylor, which eventually led to his departure from Liberia in August 2003."

The issue here is redemption. Whatever wrongs Reeves might have committed when working for Taylor, he has made up for them by his actions since. He is an extraordinarily brave and moral man. The very least he has earned is his life, which he may well lose if he is sent to Liberia; and the company of his wife and young children, which he will also lose, as they are allowed to stay here (based on the self-evidently bizarre reasoning that their relationship with Reeves makes it too dangerous for them to return to Liberia).

There is also the more practical issue of making international justice work. Bringing tyrants to justice requires that insiders in heinous regimes cooperate. They should not be offered amnesty, but they must know that they will be treated fairly and honestly. Reeves has not, and others in his situation might reasonably conclude they will not either. Canada has given millions of dollars to the Special Court for Sierra Leone. The irony is thick.

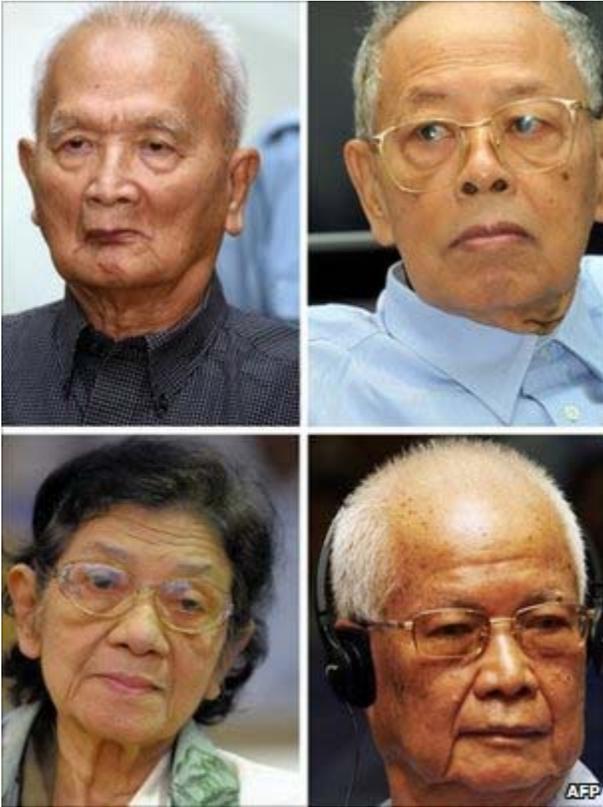
"These white people, the international community, when they need something from you, they will treat you like a newborn baby," Taylor once said to Reeves. "They will use you to make a case against me. But after, they will dump you."

Reeves has received a removal order from Canada Border Services Agency. His last chance to stay in Canada — temporarily — is a pre-removal risk assessment, now underway.

BBC Online

Monday, 27 June 2011

### Cambodia: First hearing ex-Khmer Rouge leaders' trial



*All four suspects denied the accusations*

A UN-backed tribunal in Cambodia is holding its first hearing in the trial of four former top Khmer Rouge leaders.

The defendants include the "number two" in Pol Pot's regime, Nuon Chea. They face charges of genocide and crimes against humanity over the deaths of up to two million Cambodians in 1975-79.

They all deny the accusations, and the trial is likely to last for years.

Last July, former Khmer Rouge member Kaing Guek Eav, known as Comrade Duch, was jailed for 35 years.

But because of time already served and compensation for a period of illegal detention, Duch - the former head of a notorious prison where some 15,000 died - will be free in 19 years.

Led by Pol Pot, who died in 1998, the Maoist Khmer Rouge regime was ousted from power by Vietnamese forces in 1979.

#### 'Second Nuremberg'

The four defendants appeared at the initial hearing at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Court of Cambodia (ECCC) in Phnom Penh on Monday morning.

Besides Nuon Chea, they include former head of state Khieu Samphan, former foreign minister and international face of the regime Ieng Sary, and his wife Ieng Thirith, who was minister for social affairs.

The four showed no emotion as opening statements were read out before the court and a packed gallery, in proceedings screened on national television.

