

**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

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

Hague Court to Release ex-Bosnian Serb Parliament Chief Early / <i>Reuters</i>	Page 3
ILEA Produces African Genocide Investigators / <i>Mmegi Online</i>	Page 4
Greek Australian Wins Chief Justice Award / <i>Neoskosmos.com</i>	Pages 5-6

Reuters

Tuesday, 2 July 2013

Hague court to release ex-Bosnian Serb parliament chief early

AMSTERDAM

(Reuters) - The war crimes tribunal for ex-Yugoslavia has granted early release to the former head of the Bosnian Serb parliament who was convicted of forcing thousands of Muslims and Croats from their homes during Bosnia's 1992-95 war.

The International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) said Momcilo Krajisnik, 68, would be freed on September 1 after serving two-thirds of his prison term on a conviction for persecution, deportation and forcible transfer of civilians.

"I am of the view that Krajisnik, through his good behavior during his detention, has demonstrated some rehabilitation, which militates in favour of his early release," said a document signed by the court's president, Theodor Meron.

Krajisnik was initially sentenced to 27 years imprisonment, but that was reduced on appeal to 20 years in March 2009.

NATO-led peacekeepers arrested Krajisnik in April 2000, nearly five years after the end of the war in which 100,000 people died and two million people were driven out of their homes in ethnic cleansing campaigns.

(Reporting by Ivana Sekularac; Editing by Mark Heinrich)

Mmegi Online (Botswana)

Wednesday, 3 July 2013

ILEA produces African genocide investigators

BAME PIET, Staff Writer

The International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Otse (Police College) has produced 40 African investigators to be deployed anywhere in the world to probe genocide or mass crime scenes.

The investigators graduated last week after a two-week course in genocide or mass crime investigations. Addressing journalists on the sidelines of the 237th US independence celebrations in Gaborone last Thursday, **Stephen Rapp**, an international prosecutor said that the 40 investigators were in Botswana to get skills to investigate and prosecute cases of massive killings and how to handle them before they become a crisis. He said that investigations have in the past proved inadequate in gathering the necessary evidence for a trial.



Rapp, a US ambassador-at-large for war crimes issues said that Botswana has shown the international community that it does not condone any human rights abuses. “Botswana is a country that stands up strong and talks when innocent men, women and children are victimised, it doesn’t make any difference whether it is somebody from the north or the south, who is responsible and needs to be held to account.” That is why we are here for two weeks with 40 investigators from across African countries - Kenya, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Uganda, Rwanda and Botswana,” he said.

He added that Botswana has demonstrated its commitment to hold even powerful man to account for crimes, hence the country was chosen to host the course, which ran from June 17 to last week. The course was designed to develop the capacity of law enforcement officials in Africa, to manage and conduct investigations of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide nationally and internationally. It was facilitated by the International Institute for Criminal Investigations and ILEA. The graduates will be put on a register and be deployed anywhere in the world to investigate genocide cases and help in prosecution of those deemed responsible.

Rapp is an international prosecutor who handled the Sierra Leone (Charles Taylor) and Rwanda genocide (Tanzania UN Tribunal for Rwanda) cases. The International Criminal Court charged the former Liberian leader Taylor with war crimes and crimes against humanity in April 2003 and he was convicted in May 2012. He was accused of funding rebels in neighbouring Sierra Leone during a decade long civil war. He is now serving 50 years in The Hague, Netherlands. In April 1994, a tension that had been simmering between Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups in Rwanda exploded into full-blown genocide claiming an estimated 800,000 lives in the space of 100 days. Some of those responsible were finally convicted and sentenced to 10-15 years in jail.

Neoskosmos.com (Australia)

Wednesday, 3 July 2013

Greek Australian wins Chief Justice award

La Trobe law graduate Catherine Eglezos has received the 2013 Victorian Law Foundation Chief Justice's Medal for Excellence and Community Service

Penni Pappas

La Trobe law graduate Catherine Eglezos has received the 2013 Victorian Law Foundation Chief Justice's Medal for Excellence and Community Service.



The award is only presented to one graduating Victorian law student each year and as Ms Eglezos says, "to have my achievements throughout my five years at University recognised in this way is indeed an honour".

"I feel extremely humbled to be the recipient of the 2013 Chief Justice Medal," she tells Neos Kosmos "It is a privilege to have been selected from a group of worthy candidates who are dedicated to their legal studies and passionate about community service."

Ms Eglezos took up law as she had a keen passion for social justice and felt a need to contribute to the addressing of inequalities in society.

"I decided to study law as I felt it would enable me to develop a greater understanding of the nature of our legal system and the attempts being made to remedy inequalities in access to justice for particular groups in society," she explains, adding she completed the subject of Legal Studies in her VCE and found the subject matter extremely interesting.

"As I have always been committed to academic excellence, I also believed that a law degree would continue to challenge me and would enable me to further enhance my written, oral and analytical skills." Currently, Ms Eglezos is a graduate with the firm Herbert Smith Freehills, rotating through the Commercial Disputes Team. She says the firm has allowed her to combine her commitment to community services and her legal work by being the graduate representative on the firm's Community Committee; she participates in the Student Mentoring Program with Hawthorn Secondary College and will shortly start with the Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic. One of the reasons Ms Eglezos received the award was the constant charity work she's been involved with. Since 2002, she has been a member of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society in the role of President of the Brunswick Young Adult Conference.

Whilst she was studying, she participated in other volunteer programs such as the La Trobe Infinity Leadership Program, a Legal Sector Internship, through the Victoria Law Foundation, with the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (2010), and a remote research internship with the **Special Court for Sierra Leone**, The Hague (2012).

Ms Eglezos says she draws inspiration from her grandparents, and gets her strong work drive from them too.

"I have always been inspired by my grandparents who came to Australia in search of opportunities to build a better life for their families.

"My grandparents' work ethic has never ceased to amaze me and I have learnt from them the importance of both seeking out and seizing every opportunity available to you."