

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



Justice Theresa Doherty at today's contempt hearing. See more photos 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:**

Friday, 15 July 2011

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.  
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact  
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# Five, 'Bombblast,' 'Sammy Raaga'

## Face Contempt Proceedings Before the Special Court for Sierra Leone

Five persons are charged in two separate contempt cases with interfering with prosecution witnesses who testified before the Court.

The Independent Prosecutor vs. Ibrahim Bazy Kamara, Santigie Borbor Kanu, Hassan Papa Bangura and Samuel Kargbo

The first case relates to the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) trial, which ended with the Appeal

Judgment in February 2008. Convicted AFRC leaders Ibrahim Bazy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu (aka: "Five-Five") in Rwanda, along with two former AFRC members in Freetown, Hassan Papa Bangura (aka: "Bombblast") and Samuel Kargbo (aka: "Sammy Ragga") are each charged with two counts of trying to induce former prosecution witnesses to recant their testimony, allegedly believing

that this could result in their convictions being overturned or their sentences reduced. Kamara faces a third count of knowingly disclosing the identity of a protected witness.

Kamara and Kanu were convicted on 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity, and are currently serving lengthy sentences at Mpanga Prison in Rwanda. Kamara was sentenced

*Contd. page 2*



## AFRC Bazy, 'Five-Five,' 'Bombblast,' 'Sammy Raaga'

*From page 1*

to 45 years and Kanu to 50 years in prison.

The Independent Prosecutor vs. Eric Koi Senessie

The second case relates to the Taylor trial. Eric Koi Senessie, a former member of the Revolutionary United Front

(RUF) is charged with nine counts of attempting to induce Prosecution witnesses who testified against Charles Taylor to recant their testimony.

All of the Accused are ordered to appear in court (Kamara and Kanu are ordered to appear via video link from Rwanda)

on 15 July 2011 to plead to the charges against them.

A person convicted of these offenses under Rule 77 of the Rules could serve a maximum term of seven years imprisonment, a fine of up to two million Leones, or both.

*See page 3*

## ***Special Court Contempt accused appear today***

Hassan Papa Bangura ("Bomblast") and Samuel Kargbo ("Sammy Ragga") will appear before Justice Teresa Doherty today, Friday morning, 15 July 2011, to plead to two counts of interfering with prosecution witnesses who testified in the AFRC trial.

Pleas will also be taken from AFRC convicts Ibrahim Bazy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu ("Five-Five"), who will participate from Rwanda by video link. Kamara also faces a third count of knowingly revealing the name of a protected witness.

The hearing will take place at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 1 at the Special Court's courthouse in Freetown. Visitors should be seated by 8:30 a.m. Eric Koi Senessie will appear before Justice Teresa Doherty on Friday, 15 July 2011, to plead to nine counts of interfering with prosecution witnesses who testified in the Taylor trial.

The hearing will take place at 12:00 p.m. in Courtroom 1 at the Special Court's courthouse in Freetown.

Agence France Presse

Friday, 15 July 2011

### Five go on trial at Special Court for Sierra Leone for contempt



Five people go on trial at the United Nations backed Special Court for Sierra Leone Friday, charged with contempt for interfering with prosecution witnesses, a court statement said.

The accused face a total of 18 charges for "interfering with prosecution witnesses

who had testified in two separate trials before the court".

They include two convicted former leaders of the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC), Ibrahim Bazy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu, who are serving lengthy sentences for war crimes for their role in the 1991-2001 Sierra Leone civil war.

They will testify via video link from Rwanda where they are imprisoned.

Two residents of Sierra Leone, Hassan Papa Bangura and Samuel Kargbo, are charged alongside Kamara and Kanu "with two counts of attempting to bribe a witness to recant his previous testimony".

Former Revolutionary United Front rebel Eric Senessie is charged with attempting to induce prosecution witnesses in the ongoing trial of former Liberian president Charles Taylor, to recant testimony they gave before the court.

If convicted, the accused could face prison sentences of up to seven years, fines of up to \$500 or both.

Sierra Leone's special court was set up to try those who bore the "greatest responsibility" for atrocities during the country's war in which people were terrorised with rape and having their limbs hacked off.

Judgement is awaited on its final case, the prosecution of Taylor or his role in the brutal decade-long war which left more than 50,000 dead and thousands mutilated.