Moments later, Nuon Chea - who was dressed in a ski hat and sweatshirt - complained he was not well and felt cold and left the courtroom.

"I'm ready to come back when the court discusses my requests," he said.

The hearing will run for a maximum of four days, and no evidence will be given. Instead, the hearing is expected to focus on witness and expert lists and preliminary legal objections.

The trial proper is expected to open later this year, possibly in September.

"There hasn't been a case as large and complex as this since Nuremberg," international co-prosecutor Andrew Cayley told the AFP news agency in a recent interview, referring to the historic Nazi trials after World War II.

The head of the Cambodian Center for Human Rights said the start of the second case was a "cathartic moment".

### **Who were the Khmer Rouge?**

- Maoist regime that ruled Cambodia from 1975-1979
- Led by Saloth Sar, better known as Pol Pot
- Abolished religion, schools and currency in effort to create agrarian utopia
- Up to two million people thought to have died of starvation, overwork or were executed
- Defeated in Vietnamese invasion in 1979
- Pol Pot fled and remained free until 1997 - he died a year later

The crimes "remain ingrained in Cambodia's collective psyche. I hope that this trial... provides all victims with some sense of justice, however delayed that justice may be", Ou Virak said in a statement.

Theary Seng, who lost both her parents to the Khmer Rouge, told the BBC: "This is the heart of the matter - this is the case that we have been anticipating for many years, since the operation of the court in 2006.

"It will allow a lot of information to surface which will help to chip away at the repeatedly-asked questions of why did it happen?"

Theary Seng is one of almost 4,000 civil parties to the case - victims who will have a voice in court alongside the prosecution and defence.

### **Health concerns**

At least one of the defendants - Ieng Sary - is expected to argue that he should not be on trial at all, the BBC's Guy De Launey in Phnom Penh says.

The former foreign minister received a royal pardon 15 years ago as part of the deal which produced the final surrender of the Khmer Rouge.



*The BBC's Guy De Launey said the defendants will argue that they should not be on trial at all*

The defendants are all in or near their 80s and some have been in bad health, so there is a real danger that not all of them may live to see the end of the trial, our correspondent adds.

The suspects have been kept in detention since their arrests in 2007.

Parts of court proceedings will be broadcast on TV, but hundreds of people from all over Cambodia are still expected to travel to the court to see the accused.

The current Cambodian government has repeatedly opposed efforts to widen the tribunal's inquiries, and insisted that there should be no further trials after that of the four leaders.

## The Daily Star (Lebanon)

Monday, 27 June 2011

### **STL to indict 5 Hezbollah members this week: report**

BEIRUT: The court investigating the 2005 assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri is expected to issue its indictment, naming five Hezbollah members, in the next few days, pan-Arab newspapers reported Monday.

Al-Hayat newspaper, quoting a Western source in Paris, said Lebanese judicial authorities would receive a text of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon indictment either Monday or Tuesday.

The move coincides with a confirmation last week by French sources that the indictment will be issued this week.

Meanwhile, pan-Arab daily Asharq al-Awsat, citing well-informed sources, said five Hezbollah members will be named in the indictment.

It said the STL is about to submit a request to the Lebanese government for the interrogation of the group's members. The sources, however, confirmed that their names will be kept confidential for a limited period before identifying them.

The newspaper also reported that the indictment is likely to be issued in the coming two days.

Al-Hayat said the confirmation by the Western source also coincides with an unannounced journey to The Hague by Lebanese judges who are part of the tribunal's trial chamber.

The newspaper reported that the remaining STL judges, both staff and reserve, left Beirut Sunday for the STL headquarters in The Hague. Lebanese official sources, however, say the move is a precautionary measure to provide personal protection to the judges.

Other Lebanese sources, meanwhile, refused to link the announcement of the indictment with the delay in the government's policy statement over the STL.

The sources said that none of Lebanon's top government leaders had any official information as to when the indictment would be issued.

Read more: <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Politics/2011/Jun-27/STL-to-indict-5-Hezbollah-members-this-week-report.ashx#ixzz1QTYGaGG0>

(The Daily Star :: Lebanon News :: <http://www.dailystar.com.lb>)