

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



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, 2 April 2012

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

Once Upon A Time In Salone / *Ariyogbo*

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International News

U.N.'s Ban to Appoint New Judges for Cambodia Tribunal / *Reuters*

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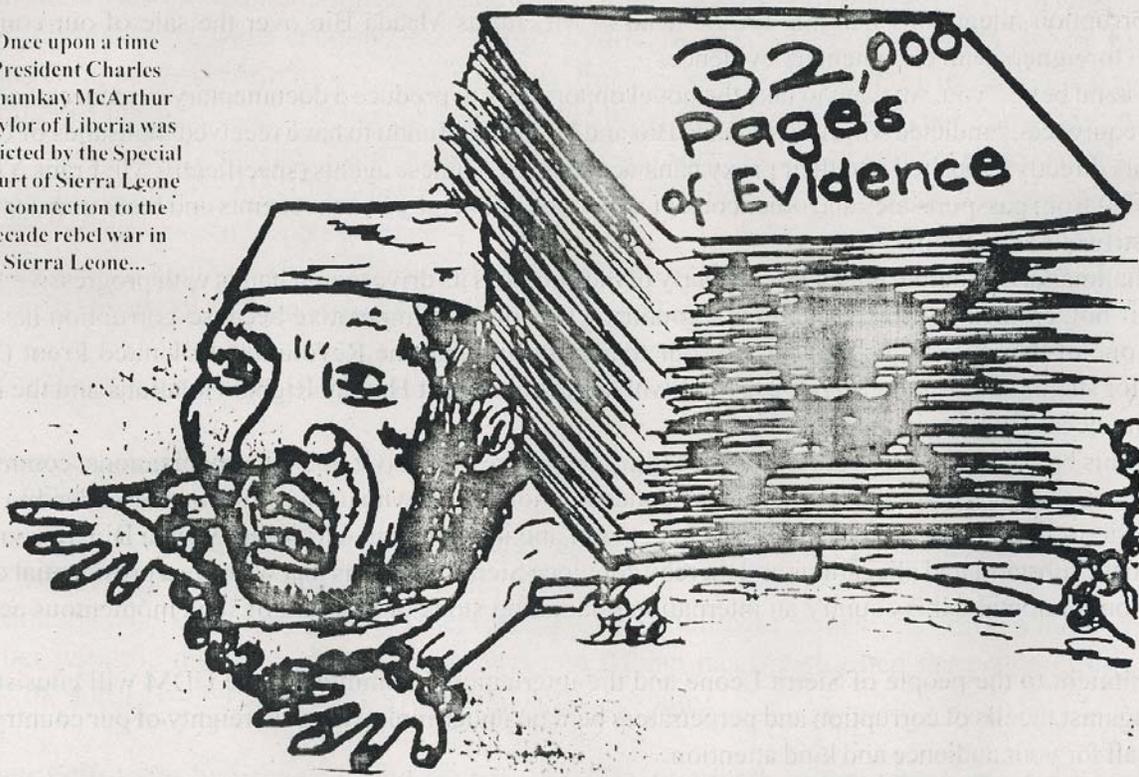
International Justice in a Time of Transition / *AllAfrica.Com*

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Ariogbo
Monday, 2 April 2012

onCE uPON A TiME iN saLONe

Once upon a time
President Charles
Ghamkay McArthur
Taylor of Liberia was
indicted by the Special
Court of Sierra Leone
in connection to the
decade rebel war in
Sierra Leone...



Reuters

Friday, 30 March 2012

U.N.'s Ban to appoint new judges for Cambodia tribunal

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced on Friday that he would appoint two new judges for Cambodia's troubled U.N.-backed Khmer Rouge war crimes tribunal and urged the government of the Southeast Asian nation to cooperate with them.

Swiss judge Laurent Kasper-Ansermet quit as reserve co-investigating judge of the tribunal earlier this month, while his predecessor, German judge Siegfried Blunk, left the post in October.

