

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



Sussex.

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:**

Tuesday, 5 July 2011

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
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The Exclusive
Tuesday, 05 July 2011

Johnny Paul Is Dead!

By Foday Fofana

Very impeccable and close sources have revealed to The Exclusive that erstwhile Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) leader, Maj. Gen. Johnny Paul Koroma, died long before he was pronounced a wanted man.

"The day Johnny Paul declared the "One Million Man March" for peace in Sierra Leone, he was rounded up; accused of stockpiling arms and ammunition at

Wellington; and killed in cold blood," a recent source revealed.

In the past, there had been reported rumours of Major General Johnny Paul's presence in Makeni, his home town Mabonkane, Kambia and far away in the UK. "That's all bullshit", said a source that was much closed to JPK and now residing in Europe, adding that: "Johnny Paul was killed in cold blood and his grave will never be found".

RATKO MLADIC, EX-BOSNIAN SERB GENERAL, LED FROM COURT

Ex-Bosnian Serb army head Ratko Mladic has been removed from a hearing at The Hague war crimes tribunal after quarrelling with the judge. Gen Mladic was ordered out after continually interrupting the proceedings. The court entered a plea of not guilty on Mr Mladic's behalf, after Mr Mladic refused to do so. Mr Mladic is charged with crimes including genocide in connection with the 1992-95 Bosnian war. He attempted to speak several times at the beginning of the hearing, but Judge Alfons Orić asked him to remain silent until he was allowed to speak. He was reprimanded by the judge for speaking out of turn and communicating with the public gallery. Mr Mladic then refused to enter a plea after his request to change his lawyer to one of his choosing rather than a court-appointed one was denied, because he had not made his request in time, the judge said. When Judge Orić began to read out the charges, Mr Mladic shouted: "No, no, I'm not going to listen to this without my lawyer," removing his translation headphones. "Who are you? You're not allowing me to breathe," Mr Mladic snapped. Shortly before guards escorted Mr Mladic from court, he shouted at Judge Orić: "You want to impose my defence. What kind of a court are you?" After he was removed, the judge read out all 11 charges, including murder and genocide, and entered pleas of not guilty on Mr Mladic's behalf. From the moment he walked in, Mr Mladic was absolutely defiant, says the BBC's Lauren Comiteau who was there, adding that she had never seen anything quite like it in 15 years of covering the court. Mr Mladic would not take off his hat; he was communicating with the public gallery, giving a thumbs up; the judge warned him not to do that; he continued to do it throughout the hearing, our correspondent says.

Special Tribunal for Lebanon

Monday, 4 July 2011

Confirmation of Indictment Shows that the Prosecutor's Investigation Relies on Credible Evidence

In response to allegations made by Mr. Hassan Nasrallah in his speech of 2 July 2011, the Prosecutor stated that “the staff of the OTP have been recruited on the basis of their professionalism, impartiality and expertise, and I have full confidence in their strong commitment to finding the truth”.

The Prosecutor welcomes Mr. Nasrallah's offer to provide the file that he stated he has on some elements of the investigation and requests the video material that was shown on television during his televised statement, as well as any other information and documents that would assist the Tribunal in its ongoing pursuit of justice.

The investigation is carried out according to the highest standards of international justice and its results are based solely on facts and credible evidence. The Prosecutor stated that “the staff of the OTP act independently and in good faith in their search for the truth”.

In seeking the release of the four generals in April 2009, the Prosecutor has already demonstrated that when he is not satisfied with the credibility or reliability of the evidence he will not hesitate to reject it.

In confirming the indictment on 28 June 2011, the Pre-Trial Judge ruled that he was satisfied that there was sufficient evidence to send the accused to trial for the attack of 14 February 2005.

The Prosecutor will not engage in a public debate in the media about the credibility of his investigation or of the investigative process. This is a judicial process and should be treated as such. In this context, the proper forum to challenge the investigation or the evidence gathered as a result, is in open court during a trial that will fully comply with international standards.

As has often been stated, justice is the guarantee of sustainable stability. The Prosecutor calls for all steps to be taken to bring the accused to justice.

