

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



Flashback: Outreach in Makeni

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, 16 December 2013

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
Outreach and Public Affairs

Local News

Johnny Paul and APC Flag-Bearer? / *New Storm* Page 3

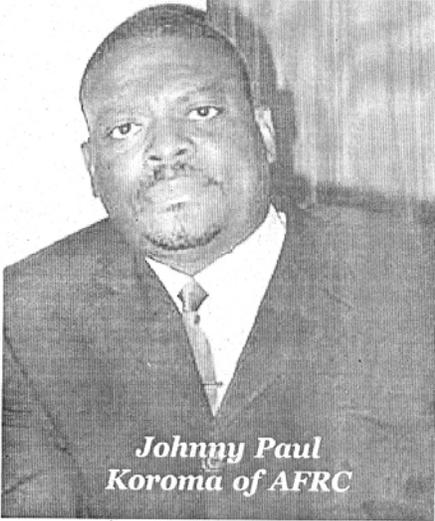
International News

New Deputy Registrar Sworn In / *Special Tribunal for Lebanon* Page 4

UN Reports - No Information On Yeaten's Assets / *Heritage* Page 5

The ICC: Prosecuting the Worst Perpetrators in the World / *Minnpost* Pages 6-8

New Storm
Monday, 16 December 2013



**Johnny Paul
Koroma of AFRC**

Johnny Paul An APC Flag-Bearer?

By Foday Fofana

A mountain of speculations over who would succeed President Ernest Bai Koroma abound. All sorts of names had been forwarded; with almost everybody eyeing that coveted plum seat.

Now to the shock of very many Sierra Leoneans and Sierra Leone watchers overseas, we have learnt that fugitive ex- AFRC junta leader, Johnny Paul Koroma, is eyed as APC's flag-bearer.

See page 2

Johnny Paul An APC Flag-Bearer?

Johnny Paul Back?

Unconfirmed reports reaching this medium state that Johnny Paul Koroma has resurfaced in Sierra Leone from his hideout.

Sources allege that he recently held discussions with elders in his home town of Mabokani on his strategies before he addresses dignitaries of the APC in December this year.

He Visits Concubine

Johnny Paul Koroma is believed to have been visiting his concubine at Hill Top, where he has a child with the woman.

The erstwhile junta leader is wanted for war crimes and crimes against humanity by the International Criminal Court at the Hague.

"He would be mad to come back home...who is he in the APC to become flag bearer?" retorted one APC top brass.

Special Tribunal for Lebanon

Friday, 13 December 2013

Press Release

New Deputy Registrar sworn in

Leidschendam, 13 December 2013 – Amelie Zinzius was sworn in today as Deputy Registrar for the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. She replaces Daryl Mundis, who was appointed Registrar in July this year. Ms. Zinzius will be working with the Registrar to provide administrative, legal and other essential support to the Tribunal and will deputise in his absence. She will also oversee judicial services to ensure the smooth running of court proceedings.

Ms. Zinzius has been a lawyer since 1992. Prior to her role as Acting Deputy Registrar as of August 2013, she was Chief of the STL's Court Management Services Section which deals with a range of court management services, including information management, trial activity, and international and stakeholder relations.

Before joining the Tribunal, Ms. Zinzius was Deputy Director and Senior Counsel for more than three years at the Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes Section Department of Justice in Canada.

She has also worked as the Senior Legal Officer for the Appeals Chamber in the **Special Court for Sierra Leone**, providing legal advice to the Appeal Chamber Judges in relation to complex legal matters involving substantive and procedural issues in international criminal law.

Both a full biography and a picture of Ms. Zinzius can be found on the Tribunal's website.

Heritage (Liberia)

Friday, 13 December 2013

UN Reports - No Information On Yeaten's Assets

The United Nations Panel of Experts says it has not obtained any information concerning Benjamin Yeaten's assets.

The UN Panel of Experts in its reports said it concurs with an assessment by the Government of Liberia (GoL) that it still consider Yeaten, a notorious commander of the dreaded erstwhile Anti-Terrorist Unit (ATU) under former **President Charles G. Taylor**, remains a threat to peace and security in Liberia and the subregion.

According to the UN Panel, because of his activities to recruit mercenaries in Liberia, the assets freeze pertaining to him (Yeaten) should be maintained.

It could be recalled that the GoL charged Yeaten with murder in absentia and issued an arrest warrant for him in 2009.

Yeaten is on the assets freeze and travel ban lists.

The Panel noted in its final report of 2011 that Yeaten recruited Liberian mercenaries on behalf of FRCI to fight in the Ivorian post-electoral conflict in late 2010 and early in 2011.

Yeaten reportedly conducted this operation from Côte d'Ivoire.

The Panel received persistent rumors in 2012 and 2013 that Yeaten was involved in recruiting Liberian mercenaries in Nimba county to fight against FRCI, and also to undermine stability in Liberia, but has not been able to independently verify this information.