*Source: AFP*

The Daily Star  
Thursday, 14 July 2011

## **Interpol issues international warrants for STL suspects**

By Patrick Galey

BEIRUT: Interpol issued international arrest warrants Wednesday against those accused of the 2005 assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, the international police organization announced.

“The Red Notices, the first issued by Interpol on behalf of the [Special Tribunal for Lebanon], have been circulated to all 188 member countries and include essential identifying information such as photographs and fingerprints of the wanted persons,” a statement from its Lyon headquarters said.

The U.N.-backed STL issued its first indictment earlier in July, a document thought to contain the names of four Hezbollah operatives, as well as several non-Lebanese. The indictment was sealed and the tribunal has refused to speculate on where the suspects are currently residing.

STL Prosecutor Daniel Bellemare has said Interpol’s involvement in the search for suspects would increase the chances of their apprehension.

Red Notices are secret to the public, and ask member states to track down accused individuals while preventing them from leaving the country.

“The two steps taken by the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, firstly ensuring that these individuals were entered into Interpol’s databases and secondly their request for Red Notices will significantly restrict the ability of these people to cross international borders to try and avoid detection and is a powerful tool to help in their location and arrest,” said Interpol secretary-general Ronald Noble.

“We have and will continue to closely cooperate with the Special Tribunal for Lebanon in their efforts to identify and bring to justice those responsible for the assassination of Rafik Hariri.”

## Mladic's Preferred Defenders Face Language Barrier



*Former Bosnian Serb army chief Ratko Mladic (C) in the court room at the UN Yugoslav war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, 04 July 2011 where he was scheduled to enter a plea against charges of genocide during the Bosnian war. Photo by BGNES*

A permanent defense counsel of wartime Bosnian Serb army chief Ratko Mladic will most likely be assigned by the end of the week, according to Martin Petrov, who heads the International Criminal

Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia's (ICTY) Registrar's Office.

One of the two defenders suggested by Mladic, Russian jurist Alexander Mezyaev, took a language test Wednesday, following regulations requiring that the lawyers be fluent in at least one of the two Hague Tribunal official languages, English and French.

The results will be available in the next 2-3 days, but Mezyaev has said that he does not want to be the lead counsel of Mladic.

The second candidate, Mladic's personal favorite, Belgrade-based military lawyer Milos Saljic, can not do the job because he has said that he speaks Serbian Russian and Albanian.

According to the Hague Tribunal representative, both Mezyaev and Salic may be included in Mladic's defense team, whose members are under no obligation to appear in court and therefore do not need to certify foreign language competence.

Even though he had threatened to boycott the July 04 U.N. war crimes court hearing at The Hague, the former Bosnian Serb military leader showed up, only to be removed from the courtroom

Mladic refused to enter a plea and disrupted the judge's attempts to read out the charges against him.

The proceedings resumed in Mladic's absence, and Orie said the chamber had entered a plea of not guilty to all charges on the suspect's behalf.

The ex-army chief stands accused of genocide, violations of the laws and customs of war and crimes against humanity during the 1992-1995 war in Bosnia.

He was arrested in Serbia on May 26 after 16 years spent hiding from the international justice.

## Now Lebanon

Friday, 15 July 2011

### **Hashem says Lebanon spending money on “fake” tribunal**

Change and Reform bloc MP Abbas Hashem criticized a previous cabinet’s decision to partly fund a UN-backed court investigating the 2005 murder of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and 21 others.

“Lebanon is spending money on a fake [tribunal] that was set up to incite strife in the country,” Hashem told Al-Manar television. According to the Hezbollah-led March 8 coalition, the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL) is a US-Israeli plot targeting the Iranian- Syrian-backed Hezbollah group.

“Those who accept having politicized tribunals are criminals and traitors,” the MP added.

He also rejected the calls of the western-backed March 14 parties to disarm the Shia group, saying: “The arms are not a burden but a detail...the Resistance is [manifested] in the will, ideology and minds [of people].”

Last month, the STL indicted four Hezbollah members for Rafik Hariri’s murder. However, the Shia group ruled out the arrest of the four suspects.

The March 8 parties have opposed a clause in the Lebanese annual state budget, which pertains to the funding of the tribunal.