Critics have accused Cambodia of trying to stop further probes of cases tied to the communist-inspired Khmer Rouge's rule of the country between 1975 and 1979, in which as many as 2.2 million Cambodians were killed.

"The circumstances that have given rise to these two resignations remain worrying," Ban's office said in a statement.

The Cambodian government has issued no comment on the resignations. But Prime Minister Hun Sen, himself a former Khmer Rouge soldier, in 2010 told Ban that more indictments were "not allowed" and has also said he would be happy if the court left.

Kasper-Ansermet had been pursuing two unidentified suspects in the highly controversial cases known as 003 and 004.

"The Secretary-General believes that it is essential that the judicial process in relation to Cases 003 and 004 be brought back onto a positive course," said Ban's office, adding that he would appoint a new international co-investigating judge and a new reserve co-investigating judge for the U.N.-backed court.

"Their selection by the Secretary-General will not by itself, however, fully address the concerns that have arisen in regard to the judicial process in these cases," the statement said. "It is essential that the Royal Government of Cambodia extend full cooperation to the new judges."

The U.N.-Cambodian court is now hearing case 002, involving the three most senior surviving Khmer Rouge cadres, who are accused of war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity. Pol Pot, the architect of Cambodia's "Killing Fields," died in 1998.

The court has spent more than \$150 million since it was formed in 2005, passing just one sentence, a 35-year jail term, commuted to 19 years, for Kaing Guek Eav - "Duch" - for his role in the deaths of more than 14,000 people at a torture center.

That sentence was extended on February 3 to life imprisonment after an appeal by the prosecution.

Ban's office noted the court, known as the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, faced a serious funding challenge and he encouraged U.N. member states to provide funds.

(Reporting by Michelle Nichols; Editing by Paul Simao)

AllAfrica.Com
Friday, 30 March 2012

Africa: Panel Discussion - International Justice in a Time of Transition

The International Peace Institute (IPI) held a panel discussion today on International Justice in Times of Transition, focusing on the relationship between peace and justice in the context of recent developments and transitions throughout the world. Welcome remarks were given by Jozias van Aartsen, mayor of The Hague, and Warren Hoge, IPI senior adviser for external relations, moderated the debate.

Peter Tomka, president of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), opened the discussion by highlighting the complementary role the ICJ plays in the international justice system.

Political transitions generate situations where both the recently established International Criminal Court (ICC) and ICJ jurisdiction applies, he said. The key difference is in the applicants to the courts; the ICC and hybrid tribunals focus on the responsibility of individuals for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide; the ICJ addresses conflicts between states over international law.

Willem van Genugten, dean of The Hague Institute for Global Justice examined ever-present questions about the relationship between peace and justice, and made observations about the role of transitional justice in answering some of these dilemmas.

"A classical assumption is that doing justice is by its very nature a contribution to peace," he said, "but there are complications surrounding this."

He provided the example of peace negotiations that have often brought perpetrators to the table through promises of power-sharing, amnesty, or reduced sentences. The increased focus on establishing accountability for crimes calls into question whether these promises have moral or legal value, he concluded.

David Tolbert, president of ICTJ, noted that international justice itself is in transition.

The next few years will see an end to ad hoc tribunals, such as the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia, as well as hybrid courts, like the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the Khmer Rouge Tribunal in Cambodia. The Rome Statute of 1998 will structure international criminal justice going forward, he said, with the idea of complementarity--that state judicial systems are the first line of defense against impunity--at the heart of this structure.

"If we are going to see international criminal justice work in practice, we are going to see these cases happen at the national level," he argued.

The panel discussion closed with questions from the audience. Panelists were asked to apply the peace and justice debate to the current situation in Syria: do we offer incentives to and negotiate with the regime to save lives, or make the promise to prosecute crimes and establish accountability as a basis for political transition?

Panelists also answered questions on the impact of criminal justice decisions on reconciliation and the restoration of civic trust in society, and to evaluate the effectiveness of regional organizations, such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, in establishing accountability in post-conflict or post-dictatorship countries.