For further information, please contact, Gregory Townsend, Acting Spokesperson, Office of the Prosecutor (during the absence of Ms. Boutaud de la Combe): Office: +31708003737; Mobile: +31650889197; Email: stl-otppressoffice@un.org

Al-mana

Tuesday, 5 July 2011

Bellemare Responds to Sayyed Nasrallah, Claims STL “Credible”

Local Editor

Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL) Prosecutor Daniel Bellemare responded on Monday to Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah’s speech last Saturday, claiming that the investigations into the 2005 assassination of former premier Rafiq Hariri was based on “credible evidence”.

“The investigation is carried out according to the highest standards of international justice and its results are based solely on facts and credible evidence,” Bellemare said in a statement issued by his office.

Sayyed Nasrallah on Saturday rejected the so-called indictment, dismissing it as unfounded and a failed attempt to sow strife and bring down Lebanon's new government. His eminence also displayed different video documents, proving that the tribunal was politicized.

Last Thursday a STL delegation handed over the indictment to Lebanese General Prosecutor Judge Said Mirza.

“The staff of the OTP [Office of the Prosecutor] act independently and in good faith in their search for the truth,” Bellemare said.

“The staff of the OTP has been recruited on the basis of their professionalism, impartiality and expertise, and I have full confidence in their strong commitment to finding the truth,” he added.

On the other hand, the Prosecutor also said he welcomed Sayyed Nasrallah’s “offer to provide the file that he stated he has on some elements of the investigation.”

Bellemare requested the video material that was shown on Saturday during Sayyed Nasrallah’s speech, as well as “any other information that would assist the STL in its ongoing pursuit of justice.”

Before Mirza-tribunal delegation’s meeting on Thursday was over, March 14 media started leaking the indictment’s content, including names of the accused.

Justice for African victims of bad leaders at last

By Ugo Harris Ukandu

It is not fun being a Current/ former president, leader in any African or Arab country these days because Africans and Arabs have woken up to fight injustice, killings and corruption, and the long arm of justice is hovering over these leaders for the evil and injustice they are committing and have committed against Africans and Arabs people for many years. These crimes, corruption, genocide and killings committed years ago is being revisited by European Union Courts, United Nations Organization, International Criminal court of Justice (ICC), Governments, African civil Society groups, groups of victims, NATO, USA, European Union and volunteers who are out to make them pay for their crimes against humanity, and the victims voices are being heard loud internationally . Just as the Arabs population and youths are fighting for change in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Syria, Iran, Bahrain etc., Africans are also fighting these corrupt and genocidal leaders in many different and profound ways that many years ago it seems impossible.



In many African countries right now like in Burundi, Ivory Coast, Rwanda, Uganda, Congo Republic, Chad, Sudan, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Ethiopia, Central African republic, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Nigeria, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Burkina Faso etc. Investigations and inquiries are under way by International justice system lead by Europeans and Americans with support of the United Nations Organization, International Criminal Court (ICC), civil society groups and Africans in these countries are seeking and clamoring for justice for the decades of corruption, killings, abuse and genocide against their fellow Africans by these wicked African leaders, and these victims and investigations are succeeding in bring justice for the weak and poor African victimized by these despotic and corrupt leadership.

African leaders are now being shamed and despised at the G8 meeting (group of 8 Industrial nations), rebuked at the United nations, targeted at the security Council Meeting, legal redress by Europeans courts and justice by human right groups for decades of injustice of Killings, genocide, corruption and mass murder; because of their ethnic hatred agenda, religious killings, tribal killing etc. Some examples,

In Sudan, the International Criminal Court (ICC) had since January 2008 indicted and has issued arrest warrant for six Sudanese leaders (Ali Kushayb, Musa Hilal, Ahmed Haroun and others) for crime against humanity for their crime in Darfur and other parts of Sudan, and also this month in July/14/ 2008, In Sudan according to the New York Times Newspaper, By MARLISE SIMONS, LYDIA POLGREEN and JEFFREY GETTLEMAN