The Panel says it has been informed on multiple occasions, in 2012 and 2013, by several high-ranking officials of the Government of Liberia that Yeaten resides in Togo.

The Panel points out that it has sought further details concerning Yeaten's possible residency, but has not been able to verify such information independently.

Minnpost

Tuesday, 10 December 2013

The ICC: prosecuting the worst perpetrators in the world

By Ellen J. Kennedy



The International Criminal Court began operating in 2002 in The Hague, Netherlands, a city chosen because it is a center for other courts of justice.

The Nazis planned to exterminate all the Jews of Europe. When Hitler was asked how he thought he'd get away with this, he replied, "Who today remembers the Armenians?"

He was referring to the Ottoman Empire's systematic extermination of 1.5 million Armenians during World War I, one of the first modern genocides. The word "genocide," in fact, was coined to describe this tragedy.

One of the reasons Hitler felt he would have impunity to massacre the Jews is that the Ottoman perpetrators were never punished. But we know that the Nazis did not have impunity. In 1945, twenty-three Nazi leaders were put on trial in Nuremberg, Germany, for crimes against humanity in what has been called "the greatest trial in history." Most of the men were found guilty; some were hanged and the rest of the guilty were imprisoned. Twelve subsequent trials were held in Nuremberg after this major international military tribunal, and hundreds of additional trials occurred in countries that had been occupied by the Nazis.

Justice mattered, for individuals, communities, and nations.

Despite genocides in Cambodia, East Timor, and Guatemala, for nearly half a century after Nuremberg there were no other international tribunals to hold individuals criminally responsible for heinous acts against innocent civilians.

Temporary tribunals in '90s

In the 1990s, the United Nations established ad hoc international tribunals to prosecute perpetrators of the genocides and mass killings in Bosnia, Rwanda, Cambodia, East Timor, Sierra Leone and Lebanon. These tribunals were temporary, designed to adjudicate only the crimes committed in those specific locations.

For a century, however, people had been advocating for a permanent international court to try individuals for crimes against humanity and other terrible injustices.

Finally, in 1998, at a meeting in Rome, Italy, the Rome Statute was signed; it established the foundation for the world's first permanent International Criminal Court (ICC). The court began operating in 2002 in The Hague, Netherlands, a city chosen because it is a center for other courts of justice.

The ICC's mandate is to prosecute individuals who commit genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity that have occurred since 2002. This is the most important court on the planet.

Last spring I met a man whose vision of justice was formed at the Nuremberg court and extends to the International Criminal Court. Ben Ferencz prosecuted the Einsatzgruppen, the Nazi mobile killing squads responsible for the deaths of more than a million Jews. He was 27 years old and it was the first trial of his life – and he received guilty verdicts for every one of the defendants.

Landmark case: Child soldiers in DRC

Two years ago, Ferencz, then 92 years old, gave the closing argument for the ICC's case against Thomas Lubanga. Lubanga was found guilty of using child soldiers, as many as 3,000 children between the ages of 8 and 15.

This was a landmark case. First, it was the ICC's first completed case and the fulfillment of the long-held dream of a permanent international tribunal to end global impunity. Second, the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo authorized the court to investigate the case, illustrating a unique feature of the court called complementarity. When a country is either unable or unwilling to prosecute one of its own citizens for these crimes, the country may turn the case over to the ICC, the UN Security Council may do so, or the chief prosecutor may choose to conduct an examination.

In this case, it was particularly noteworthy that the Congolese government asked the court to prosecute this case. And finally, this was the first time that the use of child soldiers had been prosecuted. There are currently an estimated 300,000 children used in conflicts in at least fourteen countries around the world, a crime that defies our imaginations.

The judges, lawyers, and administrators are chosen from among the finest in the world. The current president is from Korea, the first vice president is from Botswana, and the second vice president is from Italy. The chief prosecutor, a woman, is from Senegal, and the deputy prosecutor is from Canada.

At 94, at The Hague

Ben Ferencz is my hero. His life has spanned the global effort to find justice for those who have been treated as less than human. He is now 94 and is currently at The Hague for the meeting of the Assembly of States Parties, the annual gathering of the representatives of the 126 countries that have ratified their support for the court. Although the United States supports the court in many ways, it has not yet joined the other nations in ratification. Nevertheless, there are leading U.S. lawyers like Ferencz who participate in these meetings.

I believe in this court. I am a Jew born after World War II and, like most Jews in the United States, I had distant family members who perished during the Holocaust. Perhaps if this court had existed then, I would have relatives alive in Europe today.

I work with AMICC, the American coalition that raises awareness about the court, and a team of Minnesota law students and lawyers who are preparing materials to promote U.S. support of the court. Today, on the 65th anniversary of the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights (Dec. 10), we celebrate the International Criminal Court and its advocacy for protecting human rights for us all.

Ellen J. Kennedy, Ph.D., is the executive director of World Without Genocide at William Mitchell College of Law.