Lebanon contributes with 49 percent of the STL’s annual funding.

# Kenya Broadcasting Cooperation

Thursday, 14 July 2011

## ICPC puts post-poll victims on high alert

Written By:Glena Nyamwaya,



ICPC Exeutive Director Ndung'u Wainaina said individuals masquerading as ICC agents have been registering victims with the promise that they will compensate them

The International Center for Policy and Conflict (ICPC) Friday sent an alert to victims of the post-election violence, to be cautious about unscrupulous "compensation" registration purported being conducted on behalf of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

According to the centre, it is gravely concerned for the safety and welfare of victims of the post-election violence after receiving disturbing reports of insidious operations by certain parties claiming to be registering the victims to receive reparations through the ICC process.

Central Rift Valley though other areas may have been similarly affected," reads a statement from the rights center.

"The reports largely concern operations that have been carried out in North and

"The reports indicate that individuals masquerading as officers or agents from the ICC have been engaged in registering victims of the post election violence with the promise that the ICC will provide them with reparations or compensation," it further states.

Following this development, the ICPC warns victims against persons who promise such reparations.

They point out that such promises out to mislead the post-poll chaos victims could indicate a lack of understanding of the court process as even the judges of the court itself cannot promise reparations to a victim without first having made a final ruling on the case and issuing a conviction.

"Even then, only those officially registered victims who have requested reparations, and who are victims as a direct result of the actions for which one of the suspects in question has been convicted, may be eligible for reparations," the ICPC reasons.

The center goes on to add that on a more troubling point, this could also be an indication of a deliberate attempt by individuals working against the court process to obtain information from victims through the incentive of reparations or compensation.

"Such a move could very easily put victims at risk especially if the information they give is perceived to counter to the interests of the parties that are against the court

process," ICPC says.

Victims' participation in the ICC process concerning the two cases before the court as well as the process of registration is being coordinated by the Victims Participation and Reparations Section (VPRS) which is an office within the ICC operating under the ICC Registry.

With these facts in mind, the ICPC cautions all victims to be extremely wary of individuals purporting to be registering victims for reparation through the ICC .

Victims are now being urged to cross-reference any such individual by demanding that those seeking to register them for participation at the ICC provide the official name and contact information for the organization.

The rights activists are also calling for those seeking to register victims to exhibit a thorough understanding of the ICC and ICC process in Kenya.

"Conducting civic education on the ICC and the processes of the court is instrumental to developing a proper understanding of the process as well as rationalizing victims' expectations regarding the outcomes of the same, they argue.

They say that the process of registering victims should be slow and painstaking to ensure that victims understand the r process and provide their consent at every stage.

"Victims should never feel rushed or threatened with exclusion if they do not promptly provide information. Victims are also free to exclude any information that they feel might put them or others in jeopardy. Victims must also be thoroughly advised on their rights and liberties at every stage of the process," the ICPC advises.

The center says that such measures are necessary in light of the current political atmosphere especially with the reality that those facing the prospect of trial before the ICC are in significant positions of power and influence and are desperately seeking to secure or advance their political ambitions in the coming 2012 elections.

## Press TV

Thursday, 14 July 2011

### 'ICC, tool of US to punish opponents'

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has turned into a “tool” in the hands of the United States to punish those disliked by Washington, an analyst says.

“In recent years, the ICC has been used as a tool by the Americans to punish people the United States doesn't like,” London-based writer and security analyst Deepak Tripathi said in an interview with Press TV.

Thus, the international body has lost its legitimacy in the eyes of the international community, Tripathi added.

He also referred to the dual policies of the United States regarding international crimes and said that the US has used the ICC to “pick on” such rulers as Libya's embattle Muammar Gaddafi, but has failed to condemn cases of rights violations in which Americans have been involved.

Recently, the New York-based Human Rights Watch (HRW) urged the current US administration and foreign governments to prosecute the former President George W. Bush and some of his top officials over crimes such as the use of torture, abduction and other forms of prisoner mistreatment.

The organization has warned the US government that its failure to scrutinize the Bush-era abuses will amount to violation of the UN Convention against Torture.

If the campaign by HRW builds up, and gains enough publicity worldwide, “the American public opinion will be drawn to it,” Tripathi concluded.

REZ/HJL

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