PARIS —” The prosecutor at the International Criminal Court formally requested an arrest warrant on Monday for Sudan's president, Omar Hassan al-Bashir, on charges of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the past five years of bloodshed in the Darfur region of his country. The prosecutor's pursuit of Mr. Bashir introduced new volatility to the already chaotic situation in Darfur. While some diplomats and analysts worried that the move would undermine efforts to negotiate peace and provide aid to the millions displaced by violence, others said it offered new leverage to pressure the Sudanese government to end the conflict in Darfur. Bracing for reprisals, United Nations peacekeepers and aid workers stepped up security in Darfur and pulled out all but the most essential civilians. Sudan promised not to vent its outrage on them, but said it would unleash a “diplomatic war” to try to scuttle the case. It was the first

time the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court had brought genocide charges against anyone. It was also the first time the prosecutor had brought charges against a sitting head of state since the court opened its doors in 2002. Two other presidents, Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Charles Taylor of Liberia, were charged by other

international war crimes courts, also while they were in office. Darfur has been a shifting, many-sided conflict, with rebels fighting rebels, government-backed Arab militias killing civilians and one another, freelance bandits attacking aid workers and atrocities committed by all the armed groups. In announcing the request, the prosecutor, Luis Moreno-Ocampo, said Mr. Bashir had “masterminded and implemented” a plan to destroy three main ethnic groups in Darfur, the Fur, the Masalit and the Zaghawa. Using government soldiers and Arab militias, the president “purposefully targeted civilians” belonging to these

groups, killing 35,000 people “outright” in attacks on towns and villages, he said. “His motives were largely political,” the prosecutor said. “His alibi was a 'counterinsurgency.' His intent was genocide.” Mr. Moreno-Ocampo, of Argentina, said that the Sudanese president had turned against civilians after failing to defeat a rebellion, and that the genocide consisted of more than direct killing. “Al-Bashir organized the destitution, insecurity and harassment of the survivors,” he said. “He did not need bullets. He used other weapons: rapes, hunger and fear.” At a news conference at the court in The Hague, Mr. Moreno-Ocampo said he had handed his evidence to the three judges who will decide whether to issue the arrest warrant. An answer is expected in the fall, lawyers at the court said.” unquote

In Chad, according to HRW “Human Rights Watch has been working since 1999 with the victims of Chad's exiled former president, Hissène Habré, to bring him to trial. In July 2006, at the request of the African Union, the president of Senegal, where Mr. Habré lives in exile, agreed to prosecute Mr. Habré. Mr. Habré was first indicted in Senegal in 2000 before courts ruled that he could not be tried there. His victims then turned to Belgium and, after a four-year investigation, a Belgian judge in September 2005 issued an international arrest warrant charging Mr. Habré with crimes against humanity, war crimes and torture committed during his 1982-90 rule. Pursuant to a Belgian extradition request, Senegalese authorities arrested Mr. Habré in November 2005. When a Senegalese court refused to rule on the extradition request, the Senegalese government announced that it had asked the African Union to recommend “the competent jurisdiction” for Mr.

Habré's trial. On July 2, 2006, the African Union, following the recommendation of a Committee of Eminent African Jurists, called on Senegal to prosecute Hissène Habré “in the name of Africa,” and President Abdoulaye Wade declared that Senegal would do so.” unquote

In Rwanda, according to impunitywatch.org MADRID, Spain —” Spanish judge Fernando Andreu indicted 40 Rwandan officers on Wednesday for genocide, crimes against humanity and terrorism stemming from the 1990s violence in Rwanda that resulted in the death of more than 4 million Rwandans and at least nine Spaniards. Judge Andreu issued international arrest warrants for the 40 individuals. According to CNN, some high profile names listed in the indictment are General Jame Kabarebe, the Rwandan military chief of staff, General Kayumba Nyamwasa, Rwandan ambassador to India, and Lt. Colonel Rugumya Gacinya, a military attaché at Rwanda's Washington embassy. Andreu said he also has evidence to indict Rwandan President Paul Kagame, but did not indict Kagame because he is protected by immunity. The indictment alleges that Arme Patriotique Rwandais (APR) and Front Patriotique Rwandais (FPR) massacred 312,726 civilians and refugees from 1991 to 1993, including 6 Spanish missionaries and 3 Spanish civilian aid workers.”

In Congo, at the Hague according to Associated press, “The International Criminal Court published an arrest warrant for Congolese militia leader Bosco Ntaganda, who is wanted for the alleged forced conscription of child soldiers. Ntaganda recruited children to fight in the Ituri region of eastern Congo from July 2002 until December 2003, the court said in a statement. Ntaganda is still at large in Congo and reportedly is now chief of staff of the National Council for the Defense of the People. The group, known by its French abbreviation, is the political wing of rebel warlord Laurent Nkunda's militia in the North and South Kivu provinces of Congo.

“The CNDP is one of the groups against which there are credible reports of serious crimes committed in the two Kivu provinces — including sexual crimes of unspeakable cruelty,” the statement said.

Nkunda has waged an insurgency in the provinces since 2004. Fighting intensified late last year but eased after a Jan. 23 peace deal that committed both sides to an immediate cease-fire. Tuesday's statement alleges that Ntaganda is a former ally of Thomas Lubanga, who was the first suspect taken into custody by the Hague-based court. He is due to go on trial in late June for allegedly using child soldiers.” unquote

In Uganda, according to Harvard Human Right Journal “ On October 13, 2005, the International Criminal Court

(“ICC”) unsealed the arrest warrants for five senior leaders of the Lord's Resistance Army (“LRA”), a rebel group known for its long insurgency against Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni. To ensure the safety of witnesses and victims vulnerable to retaliatory attacks, the warrants had remained under seal since their issuance on July 8, 2005, until adequate security measures could be implemented. While the arrest warrants remain in heavily redacted form, they assert that the ICC has “reasonable grounds to believe” that senior LRA commanders Joseph Kony, Vincent Otti, Okot Odhiambo, Dominic Ongwen, and Raska Lukwiya had ordered the commission of numerous crimes against humanity and war crimes in Uganda since July 2002, the starting date for ICC jurisdiction. unquote

In Burundi, According to Human Right Watch, “A crime of this horror calls for justice, as many national and international actors have recognized. The UN Security Council directed a preliminary inquiry of the massacre and will likely ask for further investigation by some UN or other international mechanism. The African Union may launch an inquiry, General Mbuze Mabe, Chief of the 10th Military Region of the Congolese army, has ordered an investigation and a Burundian inquiry is under way in the hands of two magistrates. The presidents of Burundi and Congo also discussed launching a joint inquiry. At best one or more of the investigations will provide material for successful prosecution of those responsible for the massacre; at worst the multiplicity of efforts will lead to confusion and conflicting interpretations of the events.” unquote

In Zambia according to CNET 12/10/2003, “The former Zambian president Frederick Chiluba on charges of stealing more than \$43m (pounds 25m) from state coffers got under way yesterday before a packed courtroom in the Zambian capital Lusaka.

Mr Chiluba, Zambia's first democratically elected president, is facing 169 counts ranging from theft, abuse of office, abuse of power to being part of a web of corruption stretching from Zambia to Britain, Belgium, South Africa, the United States and the Caribbean. He has denied all the charges. At least four state witnesses gave evidence yesterday in the trial, which had been delayed for months and dismissed by Mr Chiluba as a political witch-hunt against him by the President, Levy Mwanawasa. “ unquote

Prosecution by the Spanish Courts for leaders of Rwanda and Burundi for genocide, warrants by the courts in Belgium for Congolese leaders and rebels for genocide, sanctions on Eritrea Leadership, embargoes and prosecution for Zimbabwe leaders, Somalia leaders for killings and corruption etc. Prosecution by the International Criminal Courts (ICC) in Hague of Former President Charles Taylor of Liberia, Prosecutions of Sierra leone former leaders and rebels at (ICC) in Hague for crime against humanity, Prosecution of former President of Chad in Senegal, Prosecution of Zambia Former President for corruption in Zambia, seizing of assets and prosecution of corrupt Nigerian and African leaders in European courts and American courts, prosecution and warrant for Uganda rebels and warlords for mass killings and genocide, International legal experts visiting Nigeria to make inquiries on genocide and mass killing in Nigeria Niger Delta and Eastern Nigeria during the

Biafran war Genocide that happened in Asaba town, Ogwashiuku, Item in Abia State, Awka, Onitsha etc.

Meanwhile according to Nigerian Guardian Newspaper of July 28, 2008 quote “International court explains failure to try Obasanjo over Odi killings From Lemmy Ughegbe, Abuja - SEVERAL years after the mass killing in Odi, Bayelsa State was allegedly ordered by the then President Olusegun Obasanjo, the International Criminal Court (ICC) yesterday offered an explanation for not investigating the former President's role in the dastardly act which has left a scar on the people. ICC's Deputy Prosecutor, Mrs. Fatou Bensouda, who was in Nigeria to attend a judicial colloquium marking the 10th anniversary of the Rome Statute of the Court in Abuja, spoke with reporters before her departure to The Hague, Netherlands, noting that the Odi killings happened before the Court was established.

Bensouda explained: "The ICC does not have a retroactive jurisdiction to prosecute offences committed before it was created.”unquote

Also according to the same Nigerian Guardian Newspaper of July 28, 2008 by Lemmy Ughegbe, Abuja, quote “Meanwhile, Lagos lawyer, Mr. Festus Keyamo and leader of the Niger Delta Volunteer Force (NDVF), Alhaji Mujahid Asari-Dokubo have filed an application before the Chief Magistrate's Court in Abuja asking the court to compel the Inspector-General of Police, to produce the report of his investigations into the killings in Odi and Tiv. The motion on notice is asking for the court's order compelling the Inspector-General of Police to appear before the court for the purpose of submitting his report in respect of the investigation ordered by the court earlier this year

into the alleged mass killings in Odi and Tiv "by the Obasanjo's government." The motion dated July 21, 2008, according to Keyamo, is to ensure full compliance with the order of the court. Chief Magistrate Uche Ezinne had on May 19, 2008 ordered the inspector general of police to

investigate the killings based on the application filed by the duo. “ unquote

The is no more a hiding place for Corrupt, despotic and mass murderers called African leaders for the world has woken up and African are seeking justice. The question that a lot of people are asking is when will the genocide and mass killing of Igbos of Eastern Nigeria during the Biafran war Genocide that happened in Asaba town, Ogwashiuku, Item in Abia State, Awka, Onitsha etc. will take place as inquiry may take place on the genocide that happened in Odi and other towns in Niger Delta and other parts of Nigeria.

Emma Okocha, author of Blood on the Niger who wrote the book on the first black on black Genocide on the Biafran/ Nigerian civil war with genocidal intents wrote quote “The Biafran secession from Nigeria in 1967 unleashed one of Africa's most brutal wars as the federal government quelled the rebellion. So savage were reprisals that many view the Nigerian response as a precursor of the genocidal tragedies in Rwanda and Darfur a generation later. Emmanuel Okocha, orphaned by the conflict, details the dreadful massacre of the village of Asaba during the Biafran War,” unquote .

It is the first Genocide that occurred since the end of the second world war, twenty years after the genocide against the Jews in Europe took place. The investigation and prosecution of these genocidal act in Nigeria is due, and we believe that justice should be done soon for the victims of these injustices and genocide as most of the criminals and perpetrators are walking the street of Lagos and Abuja with their stolen loot. The Aputa Judicial panel started the investigation and hearing on the Biafran/Nigeria Civil war and genocid, but for political reasons the panel and its reports were not conclusive because the actors and participants killed the panel and its report by deliberate and political reasons.

The fact remains that justice will done on the atrocities during and after the war no matter how long, because according to Dr. Martin Luther King and the late USA Supreme court JusticeThurgood Marshall they said " Injustice any where is a treat to Justice everywere" quote Parapharased.

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